

WHY KILL THE PRESIDENT?

'Conspiracy | Poses Too Many Whys

By THOMAS K. HARVEY

NEW ORLEANS (UPI) — One of the biggest little unanswered questions in Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's probe of an alleged New Orleans conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy is just one word long and remains unanswered.

The question is: Why?

Here are the facts:

Clay L. Shaw, a 54-year-old New Orleanian of considerable stature, culture and intelligence, is ac-

cused of conspiring to murder Kennedy.

Perry R. Russo, a 25-year-old Baton Rouge, La., insurance salesman says Shaw, whom he said he knew as "Clem Bertrand", plotted with assassin Lee Harvey Oswald and the late David W. Ferrie to kill Kennedy.

Shaw, an open admirer of John F. Kennedy, was managing director of the International Trade Mart here at the time of Kennedy's assassination. In his job as di-

rector, Shaw personally, and the Trade Mart had everything to gain from Kennedy's continued existence.

Kennedy's Alliance for Progress, if nothing else, had opened new vistas for the Trade Mart. But there were other Kennedy inroads into Latin America, too.

The big little question begs even more when applied to Russo.

Why did Russo wait nearly three and one-half years to come forward with

his information?

Why did Russo not come forward when Ferrie's name was linked with Garrison's assassination investigation as early as Feb. 17?

Why did Russo wait eight days — until after Ferrie died of a brain hemorrhage in his New Orleans apartment — to volunteer his story?

Why did Russo not report immediately after the assassination to the FBI, the Secret Service or others participating in the Warren

Commission investigation of the assassination?

There is no record that he either offered information or was questioned.

The same question goes unanswered with respect to Raymon Cummings and Clyde Limbaugh.

Cummings, a former Dallas cab driver, told Garrison he drove Ferrie and Oswald to Jack Ruby's night club prior to the assassination. Everyone knows who Ruby was — the killer of Oswald.

Limbaugh, who described himself as a singer, said he was working for Ruby and saw Ruby, Oswald and J. D. Tippet — the policeman slain by Oswald after the assassination — together in Ruby's office a week before the assassination.

Why did Cummings and Limbaugh wait until now to come forward?

Limbaugh said in a telephone interview he did not think the information was important at the time of the assassination.

Why is it important now?

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