

Wed. 13 Dec. '67 - Garrison to have been interviewed by Pat Michaels, KNEW, by phone. Arrangements had been made the day before, but Garrison could not be reached either at office or home; secretary still waiting at office 1 a.m. New Orleans time to put call through.

Thu. 14 Dec.

Thu. 21 Dec.



BILL BOXLEY - HARV MORGAN INTERVIEW  
DECEMBER 21, 1967

Morgan: "Bill - since the vice services have carried the vague outline of this story concerning the plot against District Attorney Jim Garrison of New Orleans - can we go into more detail now? I was a little bit curious myself, to know the degree to which so much money has been acquired by the Federal and the State - could you tell me as much as possible about the plot which was hatched here in San Francisco?"

Boxley: "I'm very deeply indebted to you for your interest in this and we can't tell you how much we appreciate it. I've traveled with Mr. Garrison - we (laughs) are ~~usually~~ usually for our funds for this program - well, it naturally comes from contributions come in. So I went to Albuquerque, New Mexico - which was a student meeting - the first word of this was that we immediately contacted the Federal Investigation Office at that point and they sent me to Albuquerque and Sheriff [unclear] and I went out there and stayed that night which has been for you.) I got a plane for Albuquerque - now, we came on a tragic sort of dinner - I wanted a salad and a sandwich and so while he was ordering the section of the Los Angeles - he had out to meet us but because of the particular place we went to and they found us there - that we had selected that as a gathering place for M - that thing set (laughs).

Boxley: "The man's name, apparently (laughs) - the Department intelligence section has been out here in Los Angeles.) - and assistance to us. (They're not aware that we weren't aware they...)

Boxley: "That called you on this I had no idea - this was some wild goose chase - whether there was a thread of any authenticity to your subsequent investigation - as you mentioned them to you - did you know anything that you had previously known about? I'm not asking you, of course, to divulge these names.



Boxley: "Well, the names, of course, fit into pretty well known Mafia structure as it is related in Senator McClelland's Committee report of 1964 and 1965 and the details that you were able to provide us certainly fit the ~~pattern~~ known operating pattern of this type of thing with the Mafia. When a contract is let it's ~~usually~~ usually done under certain circumstances and conditions which gave validity immediately to what you had to tell us and has since been verified by other intelligence organizations.)

Morgan: "This - this has been verified? Then -

Boxley: "Yes, it has been verified.

Morgan: "Then the - what I said earlier - the alleged plot to assassinate Jim Garrison - is no longer alleged? It has been verified?"

Boxley: "No, no - it has been verified through Los - through California State intelligence services.

Morgan: "Uh, huh - were there - was there a previous Mafia connection or suspicion of a Mafia connection with the Kennedy assassination?"

Boxley: "No - we haven't - we haven't seen any indication that there was a Mafia connection with the assassination itself.

Morgan: "Uh, hum.

Boxley: "Some of the characters who, more or less, parade through the Warren volumes of the Warren Commission study are known either to belong to Mafia families in certain small instances or they have associations with known Mafia members. But there has been no concrete indication of any sort that the Mafia - or Syndicates - it's sometimes called - was connected with the assassination.

Morgan: "I was so surprised that about three o'clock in the morning - this past morning - to receive a call at home which indicated to me that the State security people knew about this - not only that - knew all of the names (counts) involved - pardon me - that I had given you before. Now, my - my question ~~immediately~~ immediately that came to my mind - now, how does the State know, not only about the plot but the very names involved?"

Boxley: "Well, I think it's quite likely that they picked ~~up~~ it up independently, because California has, unquestionably, the most effective intelligence sections assigned to Mafia and organized crime of any state in the Union and it's quite probable that their own informants picked this up independently.

Morgan: "And there's not, then - the possibility I was wondering about that - since you did notify the FBI in Albuquerque or the security people in Albuquerque that this chain might not have gone back from there to FBI to State?"

Boxley: "Yes, I think this is quite likely as the way it might have broken. Of course, the FBI immediately pointed out that it was not a matter within their jurisdiction - that there wasn't anything they could do about it either in New Orleans or Albuquerque - but they would point it out and call it to the attention of their Albuquerque office which I understand they did.

