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R.F.Kennedy seeks Garrison before end

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"There are guns between me and the White House." Robert Kennedy to Jim Garrison.

On Tuesday evening, June 4, just one hour before the polls closed in the California primary, I was being interviewed in Washington, D.C. by [illegible] over television station [illegible]. I was asked why [illegible] appeared [illegible] of the Warren Commission. For some months I had been aware of conversation between emissaries from Robert Kennedy to New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison. [illegible] nothing was not [illegible] with my [illegible] to reveal the [illegible] surface. However, [illegible] son [illegible] and [illegible] that he [illegible] harass [illegible] would [illegible] that relationship [illegible] high campaign [illegible].

It was quite plain, however, that as the last primary was about to begin, the [illegible] that I [illegible] reach California in time to influence any voters. My revelations the evidential examines could not affect the primary results.

Accordingly, I answered the question frankly and has [illegible] nature of the relationship between Garrison and Robert Kennedy's representatives. Over a period of several weeks, two different emissaries had arrived in New Orleans. Each had sought out Jim Garrison; each stated that he was carrying a message from Robert Kennedy; each was known by Garrison to be associated with Robert Kennedy; each carried almost the identical message: each said that Robert Kennedy did not believe the conclusions of the Warren Commission and agreed with Garrison that a conspiracy had taken the life of President Kennedy.

Robert Kennedy, they said, would investigate the assassination of his brother thoroughly if he were elected president and would vigorously prosecute those responsible. The essential purpose of the visits was to "reassure" Garrison that despite his public utterances, Robert Kennedy very firmly held a different private view.

Garrison asked why Senator Kennedy felt it necessary to suppress his dissent. Each emissary answered with the same phrase: He (Robert Kennedy) knows that there are guns between

Garrison pointed out that John Kennedy had not been assassinated during the campaign but long after his election. This was proof, Garrison added, that the presidency offered no immunity from an assassin's bullet.

Garrison said: "The lesson of November 22 is very clear. Anyone who wishes to dismantle the war machine and who appears to be in a position to do it will have his head blown off in the middle of an American city."

Garrison said that the point was a full and open assault on the assassins and full disclosure of the role played by the CIA and Central Intelligence Agency.

Garrison proceeded with the conversation to consider [illegible] Kennedy that his life was more endangered by his silence than it would be by his public [illegible] of the [illegible] facts. Robert Kennedy had said that if he [illegible] the [illegible] matter would withdraw from the presidential campaign. Clearly, there would be no reason to kill unless he won. Although the [illegible] was [illegible] he was [illegible].

Ramsey Clark, the attorney general of the United States, immediately stated that he had [illegible] (Continued on page 24)

(From Page 1)

[illegible] conspiracy [illegible] murder of Dr. Martin Luther King and appear [illegible] Memphis when, some days later, the F.B.I. formally charged "Eric Starvo Galt" with "conspiracy" to assassinate Dr. King. Clark, whose vocabulary evidently does not include the word "conspiracy" (he thinks of it as a single hyphenated word, "no-conspiracy") [illegible] substantial effort to convince us of his impartiality by stating that Dr. King's lone killer "was on the run" and that his arrest would be made "imminently." As the months passed, it became apparent that Clark did not know even to which country the assassins may have fled.

Galt, or as he was later identified as James Earl Ray, was picked up quite coincidently by the British authorities on two unrelated charges and not at all because of the efforts of the F.B.I. or the Department of Justice. Several days after the murder of Dr. King, according to a Novak and Evan's column, at a conference of the Department of Justice Clark was asked about his public statements following the murder. He replied, the column revealed, that he knew his

store calm to the country.

The thought occurs that if a new cabinet position is created, Clark would be an obvious candidate for Secretary of Tranquility, but that he is quite obviously out of place at the Department of Justice where truth is supposed to be a factor.

The long and dishonorable record complied by the federal authorities in this area makes it apparent that the American people will have to look elsewhere in seeking to discover the meaning of the assassination of Robert Kennedy.

Two weeks ago, when I confronted Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. who was then campaigning for Robert Kennedy with the unanswered questions about the death of John F. Kennedy, he angrily replied that the implications of the questions were "sinister." However, shortly after the death of Robert Kennedy Schlesinger appeared on the Today show and was asked by its host, Hugh Downs, whether he believed it was possible that a conspiracy took the lives of John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King and Robert F. Kennedy. Schlesinger replied that it was certainly possible and that he believed that the matter must be explored.

While this subject has not been publicly discussed by members of the Kennedy family, Sander Vanocur, an NBC correspondent, was aboard the presidential jet that carried the members of the Kennedy family and Robert Kennedy's body from Los Angeles to New York. While the press headlined and featured those aspects of Vanocur's comments which it felt most important, such as who slept next to the coffin at what hours, very deep into the story were those observations which appear most relevant.

Vanocur said that those on the plane and particularly Senator Edward Kennedy were very angry about "the faceless men" who had assassinated John and Robert Kennedy and Dr. King. They were considering the possibility of a conspiracy and indicated that they were not sure that Lee Harvey Oswald killed John Kennedy. Said Vanocur about the others aboard the plane, the discussions indicated "that there's a kind of pattern, faceless men - that's the phrase I heard."

There is a phrase "in vino veritas" which is no less true when anguish and grief rob the human of inhibitions. Yet for the past four and a half years we have seen how well the members of the Kennedy family have been able to separate their private from public positions regarding these tragedies. Frank Mankiewicz, who had been Robert Ken-

was on the plane was there on the basis of friendship. No one was there as a reporter. Everything was private and that is how we intend to keep it. I am not going to comment on anything anyone said happened on the airplane."

In the meantime, the New York Post advised in its headline that this is "a time to mourn," evidently not having considered the possibility of thinking as well. On television, utilizing the most modern devices for communication but in the spirit of medieval alchemists, the elders of the society inveighed against vague demons. They offered incantations to the atmosphere in the hope that they might alter it and exorcise from it the evil spirits. Everywhere the representatives of the news media spoke of guilt that we all share equally for the evil times that had come upon us.

While it is true that the air and the rivers have been thoroughly polluted by our industrialists over the years, it is not that atmosphere which caused the death of John Kennedy or of Dr. King or of Robert Kennedy. We are not all equally guilty. Those guilty are those who planned these deaths, those who executed the plan and those who have permitted these crimes to remain unsolved. An unsolved and unpunished assassination of a public official is an invitation to more. John F. Kennedy was not the first to die at the hands of the Central Intelligence Agency. Robert Kennedy will not be the last public official to be assassinated unless the full truth regarding all of these events is made public.

There is in this country one man with both the inclination and the ability to do this. He is the district attorney of New Orleans. Yet the press has ridiculed his efforts and distorted his evidence. The press has refused to reveal the efforts of the federal government to prevent Garrison from trying Clay Shaw, a man charged with conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy. The federal government has issued an injunction that prohibits Garrison from proceeding with the case. Not content with that, the federal courts are moving in a direction which indicates a committment to imprison Garrison and the members of his staff.

For Garrison this might be the most pleasant personal alternative available, for his life has been threatened repeatedly and should he ever be permitted to initiate the actual prosecution, the consequences to him may be more grave than the threat of