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SAN DIEGO, CALIF.,. 137. 19(AP)--ATTORNEY MELVIN BELLI SAID TODAY THAT JACK RUBY AND LEE HARVEY OSWALD WERE IN NEW ORLEANS AT THE SAME TIME BUT THAT IT WAS JUST A COINCIDENCE.

BELLI, WHO DEFENDED RUBY IN HIS TRIAL FOR THE SLAYING OF OSWALD, SAID HE BELIEVES THERE WAS NO CONSPIRACY TO KILL PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

RUBY NEVER KNEW OSWALD, ACCUSED SLAYER OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AND THEIR PRESENCE IN NEW ORLEANS " WAS A COINCIDNCE, IT WAS ABSOLUTELY INNOCENT AND THERE WAS NOTHING SINISTER ABOUT IT, " BELLI SAID.

JIM GARRISON, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY, HAS SAID THAT THERE WAS A DONSPIRACY IN THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION AND THAT IT WAS HATCHED IN NEW ORLEANS.

BELLI TOLD A MEETING OF SIGMA DELTA CHI, PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM SOCIETY, THAT HE KNEW RUBY " HAD ACTIVITY IN NEW ORLEANS AND WITH CURBY, BUT HE WAS JUST TRYING TO INGRATIATE HIMSELF WITH A WEALTHY MAFIA TYPE WHO WAS INVOLVED IN LAS VEGAS GAMBLING ACTIVITIES."

HE SAID THIS WAS TYPICAL OF RUBY'S EFFORTS TO BE IDENTIFIED WITH THE WEALTHY AND THE POWERFUL.

" I KNEW THIS TRAGIC LITTLE FIGURE AS WELL AS ANYONE. HE WAS LIKE THE VILLAGE IDIOT. HE WAS TOLERATED EVERYWHERE," BELLI SAID OF RUBY.

BELLI SAID HE IS CONVINCED THAT THE WARREN COMMISSION REPORT TELLS THE COMPLETE STORY OF THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION AND THAT THE INVESTIGATION IN NEW ORLEANS IS NOT GOING TO SHOW THAT RUBY NEW KNEW OSWALD.

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