

Mystery Miami Murder Linked to JFK Plot

By CHARLES GOLDEN

Three days after he identified the picture of an alleged conspirator in the assassination of President Kennedy, Eladio Cerefino del Valle was tortured to death. His horribly mutilated body was found February 23 in Miami.

According to a highly placed source close to New Orleans' District Attorney Jim Garrison's probe into the assassination, del Valle was a close pal of pilot David Ferrie. Ferrie, a homosexual soldier of fortune, died in New Orleans a few days before Garrison planned to arrest him in his assassination investigation.

A coroner and a pathologist said Ferrie had died of natural causes but Garrison claims Ferrie's death was "apparently suicide." Ferrie died Feb. 22. Del Valle was killed the same day.

At 1:34 a.m. the next day, Miami Police Officer J.W. Hammon found del Valle on the floor in the back of his flaming-red 1966 Cadillac. He had been brutally beaten and shot once, above the heart. His head was chopped open. The car was left in a shopping center parking lot.

The bizarre death was written off — publicly — as a gangland slaying. Del Valle, it was known to investigators, was linked to a narcotics syndicate. He had once been a henchman for ex-Cuban Dictator Fulgencio Batista and was a congressman in Cuba, who made a fortune smuggling U.S. cigarettes and other goods into the island.

But what has never come out until now is this: Del Valle was contacted three days before his death as part of District Attorney Garrison's investigation of the JFK assassination.

A Garrison investigator located del Valle in a Miami bar the night of February 19. He persuaded del Valle to help round up several persons believed to have conspired in the President's murder.

In the bar, del Valle identified the alleged conspirator in the assassination — Cuban Manuel Garcia Gonzales — from a photograph showing Gonzales with Lee Harvey Oswald. The Cuban is being sought in a world-wide manhunt.

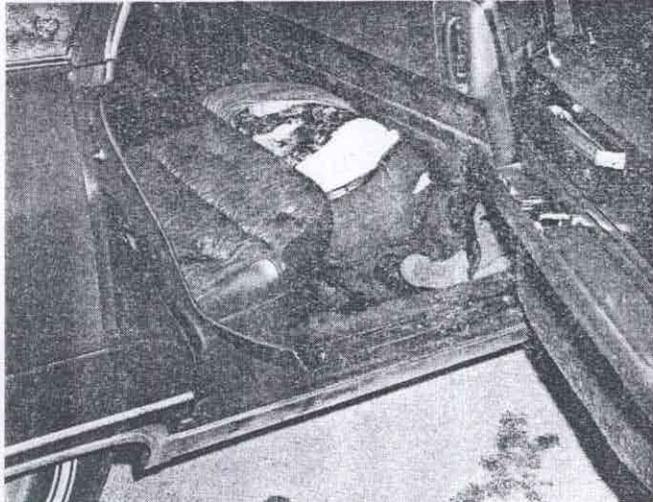
Del Valle agreed to help find Gonzales but said it would take several days. He promised to get back in touch with the investigator.

According to New Orleans sources, Garrison's men felt that del Valle could help in many ways because of a long friendship he had with Ferrie, who was about to be charged in the conspiracy.

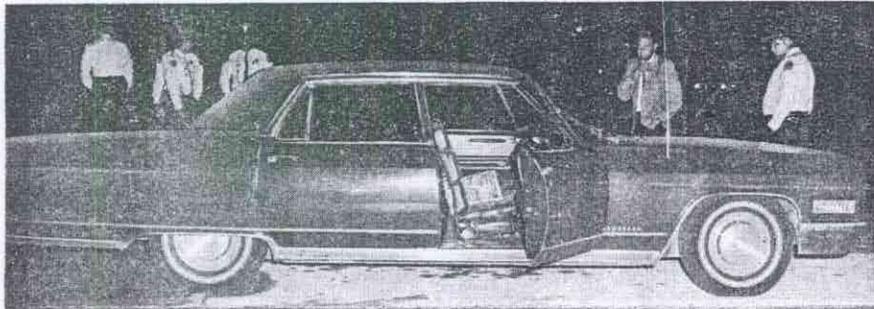
Del Valle, 43, had a beautiful wife and children. He was well



NEW ORLEANS DA
JIM GARRISON



CORPSE of Eladio del Valle lies on the floor in the back of his car. He had been brutally beaten, his skull had been chopped open and he had been shot above the heart.



