

DA Subpenas 3 in JFK Slaying Probe

District Attorney Jim Garrison today subpoenaed three persons as material witnesses in his probe of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The three were identified as:

Loran E. Hall of Kernville, Calif.

Thomas Beckham of Omaha, Neb.

Lawrence J. Howard Jr. of Los Angeles.

The subpoenas were issued by Criminal District Judge Matthew S. Braniff and call for the appearance of the three before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury Feb. 1 and 2.

THE SUBPENA for Hall said the DA has information that he checked into the Dallas Young Men's Christian Association in October, 1963, and remained in Dallas until the time of the Kennedy slaying.

It contends he was in Dallas with Jack Ruby "and other individuals believed to be involved in the assassination, that he brought a weapon to Dallas shortly before the assassination, that he was active in the 'Free Cuba' movement in Florida, Louisiana and Texas, that he was previously engaged in CIA-sponsored guerrilla training in

Florida for raids on Cuba, that he was in association with Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas . . ."

The subpoena charges that before Hall's arrival in Dallas he was in the New Orleans area and was in contact with David William Ferrie, who has been named in an indictment as a conspirator to the Kennedy slaying, and other individuals

who frequented 531 Lafayette st.

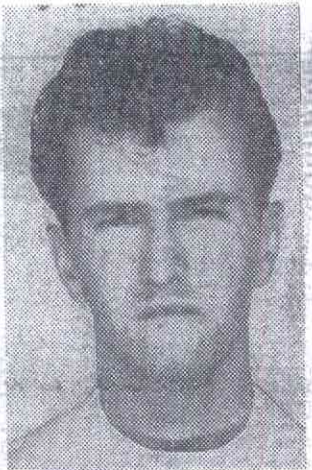
THE DOCUMENT identified the Lafayette st. address as the same office building described as 544 Camp st., the address used on leaflets handed out by Lee Oswald in New Orleans.

Before the assassination, Hall was present at discussions concerning it, the subpoena says.

The document stipulates that if Hall obeys the summons, he will have immunity from prosecution.



LAWRENCE J. HOWARD JR.



THOMAS E. BECKHAM



LORAN EUGENE HALL

THESE PICTURES WERE RELEASED TODAY by Orleans Parish District Attorney Jim Garrison as those of three persons submitted as material witnesses in his assassination probe.

THE BECKHAM subpoena says the DA's office has information that he was in association with Ferrie and various other individuals at 531 Lafayette.

It says he was further connected with Ferrie in that both were ordained priests in the "Old Orthodox Catholic Church of North America."

Beckham, the subpoena says, operated a "Cuban mission" on Rampart st. and says he was "in active association with certain Cuban exiles in New Orleans in whose company Lee Oswald was seen."

IT SAYS Beckham "had knowledge of CIA-sponsored guerrilla training conducted

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near New Orleans." It adds he had knowledge of the intelligence activities occurring in the office of W. Guy Banister.

The subpoena says Beckham subsequently was reported to be in Dallas in November of 1963 with one of the Cuban exiles and that a number of those persons with whom he was in contact in New Orleans and Dallas "are believed to have played a part in the assassination."

The document grants him immunity similar to that given Hall if he obeys the subpoena.

THE SUBPENA for Howard says information has been given the DA that Howard was in association with Ferrie in 1963 during the course of visits to New Orleans.

It says the DA has information that Howard was engaged in CIA-sponsored guerrilla training in Florida for raids on Cuba, that he was active in the "Free Cuba" move-

ments in Florida, Louisiana and Texas, and that he associated with Ferrie and others at 531 Lafayette.

The document says Howard arrived in Dallas and checked into the YMCA in October, 1963, and stayed in Dallas until the time of the Kennedy slaying.

IT SAYS HE was in contact with Ruby "and other individuals believed to have been involved in the assassination."

The subpoena grants Howard immunity in the same manner as Hall and Beckham.

In a statement issued in connection with the subpoenas, Garrison said "Each of the three witnesses was in a unique position to observe activities relevant to the assassination. None of them were questioned by the Warren Commission."

GARRISON CHARGED that this was because the commission's objective "was to hide the fact that for the first time in American history, a coup d'etat had occurred, resulting in the carefully planned execution of a President . . ."

He reiterated his earlier contention that "President Kennedy plainly was shot from a number of different directions."

" . . . you will not find the names of Hall and Howard

. . . in the Warren Commission index—instead you will find such preposterous irrelevancies as the names of Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Rudy Vallee and Xavier Cugat," Garrison said.

On the witnesses subpoenaed today, Garrison said Hall is also known as "Lorenzo Fasilillo" and "Skip" Hall.

He said Hall was in 1963 a member of the Minutemen, a right-wing organization.

HE SAID THE Minutemen organization had no connection either with training Cuban exiles or with assassinating the President, but that a number of individual members were active in guerrilla training.

Howard, Garrison said, is also known as "Alonzo Escudido."

"In the early 1960s he was a close companion of Loran Hall in guerrilla activity in Florida," Garrison said.

Beckham, the DA said, was an associate of Ferrie and of Sergio Arcacha, onetime New Orleans Cuban exile leader.

Garrison charged that "the American people have never been told the names of 10 men (some of whom we have identified as participants in the assassination) who were arrested in Dealey Plaza minutes after the assassination. They later were quietly released after the murder of officer Tippit, in another part of Dallas, provided the necessary diversion to cover their release."