

GARRISON/3

left to talk out loud against the war in Vietnam. They're eliminating them, one by one. Always a lone assassin.

KEVIN: Jim, in the federal court dialogue that you're having now in the Clay Shaw case in New Orleans....

GARRISON: It's no dialogue, Art. They just jerked it out of our hands before trial so we couldn't go to trial.

KEVIN: Well, the charge now that they've made, as I'm sure you're aware, is one of illegal wiretap.

GARRISON: We never do it and we haven't done with regard to Shaw. When did they say that?

KEVIN: Well, this came on a charge in New Orleans which we picked up today. It came from, you know, our contact that is working in your city of New Orleans. And the quote he gave me from the the federal judgement was, "Shaw's attorneys have charged Garrison with illegal wiretap. Rights of Shaw have been violated by the electronic intrusion of his home." In other words, the implication is that you bugged his house or his phone.

GARRISON: My staff will not even interview anybody in the office unless, they will not record an interview unless the person being interviewed knows that there is a tape recorder there and sees the wheels moving. And the reason I want him to see the wheel moving is if he wants to say something he doesn't want to go down, he can point to the machine and say, "stop it." I am adamantly against the government using these measures, but this is typical of what they've done from the beginning.

They change white into black and black into white. When a witness volunteered to take truth serum, we said well that's fine. We think it's a good idea. And we lined up doctors and they gave him truth serum and then after that, they called it drugs. Until we used it on a witness to make sure he was telling the truth to give Mr. Shaw the benefit of every possible doubt. It was called truth serum. After we used it, it was called drugging witnesses. This is the same thing. I think what they're doing here, thinking out loud, is that they don't have any real federal jurisdiction, but they perhaps have come across a case involving wiretapping and have learned that if they charge wiretapping, even though they know it's not true, they will somehow acquire federal jurisdiction. But these lawyers know better. They know that I not only don't wiretap, I'm adamantly against it. And if anybody in my office did it, he wouldn't be on the office staff anymore.

KEVIN: Jim, one final question. And this again hit the wires, United Press International wires, and it talks about the witnesses in your case against Clay Shaw. And I'm going to quote to you from the UPI copy. It says, "Three persons who once told District Attorney Jim Garrison that Clay L. Shaw was linked with Lee Harvey Oswald or with "Cuban-looking men," are known to have retracted their accusations.

GARRISON: Oh really? That's interesting. Who?

KEVIN: Seedrick and Oneida Von Raleston, itinerant artists from Orlando, Florida and Fred H. Leemans Jr. have given information to Shaw's attorneys countering their earlier statements to Garrison."

GARRISON: Well, that doesn't mean a thing. Those people we felt from the beginning were sent in by the other side because they were so unconvincing and we never intended to use them as witnesses at all. They were kind of like Gurchich. We had endless penetrations and endless appearance of different people and then they were not convincing after they gave us a statement, so we paid no more attention to them. So now, they suddenly appear and say we were witnesses for Garrison. That has no meaning. The whole thing