DEATH CAR: Del Valle's mutilated body was found in his flaming-red 1966 Cadillac. The abandoned car was discovered by police officer J.W. Hammon in the deserted parking lot of a Miami shopping center.



KEY PHOTO: This picture was shown by a Garrison investigator to del Valle, three days before he was murdered. From the photo he had identified alleged conspirator Manuel Garcia Gonzales (right), now target of a world-wide manhunt. With Gonzales is Oswald (left) and an unidentified man.

known, however as "bisexual," a man attracted to men as well as women. Sexual deviation is taking on special importance as new evidence comes to light in the assassination probe.

Three nights after the investigator had reached an agreement with del Valle, the Cuban was lured to the Miami home of a woman friend, for what was supposed to be a game of baccarat.

Once del Valle entered the house, three killers jumped him. They beat him unmercifully on a couch.

A sharp object, possibly a hatchet or machete, was used to cut open his skull. And, apparently for good measure, he was shot above the heart at point-blank range.

Then the killers took del Valle's lifeless body in his own car to the parking lot.

A neighbor says he saw a woman leaving the house that night with two objects that appeared to be table lamps, plus a suitcase.

Even tough Miami police were shocked at the peculiar details of the killing.

The way del Valle died becomes important because of the way he lived — and because of new evidence being uncovered by DA Garrison and others.

Garrison and his investigators will not discuss details of the case. But there already have been definite signs that a number of people linked to the assassination probe were tied to Cuban politics, to organized crime and to sexual perversion.

One of these was Jack Ruby, slayer of Kennedy's assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald. The true nature of Ruby is coming out in investigations by Garrison, attorney Mark Lane and many others.

Ruby has become a prime suspect in the New Orleans-based assassination probe and his Cuban involvements may well be much greater than so far uncovered.

Some pieces of the plot puzzle can be found scattered throughout the Warren Commission's 26 volumes of testimony and evidence. Segments of the testimony link a "Clay Bertrand" to Oswald and reveal that Oswald ran around with "gay kids." The forgotten testimony was given three years ago!

And who is Bertrand? DA Garrison says that

Bertrand is none other than Clay Shaw, the high society New Orleans figure now under indictment for conspiring to kill JFK. Bertrand was identified as Clay Shaw by Perry Russo, Garrison's witness at the recent preliminary hearing for Shaw. Shaw was ordered to stand trial.

Torture victim del Valle fits the same overall pattern of sexual deviancy and international intrigue.

Del Valle fled from Cuba at a most opportune time — on Dec. (Continued on next page)



ASSASSIN
LEE HARVEY OSWALD

(Continued from preceding page)
 25, 1958. At that very moment, Castro was moving down from the hills. A week later he controlled all Cuba.

In exile, del Valle talked like a strong anti-Castro man. He organized the "Anti-Communist Civilian and Armed Forces." But there is suspicion that even then del Valle may have been a double-agent, serving Castro secretly.

A year later, in late 1959, del Valle sent his right-hand man into Cuba with a trusted anti-Castro exile. The trusted exile was almost trapped and killed in Cuba by Castro agents. It turned out that del Valle's so-called right-hand man was in reality a Castro agent himself.

And according to **Diego Gonzales Tendedera**—a reporter for a New York Spanish-language newspaper, **EL TIEMPO**, who was hounded out of Miami for asking too many questions—del Valle teamed up with Ferrie as early as 1960 for "fire-bomb" raids in Cuba. Del Valle continued to raise money for attack missions. But there were no signs that any significant damage was ever done at del Valle's direction.

In the same period, Castro himself announced the arrests of "del Valle" forces. Castro called them counter-revolutionaries. Castro's announcements helped build del Valle's image as an authentic Castro foe.

But del Valle's assistance was rejected when the CIA and true anti-Castroites began planning for the abortive 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion which was to free Cuba. And the invasion failed partly because of Castro's undercover agents in Miami.

Del Valle's "double-agent" capacity explains his ties not only to Ferrie, but possibly to Oswald and Ruby, too. Ruby is known to have taken secret trips to Cuba not long before President Kennedy was murdered.

