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MARTIN 360

HOUSTON, TEX., MARCH 4 (AP)-JACK S. MARTIN, A ONE-TIME PRIVATE DETECTIVE QUESTIONED IN THE NEW ORLEANS INVESTIGATION OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, SAYS THAT ALLEGED ASSASSIN LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND DAVID WILLIAM FERRIE WERE FRIENDS, THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE REPORTED SATURDAY.

MARTIN TOLD THE CHRONICLE IN A COPYRIGHTED INTERVIEW APPEARING IN THE NEWSPAPER'S SUNDAY EDITIONS THAT HE HAD SEEN A PHOTOGRAPH OF OSWALD IN FERRIE'S APARTMENT AND HAD MET FERRIE IN THE COMPANY OF A YOUNG MAN AND A BISHOP OF A SMALL RELIGIOUS GROUP. HE HAS BEEN QUESTIONED BY ORLEANS PARISH DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON, WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE DEVELOPED EVIDENCE ON A CONSPIRACY BEHIND THE ASSASSINATION, BUT AN AIDE TO GARRISON, WILLIAM GURVICH, HAS SAID MARTIN IS NOT IMPORTANT TO THE PROBE.

FERRIE, WHO DIED FEB. 22 IN HIS CLUTTERED NEW ORLEANS APARTMENT, HAS BEEN DESCRIBED BY GARRISON AS IMPORTANT TO THE CASE. FERRIE WAS A FORMER AIRLINES PILOT WITH A POLICE RECORD OF HOMOSEXUAL ACTIVITIES.

SHORTLY AFTER KENNEDY WAS KILLED, MARTIN, ACCORDING TO THE FBI, HAD TOLD AN AIDE TO GARRISON THAT FERRIE TRAINED OSWALD IN MARKSMANSHIP, HYPNOTIZED HIM AND ORDERED HIM TO KILL KENNEDY AND ARRANGED TO PILOT A GETAWAY PLANE FROM DALLAS. A SECRET SERVICE MAN WHO INTERROGATED MARTIN SAID MARTIN TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD BEEN DRINKING WHEN HE TOLD THE STORY.

IN THE CHRONICLE INTERVIEW, MARTIN DENIED TELLING GARRISON'S AIDE HERMAN S. KOHLMAN "ANYTHING LIKE THAT." MARTIN SAID, "I SAW SOMETHING TO THAT EFFECT ON TELEVISION, AND IT CALLED KOHLMAN AND ASKED IF HE RECALLED FERRIE. THAT'S ALL."

MARTIN TOLD THE CHRONICLE HE MET FERRIE IN THE EARLY 1960'S WHEN FERRIE WAS ARRESTED ON A MORALS CHARGE INVOLVING A LOUISIANA YOUTH.

MARTIN TOLD THE CHRONICLE HE ASKED FERRIE FOR A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE YOUNG COMPLAINANT, EXPLAINING, "FERRIE HAD PICTURES OF ALL THOSE YOUNG KIDS THAT HUNG AROUND HIM. HE LIKED TO DRESS THEM UP IN HELMET LINERS, FATIGUES, AND GIVE THEM RIFLES, LIKE THEY WERE PLAYING SOLDIERS."

MARTIN WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT FERRIE, WHILE THUMBING THROUGH A STACK OF PHOTOGRAPHS, WITHDREW ONE AND SAID, "THAT'S THAT NIT LEE HARVEY OSWALD. I HAD TO TALK HIM INTO JOINING THE MARINES TO GET RID OF HIM."

MARTIN SAID FERRIE WAS ACTIVE IN 1963 WITH CUBAN PRO-CASTRO GROUPS IN NEW ORLEANS, AS THE FBI ESTABLISHED OSWALD HAD BEEN. DURING THAT PERIOD, MARTIN TOLD THE CHRONICLE, FERRIE VISITED HIS OFFICE WITH A YOUNG MAN.

"FERRIE TOLD ME, 'THIS IS LEE, THE GUY I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT.'"

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