

CW-NU

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PROBE 680

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NEW ORLEANS, MARCH 4 (AP)--DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON WAS REPORTED TODAY SEEKING A POSSIBLE CONNECTION BETWEEN LEE HARVEY OSWALD, THE ACCUSED ASSASSIN OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AND A GROUP OF MEN INVOLVED IN A 1963 FBI RAID ON A MUNITIONS CACHE IN LACOMBE, LA.

THE REPORT CAME AFTER DANIE MAROCHINI, 42, THE FOURTH MAN SUBPOENAED IN GARRISON'S PROBE OF AN ASSASSINATION PLOT, SPENT 90 MINUTES IN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE LATE YESTERDAY.

"I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS DARN THING IS ALL ABOUT," MAROCHINI TOLD NEWSMEN BEFORE HE ENTERED GARRISON'S OFFICE.

WHEN HE EMERGED, A CROWD OF NEWSMEN PURSUED HIM. HE RAN AWAY SHOUTING, "WHAT THE HECK! I KNOW THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS--BUT THIS?"

THE FIRST REPORT OF GARRISON'S INTEREST IN THE AMMUNITION SEIZURE CAME FROM WDSU-TV WHICH SAID IT HAD BEEN INFORMED BY RELIABLE SOURCES THAT HE WAS TRYING TO TRACE THE IDENTITY OF AT LEAST ONE AMERICAN--NOT OSWALD -- WHO WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN IN THE GROUP.

THE RAID TOOK PLACE JULY 31, 1963 AT AN UNOCCUPIED HOUSE IN LACOMBE, ABOUT 20 MILES NORTH OF HERE. AMONG THE ITEMS SEIZED WERE 20 EMPTY 100-POUND BOMB CASINGS, 48 CASES OF DYNAMITE, NAPALM AND FIRING CAPS.

THE FBI SAID THE EXPLOSIVES WERE DESIGNED FOR USE BY PERSONS PLANNING "A MILITARY OPERATION AGAINST A FOREIGN COUNTRY WITH WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS AT PEACE."

THE FBI IDENTIFIED THE OWNER OF THE HOUSE AS WILLIAM JULIUS MCLANEY OF NEW ORLEANS. HIS WIFE WAS QUOTED IN AN INTERVIEW AS SAYING THE HOUSE HAD BEEN LOANED TO A CUBAN EXILE FRIEND SHE KNEW ONLY AS "JOSE JUAREZ." SHE SAID SHE AND HER HUSBAND HAD LIVED IN CUBA UNTIL 1960 AND MOVED TO NEW ORLEANS "BECAUSE CASTRO MADE THINGS IMPOSSIBLE DOWN THERE."

MRS. MCLANEY WAS ASKED LAST NIGHT IF GARRISON'S INVESTIGATORS OR ANYONE ELSE HAD CONTACTED HER RECENTLY ABOUT THE INCIDENT. SHE REPLIED "NO" TO BOTH QUESTIONS AND THEN REFUSED TO SAY ANYTHING FURTHER.

AT THE TIME OF THE RAID, THE NEW ORLEANS TIMES-PICAYUNE IDENTIFIED MCLANEY AS A BROTHER OF M. M. (MIKE) MCLANEY, A FORMER NEW ORLEANS

LENNIS STARK AND REPORTED ONE-TIME OPERATOR OF A LARGE GAMBLING ESTABLISHMENT IN CUBA. THE STORY SAID MIKE MCLANEY HAD BEEN JAILED BY FIDEL CASTRO BUT LATER RELEASED AND GIVEN AN APOLOGY.

MAROCHINI, AND OSWALD ONCE WERE EMPLOYED HERE AT THE SAME TIME BY THE SAME COFFEE MANUFACTURER, THOUGH IN PLANTS A BLOCK APART, RECORDS SHOW.

OSWALD WAS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE WILLIAM B. REILY CO. PLANT IN THE SUMMER OF 1963. MAROCHINI, NOW EMPLOYED BY CHRYSLER CORP. AT THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION MISSILE PLANT HERE, WORKED THAT SAME SUMMER AT THE STANDARD COFFEE CO. BOTH FIRMS WERE OWNED BY W. B. REILY.

SHORTLY BEFORE BEING FIRED BY REILY ON JULY 19, 1963, OSWALD TOLD ADRIAN ALBA, OPERATOR OF A PARKING GARAGE NEXT TO THE COFFEE PLANT, THAT HE WAS DISSATISFIED WITH HIS JOB AND HE WAS GOING "OUT THERE WHERE THE GOLD IS."

ALBA TOLD AN INTERVIEWER SHORTLY AFTER THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION IN DALLAS NOV. 22, 1963, THAT OSWALD HAD EXPLAINED THAT THE GOLD "WAS THE POT OF GOLD AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW THAT EVERYBODY LOOKS FOR."

ALBA SAID OSWALD THEN EXPLAINED HE WAS REFERRING TO THE NASA PLANT. "I'M IN LIKE FLYNN," OSWALD WAS QUOTED AS SAYING, "IN ONLY THREE OR FOUR DAYS I'M GOING TO GIVE MY NOTICE, AND THEN I'M GOING TO GET THAT POT OF GOLD."

OSWALD, HOWEVER, NEVER WENT TO WORK AT THE NASA FACILITY AND NO ONE BY THAT NAME EVER APPLIED FOR A JOB AT ANY OF THE COMPANIES THERE.

MAROCHINI BEGAN WORKING AT THE NASA FACILITY IN AUGUST 1963. JAMES R. LEWALLEN, ANOTHER WITNESS SUMMONED BY GARRISON, ALSO IS EMPLOYED AT NASA.

GARRISON CONTENDS THAT OSWALD, NEW ORLEANS CIVIC LEADER CLAY SHAW AND DAVID W. FERRIE, FREELANCE PILOT WHO DIED LAST WEEK, CONSPIRED AT FERRIE'S APARTMENT HERE IN SEPTEMBER 1963 AND AGREED "TO KILL JOHN F. KENNEDY." SHAW WAS ARRESTED LAST WEDNESDAY ON A MURDER CONSPIRACY CHARGE IN CONNECTION WITH KENNEDY'S DEATH.

SHAW, 54, FREE ON \$10,000 BOND, EMPHATICALLY DENIED ANY SUCH PARTICIPATION AND SAYS HE NEVER KNEW EITHER FERRIE OR OSWALD. U.S. ATTY. GEN. RAMSEY CLARK SAYS THE FBI INVESTIGATED SHAW IN 1963 AND CLEARED HIM OF ANY LINK WITH THE ASSASSINATION.

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