Even the Warren Commission, in its hurry-up investigation, uncovered Ruby's trip to Cuba in September of 1959. At another point, Ruby, acting as go-between, tried to work a deal to sell tractors to Castro.

But one of the most important signs of Ruby's real involvement with Cuba came in testimony to a Warren Commission lawyer from Nancy Ferrin Rich. The Warren Report carefully ignored it, and so has the press.

Mrs. Rich had been a barmaid in Ruby's Carousal nightclub in Dallas, Tex., and she knew Ruby well.

In fact, she quit the job after a fight with Ruby.



ATTORNEY
DEAN ANDREWS

To a Warren Commission lawyer, Mrs. Rich revealed details of a series of secret meetings she and her husband had with a U.S. lieutenant colonel and a Dallas bartender named Dave Cherry.

Mrs. Rich testified that the man wanted her husband to run guns into Castro's Cuba and bring Cubans back to Miami. The price was supposed to be \$10,000 per trip. Mrs. Rich wanted more.

The men were having difficulty raising the funds, Mrs. Rich testified, until a strange thing happened.

"I am sitting there," Mrs. Rich recalled, "A knock comes on the door and who walks in but my little friend, Jack Ruby. And you could have knocked me over with a feather."

Ruby appeared to be the financier, or go-between in the deal.

Mrs. Rich described Ruby's arrival this way: "And then Ruby comes in, and everybody looks like this, you know, a big smile—like here comes the Saviour, or something. And he took one look at me, I took one look at him, and we glared, we never spoke a word. I don't know if you have ever met the man. But he has this nervous air about him."

Mrs. Rich was just one of many witnesses who told the Warren Commission that Ruby had strong hookups with most of the Dallas Police Department.

The secret trips to Cuba being financed by Ruby and others coincided precisely with the smuggling activity and "raids" being staged from Florida by del Valle.

In fact, in 1965, del Valle boasted to exiles that he was infiltrating Cuba. His mission: Taking arms and supplies into the island and ferrying so-called exiles out again.

It is suspected that developments in coming months will link del Valle with the Ruby group, both through the criminal underworld and through del Valle's ties to pilot Ferrie.

Mrs. Rich offered the Warren Commission various leads to investigate and revealed where a cache of munitions was hidden. But the Commission struck out part of her testimony.

Eventually, the Warren Commission shrugged off Ruby's international interests and gave this conclusion: "No substantiation has been found for rumors linking Ruby with pro- or anti-Castro activities."

NATIONAL The ENQUIRER has learned that within a



INDICTED: Clay Shaw is awaiting trial in the conspiracy to kill JFK.



EX-PILOT'S CORPSE: Body of Ferrie, who flew del Valle's plane, is carried to coroner's wagon.



JACK RUBY
 Took secret trips to Cuba



DAVID FERRIE
 Pilot for murdered man



FIDEL CASTRO
 His agents were all over

year the "substantiation" will emerge, largely due to the tireless efforts of Garrison.

Some of the truth is coming from the homosexual world, where talk is now rife about the obviously "gay" twists within the assassination conspiracy.

Some key investigators feel Castro's "higher-ups" used homosexuals for the assassination.

Oswald, himself, has been identified as a companion of New Orleans homosexuals. There was actual testimony on this to a Warren Commission attorney—but not a word of it appeared in the Commission's report.

The testimony came from Dean Adams Andrews Jr., who was then an attorney in New Orleans.

Andrews, a huge hulk of a man weighing nearly 300 lbs., testified July 21, 1964,



WITNESS: Perry Russo was DA Garrison's key witness in hearings against Clay Shaw.

before Warren Commission investigating counsel Wesley J. Liebelier.

Afterward, Andrews became an assistant district attorney in the Parish that is next to Garrison's district. And last month, the New Orleans Grand Jury indicted him for perjury in the assassination probe, charging he lied recently to the Grand Jury.

Testifying before the Warren Commission, Andrews said he had received a phone call hours after Oswald was charged with killing JFK. Andrews said the call came from "Clay Bertrand," who wanted Andrews to go over to Dallas and defend Oswald.