Morgan: "Now today in Los Angeles Jim Garrison released ~~xxx~~ not the details but the over-all essence of this story. My - again - my immediate reaction was: why, why was this released prior to the probability of the possibility of thwarting this or of getting the people involved? Won't this warn them off, now?"

Boxley: "Well, that's quite possible that it might warn them off. On the other hand, we feel that there's a certain amount of strategic advantage to be given in it - or to be obtained from it - because Jim Garrison is a primary subject now not only for organized crime but for people who are on - let's say, the lunatic fringe of ~~xxxxx~~ politics. So far as warning off the persons who have the contract



on him. I don't think any such thing is likely. He points out - and I believe, very lucidly - that the Secret Service, the FBI, the Central Intelligence Agency and all of our Armed Forces were unable to prevent the assassination of President Kennedy and, therefore, it's not likely we're going to be able to provide sufficient protection to prevent his assassination if it is carried out.

Morgan: Now, a question of motivation enters into this and - I've been asked this, why the Mafia? Why the Mafia interested in the death of Jim Garrison? Is it because - one - I'm asked - the fact that the Mafia was directly involved in the assassination itself, or they are merely serving a hireling function for someone else?

Boxley: Well, we are inclined to believe that this would be purely a financial contract - merely a business matter. The - the - oh, outgrowth of, let's say, such operations as the old Murder, Incorporated - there's no motivation or no emotion involved in this sort of scheme or plot. It's simply so much money is offered to certain circles to eliminate a particular person and so happened to be it, in this case. At least that's our belief.

Morgan: Now, when we think of so much money and large sums of money we think of very wealthy millionaire-type people. These peoples - not by name - but by general category - have been mentioned in connection with the Kennedy assassination before. Yet, earlier today, Mr. Garrison told CBS that he did not see an influence of what he described as legitimate conservatives in this plot. By that did we mean that he means extremists were, were involved in - not conservatives - but extremists?

Boxley: Well, Gary - I, I don't feel that I'm qualified to explain what Mr. Garrison meant by what he might have said but I do know I've heard him repeatedly say - not just in press conferences - but privately to me and to others - that he doesn't believe legitimate conservatives - conservative American people - are involved in the assassination.

Morgan: Uh, huh. Just - just briefly - this is almost parenthetical to what we were talking about, but, prior to eight days ago I had no inkling of the - of the lengths of extra precautions taken by Mr. Garrison and his office. I've been made quite aware since that time, of course, for, for example, it's your belief - if I'm not mistaken and correct me if I'm wrong - that even the lines into the District Attorney's office in New Orleans are bugged - tapped.

Boxley: Oh, there's no question about that. We have run test cases on those lines, that is, we have deliberately discussed ~~information~~ completely fictitious information on our telephone lines and have watched for observable reaction from certain quarters and the reaction has been immediate. Now since the information had no basis in fact or memorandum or anything but was dreamed up on the spot before being discussed on certain telephones there's no question but what the lines have been monitored.

Morgan: I must confess that in the beginning this seemed a little cloak and daggerish to me until I did get more deeply involved in it and, for example, right now you're talking to me from the pay telephone and



4  
almost no attention of any importance in the last few days has been  
paid to the fact that the telephone in a hotel room but on a **PAY** telephone  
to which the police have pointed this out because it's beyond the belief,  
I believe, of most private citizens.

But I think where the private citizen doesn't understand the ~~XXXX~~  
situation is simply that he doesn't realize the advancements  
made in the tapping equipment and techniques themselves so that you  
don't need a transmitter on a telephone line in order to tap it now.  
I think the ~~XXXX~~ that the average citizen says there's no problem  
here, that we would need vast armies of men scurrying around the  
country with transmitters waiting to get the word to put them ~~XX~~ on

the telephone is a very complex.

Bill, I think, will be on leave the telephone booth now (laughs).

Bill, back to...

Bill, pay phones are no form of security either because all  
calls must have to come out of the terminal box (laughs). So ~~XXXX~~ we're  
being monitored now. Meanwhile, please accept again our deepest  
appreciation for your assistance in this matter, Harv. I don't know what  
might have happened had you not had the public spiritedness to telephone

Morgan Albright, Bill Boxley. Thank you very much. Bill, of course, is an  
investigator for the District Attorney's office in New Orleans.