

ASSASSINS: What Makes Big Jim Run?

CPYRGHT

FOIAb3b

Three Sought as Witnesses

Also last week Garrison subpoenaed two men living in California and one living in Nebraska as material witnesses in his inquiry into the assassination. They are Loran Hall, Kernville; Lawrence J. Howard Jr. of El Monte and Thomas Beckham of Omaha.

The three face no charges in New Orleans. Garrison said they had not been questioned by the Warren Commission appointed by President Johnson, which contended that Oswald acted alone in the killing of President Kennedy—a finding many investigators besides Garrison regard as erroneous.

Garrison says he can get no help from the Dallas Police Dept., from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, nor from officials in high office, up to and including President Johnson. The cover up, he says, is so intense that efforts are repeatedly made by various individuals and organizations and even news media to discredit his investigation and to smear him personally.

Big 'Why' of the Assassination?

Among Garrison's assertions:

- President Kennedy was assassinated because a "number of extreme individuals" considered him a Communist or one who had sold out to the Communists. Sponsors of the plot are very rich men.

- At least 10 men actually conducted the slaying. Some merely drove autos. Shots were fired at the President from at least four points.

- Bullets from a number of different directions struck him. Autopsy photographs were never seen by members of the Warren Commission "because they knew in advance they would see wounds caused by gunshots from a number of directions . . . You aren't supposed to see that because you are dutiful Americans and believe the fairy tale of the lone assassin . . ." He suspects that some day an attempt might be made to bring out autopsy photos doctored to support the lone-assassin contention.

- The notes from the autopsy on the President's body were burned.

- Cuban exiles, vengeful because they thought Mr. Kennedy had let them down in not overthrowing Fidel Castro, were deeply involved in the plot.

- Oswald, connected with the Central Intelligence Agency, the government's spy apparatus, was manipulated into the role of the "patsy" in the assassination.

Big Jim Garrison, New Orleans district attorney, is either grossly wrong about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy—or he's frighteningly right. Frightening because if he's right a movement to cover up the truth exists that is as ugly and shocking as the assassination itself and even more harmful to the nation.

A day after the slaying of the President on Nov. 22, 1963, Garrison had his staff investigate to see if Lee Harvey Oswald had accomplices in New Orleans, for it was known that he had been there the previous summer. The investigation turned up a number of persons allegedly

connected with Oswald, indicated that Oswald was connected with a paramilitary right-wing group, and that on Sept. 16, 1963, he and other men discussed an ambush of the President. One of the other men, according to Garrison, was known as Clem Bertrand, another was David Ferrie. Ferrie has since died. Bertrand, identified by Garrison as a New Orleans businessman, named Clay Shaw, was indicted in connection with the asserted conspiracy and his trial is scheduled to begin Feb. 14.

Last week, in Los Angeles, a man named Edgar Eugene Bradley, 49, of North Hollywood, surrendered to Sheriff Peter Pitchess on a fugitive complaint after Garrison sought him also in connection with the murder of the President.

Bradley is a representative of Dr. Carl McIntire, a fundamentalist radio evangelist. His encounter with the local lawmen was cordial. Sheriff Pitchess thanked him for conveniently coming down to give himself up; Bradley thanked the sheriff for "the trust and confidence you have shown. Believe me, I don't have a thing to hide."

After he was arraigned, freed on his own recognizance and granted a 30-day continuance, during which Louisiana is expected to start extradition proceedings, Bradley said:

"I know I'm not guilty of any crime. God knows I'm not guilty. That's the important thing."

His attorney, former FBI agent George Jensen, said they would "fight extradition tooth and nail." Eventually, Gov. Reagan may decide.

CPYRGHT

- Jack Ruby, "very much involved, very much associated . . . with key individuals in the case," simply "executed" Oswald when he had the chance, so that Oswald could not talk. Ruby later became remorseful, and at an appearance before the Warren Commission in Dallas begged that the sheriff, an assistant district attorney and his own counsel be removed "and he would talk." Refused this, he then "begged the chief justice to take him to Washington and "he would be able to tell them things that he could not tell them there." This also was refused.

- Sen. Robert F. Kennedy may be so "severely shocked" that he "has just turned away from" the matter and so far has been "unable to look at it."

- Some of the many later deaths of witnesses and others associated with the assassination were natural, others were murders "to keep alive the Great Fairy Tale."

In view of the stone wall of indifference and hostility that he says he runs into, and giving full credence to his assertion that he is not trying to advance himself politically, anyone who wonders why Garrison keeps so determinedly on his course is told this:

He is appalled at the way "my government is lying to the people of this country." He fears the nation is going totalitarian—becoming "the Fourth Reich."