Andrews said federal investigators insisted that the person referred to as "Clay Bertrand" had been a figment of his imagination.

Andrews said he told investigators: "Write whatever you want, that I am nuts. I don't care."

It was not until Garrison's current probe came along that it developed that Bertrand and Clay Shaw allegedly are the same person.

Equally important is Andrews' 1964 testimony about Oswald. Andrews revealed in that testimony that Oswald had come to him in 1963, in the company of some "gay kids," to see about getting Oswald's military papers in order.

The attorney testified that some of the young men who accompanied Oswald to his office were later arrested for wearing ladies' clothing.

Andrews said "Clay Bertrand" had referred a number of these types of cases to him and that he personally believed that Bertrand also had a liking for unusual sexual activities.

Now, three years later, it is known that homosexual "fetish" devices were confiscated from Clay Shaw's house when he was arrested by Garrison's men.

In short, all the pieces of the puzzle are starting to fall together. From the Ferrie-del Valle relationship to the Oswald-Ruby background, the pattern of twisted minds and foreign intrigue is coming more and more into sharp focus.

And while most of the assassination story remains to be told, it appears for the first time that it will indeed be told.



EX-CUBAN DICTATOR
FULGENCIO BATISTA

Friend of Murdered Miami Man, Hiding in Fear of His Life, Tells His Story Exclusively For ENQUIRER Readers

By DIEGO GONZALES TENEDERA

On February 22, a Cuban refugee named Eladio del Valle was brutally murdered in Miami. I knew the victim well. And I am convinced he was executed because he had information about a conspiracy that led to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

I do not say this lightly. For I believe del Valle's killers plan to silence me, too. Anonymous callers have threatened my life.

That's why I'm in hiding as I write this for The ENQUIRER.

But the story of Eladio del Valle and his death must be told, for it has a strange, unexplored role in the tangled web of intrigue under investigation by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison. The facts, briefly, are these:

- In exile from Castro's Cuba, del Valle flew scores of bombing raids over the island until U.S. agents confiscated his private plane in 1961.
- His pilot on the Miami-based raids was David Ferrie who, according to

DA Garrison, was to have flown Lee Harvey Oswald from Dallas to Cuba on the day of the President's assassination.

- And del Valle was murdered in Miami the same day Ferrie was found dead in bed in New Orleans — at the very time Garrison was about to arrest and pin down Ferrie on his links with Oswald.

The pattern of deaths among those with possible connections in the assassination seems too clear to be coincidental.

Lee Harvey Oswald is dead.
Jack Ruby, his killer, is dead.
David Ferrie is dead.

And Eladio del Valle is dead.
Del Valle — nicknamed "Yito" — was well-known in the Cuban-exile community in Miami, just as he had been in Cuba.

Before Castro set up his Communist dictatorship, del Valle had been a Cuban Congressman and a City Councilman in Havana, where I as a newspaperman got to know him.

Del Valle fled Cuba with most of his wealth a week before Castro took over on January 1, 1959. In Miami, he continued the fight against Castro, gathering freedom fighters and procuring guns, grenades, bombs and sabotage equipment.

He set up a grocery store as a front for his operations. And after I fled to Miami in May, 1960, I became a frequent visitor at the "store."

It was there that I met Ferrie. As a free-lance pilot, he was flying scores of missions with del Valle to drop bombs on Cuba.

For six months, I saw Ferrie and del Valle together almost every day.

They'd take off two or three times a week in del Valle's twin-engine Apache to drop incendiaries on strategic targets and rescue anti-Communist Cubans who wanted to escape.

Del Valle told me he gave Ferrie \$1,000 to \$1,500 per flight, depending on whether they would just drop bombs or would have to land on some highway to pick up refugees, a far more dangerous mission.

I never really trusted Ferrie. And del Valle didn't either.

He once told me: "Ferrie has guts. We've saved dozens of our friends. But I don't fully trust him. He'd sell us out if he could."

No one knows who sold del Valle out. But U.S. Government agents put a stop to his raids early in 1961 by confiscating the Apache plane.

After splitting up, del Valle stayed in Miami and Ferrie went to New Orleans, where he met Lee Harvey Oswald.

How much del Valle knew of Ferrie's dealings with Oswald and others in New Orleans no one may ever know — for both men died before they talked to authorities.

