

SF Examiner 29 May 1967

Henry J. Taylor**Oswald's 'Getaway'**

NEW ORLEANS — District Attorney Jim Garrison asks several questions about Lee Harvey Oswald which — seeking the truth about Oswald in many places — I have often asked myself.

Oswald's problem was his getaway. On Sept. 25, two months before the assassination of President Kennedy, Oswald left New Orleans on a bus and reached Mexico City the next morning.

AT THE Cuban Embassy he presented New Orleans newspaper clippings about his pro-Castro activities here, announced that he was a member of the Communist Party, displayed his Russian work permit, Russian marriage certificate, a prepared statement of his qualifications as a dedicated Marxist and, in the words of the Warren Commission Report, "tried to curry favor."

Oswald was fully familiar with passport and visa problems. Yet he coupled his application for a transit visa through Cuba with an application for a Soviet visa to enter Russia, which was self-defeating.

The Cuban transit visa could only be issued after the Soviet visa was granted — a matter of several months. Told this at both the Cuban and Soviet Embassies, Oswald left Mexico City for Ft. Worth and Dallas—empty-handed. If this was his getaway plan it was, by the facts disclosed, nonexistent.

Money? Oswald left his last \$170 on the dresser at home before he went to work at

the Book Depository building on the morning of the President's murder. And after he returned to his boarding house and changed his clothes he left the money still lying on his dresser. Oswald had only small change on him when he was arrested.

In New Orleans, Oswald had publicly labeled himself pro-Communist: picketed the U. S. S. Wasp, dramatically passed out "Fair Play for Cuba" pamphlets. But Garrison reports that Oswald's after-hours associates in New Orleans, specifically several Latins, were people known to be enemies of Castro and to have ties of bitterness against President Kennedy that go back to the Bay of Pigs debacle.

Oswald gave the clenched-fist hammer-and-sickle salute in the Dallas jail after his arrest. Why? Nothing could have labeled the President's suspected assassin more clearly.

IN CLAIMING some answers to these questions, Garrison's answers remain to be proven. While our investigative agencies believe he may find a conspiracy was discussed in New Orleans, they are still utterly convinced Garrison cannot tie either Oswald or Jack Ruby into it and they put no stock whatever in the code Garrison used to link Oswald, Ruby and New Orleans businessman Clay L. Shaw. But several questions themselves are legitimate. And they are haunting.

From the beginning there has always been much more in the matter of Lee Harvey Oswald than met the eye.