

Lawrence Howard resists Garrison's extradition

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Lawrence Howard, recently subpoenaed by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison, went before Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer Tuesday in a hearing to determine whether he will be extradited to Louisiana as a witness in Garrison's investigation into the alleged conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy.

Howard was granted a 10-day continuance to give his attorney more time to investigate the allegations made against him. His hearing is now set for January 26.

In a brief interview with newsmen, Howard questioned Garrison's motives, and said that it was "... a waste of my time and the taxpayers' money to go down there."

Asked if he thought the matter of the visit to the home of Mrs. Sylvia Odio was what Garrison wanted to question him about, Howard said, "I believe that is part of it. He seems to have some idea that I am CIA-connected or CIA-sponsored."

Recently, in an interview with Art Kevin of KHJ news, Howard

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told of having trained forces for an invasion of Cuba. When Kevin asked him if he was doing this under the auspices of the CIA, he answered "No comment."

Howard was asked about the fact that Loran Eugene Hall had named him as a companion visitor with Hall to the home of Mrs. Odio in Dallas. Howard replied, "He was mistaken."

(Hall admitted having made the visit to Mrs. Odio's home, in an interview with the FBI on Sept. 16, 1964, but later denied it.)

Bruce Wolfe, Howard's attorney, said, "We will exhaust every judicial remedy." But, he said, "...if ordered to go, we will obey and all court orders, but we will carry the matter as far as we can."

"Do you fear for your physical safety?" one newsman asked.

"Yes," Howard replied. When asked why, he said several other witnesses subpoenaed by Garrison had been harmed physically by unknown assailants. He mentioned Jim Hicks, another material witness who was beaten and thrown through a plate glass door on the day he was to testify, by two intruders in his hotel room. Hicks escaped serious injury and was able to testify.

"Who do you think is attacking and beating these witnesses?" Howard was asked.

"Somebody who is afraid they might implicate somebody," he replied.
