

2 January 1968

1203 PCS

(350)

NEW ORLEANS (AP)--A BARTENDER SUBPOENAED AS A MATERIAL WITNESS BY DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON SAID TODAY HE DISLIKED PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY BUT DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF A CONSPIRACY TO KILL HIM. LORAN E. HALL, IN A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW WITH THE NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM FROM HIS BAR IN SUBURBAN KERNVILLE, CALIF., SAID HE FELT PRESIDENT KENNEDY "SHOULD HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM OFFICE --BY BALLOT, NOT BY BULLET."

HALL

M SAID HE WILL NOT RETURN VOLUNTARILY TO NEMS

HALL ALSO SAID HE WILL NOT RETURN VOLUNTARILY TO NEW ORLEANS, WHERE GARRISON WANTS TO QUESTION HIM IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONTROVERSIAL PROBE OF WHAT GARRISON SAYS WAS A PLOT WHICH RESULTED IN KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION IN DALLAS, NOV. 22, 1963.

BUT IF A COURT ORDER IS ISSUED IN CALIFORNIA TO EXTRADITE HIM, SAID HALL, "I NATURALLY WILL GO TO NEW ORLEANS. I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO HIDE."

HALL, WHO GARRISON SAYS WAS ASSOCIATED WITH LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND JACK RUBY IN DALLAS, SAID HE FIRST SAW RUBY "WHEN I, LIKE THE REST OF AMERICA, SAW HIM SHOOT OSWALD ON TELEVISION."

OSWALD WAS NAMED BY THE WARREN COMMISSION AS THE LONE ASSASSIN OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. RUBY SHOT OSWALD IN THE DALLAS POLICE STATION BASEMENT, WHILE TELEVISION CAMERAS WERE RECORDING THE REMOVAL OF OSWALD FROM THE BUILDING TWO DAYS AFTER HIS ARREST.

HALL SAID HE WAS ARRESTED IN DALLAS IN SEPTEMBER 1963--TWO MONTHS BEFORE THE ASSASSINATION--AND EARLIER IN MIAMI BECAUSE OF HIS PART IN PROPOSED RAIDS ON COMMUNIST CUBA. HE SAID HE HAD PLANNED TO TAKE MEDICAL SUPPLIES, ARMS AND AMMUNITION TO CUBAN REVOLUTIONARIES. HE SAID HE WAS QUESTIONED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY AGENTS AFTER HIS ARREST.

GARRISON, HALL SAID, IS INTERESTED IN HIM BECAUSE HE ONCE TOLD FBI AGENTS HE WAS PRESENT AT A MEETING AT THE DALLAS HOME OF MRS. SYLVIA ODIO. THE MEETING, DESCRIBED IN THE WARREN REPORT, INVOLVED PERSON WHOM MRS. ODIO SAID WAS INTRODUCED TO HER AS "LEON" OSWALD.

HOWEVER, HALL SAID TODAY HE NEVER ATTENDED ANY SUCH MEETING BUT FALSELY TOLD THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION THAT HE WAS THERE BECAUSE HE WAS "FRIGHTENED."

SINCE THE SUBPOENA WAS ISSUED, HALL SAID, HE HAS BEEN THE TARGET OF HARASSING PHONE CALLS. HE SAID HE WAS "CONCERNED BECAUSE OF THE UNNATURAL DEATHS OF SO MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION PROBE."

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