There are still open questions about

Diego Gonzales Tenedera, once a well-known Havana newspaperman and now an exile from Castro's Cuba, was the Miami correspondent for El Tiempo, a Spanish-language paper in New York. He was in Miami on February 22 when his friend, anti-Castro freedom-fighter Eladio del Valle, was brutally murdered.

Diego Tenedera believes del Valle's murder was directly connected with President John F. Kennedy's assassination. Here he explains why.

dentials as Miami correspondent for El Tiempo of New York, stepped to del Valle's car — and nearly vomited when I saw him.

When the police finished their investigation at the scene, I followed the corpse to the morgue. There, medical examiners told me he had been killed about 6:30 the night before.

The Miami police still say they have no idea why del Valle was killed.

But I am convinced his questioners wanted to learn how much he knew of Ferrie's connections with Oswald and the New Orleans group under investigation by Garrison in the assassination plot.

Five days after del Valle's death a highly reliable informer confided in me that del Valle had been murdered in the Miami house of a woman who subsequently disappeared. The police are still looking for her.

I drove to the house and neighbors told me the police had already been there. Neighbors also told me del Valle had been a frequent visitor at the house before his death. He played cards there with other refugees.

The neighbors recalled how police carted away a sofa and bathtub, complete with plumbing, from the murder site. And one man told me how at 6:00 a.m. the morning following the murder he glanced out his window and saw the woman of the death house load a suitcase and two heavy lamps into her car and drive off with a companion.

On the day he died, del Valle had apparently been lured to the house on the pretext of playing cards.

But only killers were awaiting him. And they later drove his body to the supermarket parking lot.

Who killed Eladio del Valle? Cuban refugees in Miami believe agents of Fidel Castro were responsible.

Manuel F. Artime, who commanded the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion against Cuba, also believes del Valle was killed on orders from Castro.

I personally believe del Valle and David Ferrie knew too much about the circumstances surrounding JFK's assassination.

If Ferrie had talked to DA Garrison, del Valle probably would have been questioned soon after.

As things stand, neither man will ever talk again.

And they may not be the last. I myself may be on the killers' list — not so much for what I know, but for what I believe and may say.

In Miami, I received dozens of anonymous phone calls threatening my life unless I keep my nose out of the del Valle investigation.

That's why I've moved with my family into a large Manhattan hotel, where I'm hiding.

Meantime, the Miami District Attorney has clammed up on the case — something he wouldn't do if it were an ordinary gambling or narcotics rubout.

The question is why.
And the answer, I'm convinced, has to do with President Kennedy's assassination.



HIDING: Diego Gonzales Tenedera fled Miami after receiving death threats.



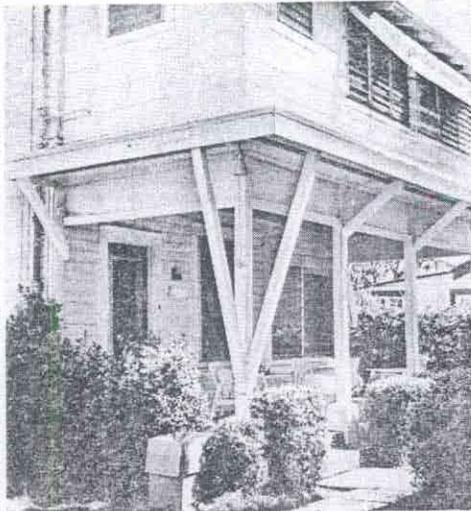
CUBAN EXILE Manuel Artime, believes del Valle was killed on orders from Castro.

Ferrie's death on February 22. A coroner called it "natural" — but Garrison calls the pilot's death an "apparent suicide."

There is no question, however, about del Valle's death. Someone hacked a machete or hatchet down on his head, splitting his skull open crosswise from ear to ear. Finally, even though already dead, he was shot through the heart.

His maimed body was found in his car in a Miami supermarket parking lot just after dawn on February 23.

I heard the news on a radio broadcast and sped to the scene, which was swarming with police when I drove up. I flashed my cre-



MURDER HOUSE: An informer told Tenedera that del Valle had been tortured to death in this Miami house.