

New Orleans DA Claims Former CIA Employees Were Assassins, Not Oswald

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison says Lee Harvey Oswald did not kill President John F. Kennedy and that the CIA knows who did.

"Purely and simply it's a case of former employes of the CIA, a large number of them Cubans —having a venomous reaction from the 1961 Bay of Pigs episode . . . certain individuals with a fusion of interests in regaining Cuba assassinated the President," Garrison says.

No Comment

In Washington, a spokesman for the Central Intelligence Agency said the organization would have no comment on Garrison's remarks, made Sunday night in a 23-minute interview with newsmen Bob Jones on WWL-TV.

Garrison said the CIA knows "the name of every man in-

volved and the name of the individuals who pulled the triggers" to kill John F. Kennedy.

Garrison said it would take only 60 minutes for the CIA to "give us the name of every last Cuban involved in this and that's how close we have been to the end for sometime, but we are blocked by this glass wall of this totalitarian, powerful agency which is worried about its power."

Blocks Investigation

He repeatedly charged the CIA with blocking and attempting to block his investigation, begun last fall, and "as a result I think that in closing out the case the final details of evidence that we want will take us much longer, but we're not going to compromise. We're not going to quit. We're going to get them anyway."

The district attorney told Jones he had located photographs "in which we have found the men behind the grassy knoll and stone wall before they dropped completely out of sight. There were five of them not distinct enough you can make an identification from the faces."

Not Given Commission

"The point is," Garrison continued, "the Warren Commission said nobody was back there and they had to say nobody was back there because not enough evidence was presented for them to make any other conclusion."

The commission, headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, concluded that Oswald shot Kennedy and said it could find no evidence of any conspiracy.

Oswald was not a CIA agent, said Garrison, "but he was an employe of the Central Intelligence Agency as were the anti-Castro Cubans with whom he associated." The Warren Commission pictured Oswald as a pro-Communist.

"The point is he not only was not a Communist, but he was an anti-Communist who was working for the CIA," Garrison told Jones. "Once this tragedy occurred, the CIA's attitude seemed to have been, 'Well, President Kennedy is a casualty of the cold war. And, as to this kid—Oswald—,that's just one of those things. The cold war must go on. The cover must be kept.'"

Witness Is Shot

In another development Sunday, Gordon Novel, one of the witnesses Garrison is trying to return to Louisiana, reportedly was wounded superficially by sniper fire at Nashville, Tenn.

Police said they were investigating the report by Charles F. Walker, president of station WKDA. They confirmed that five shots had been fired at a WKDA news wagon in which Novel allegedly was sitting.

Walker said Novel, 29, suffered a minor shoulder wound during a barrage of gunfire outside the apartment of WKDA news director Gary Edwards.