

UNCLASSIFIED

\*\*\* BEGIN MESSAGE 20 \*\*\*

SERIAL= UDN=W00(9347)

CLASS=UNCLASSIFIED

LEYO42

REULE

R A

BC-USA-ASSASSINATION 11-19 0618

BC-USA-ASSASSINATION

EX-CIA AGENT CLAIMS HE BOUGHT RIFLES FOR KENNEDY KILLING  
BY DAN COX

NEW YORK, NOV 19, REUTER - A MAN CLAIMING TO HAVE BEEN LINKED TO THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SAYS IN A NEW BOOK THAT HE BOUGHT AND CUSTOMISED FOUR RIFLES HE SAYS WERE USED BY THE CIA AND THE MAFIA TO KILL PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

IN

FIRST HAND KNOWLEDGE: HOW I PARTICIPATED IN THE CIA-MAFIA MURDER OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY,:: ROBERT MORROW CLAIMS THAT UNDER ORDERS, WHILE ON CONTRACT TO THE CIA, HE BOUGHT FOUR 7.35 MM MANNLICHER RIFLES AND SUPPLIED SEVERAL CIA HIT MEN WITH SOPHISTICATED ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT TO HELP KILL THE PRESIDENT.

IN A LECTURE AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY ON THURSDAY, MORROW SAID HE WAS NOT AWARE AT THE TIME THAT THE EQUIPMENT HE SUPPLIED WAS TO BE USED TO KILL KENNEDY.

I THOUGHT THEY WERE TO BE USED AGAINST A HEAD OF STATE IN CENTRAL AMERICA,:: HE SAID.

ALTHOUGH TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE NOVEMBER 22, 1963 SHOOTING HE HEARD A RUMOUR THAT A KENNEDY ASSASSINATION WAS IN THE WORKS AT THE CIA, HE SAID HE DISREGARDED IT UNTIL HE SAW ONE OF THE RIFLES HE HAD BOUGHT SHOWN ON TELEVISION THE NIGHT OF THE SHOOTING.

I DIDN:T PAY ANY ATTENTION UNTIL THE RIFLE WAS SHOWN ON THE AIR THAT NIGHT,:: HE SAID, REFERRING TO BROADCASTS OF LOCAL DALLAS POLICE HOLDING UP A RIFLE REPORTEDLY SEIZED FROM LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

THEN I WENT INTO A STATE OF PANIC. I WENT TO MY (CIA) CASE OFFICER AND HE SAID :SHUT UP.:::

MORROW:S CLAIMS ARE PART OF A LONG LINE OF CONSPIRACY THEORIES ABOUT KENNEDY:S ASSASSINATION AND THE EARL WARREN COMMISSION THAT INVESTIGATED IT. THESE THEORIES CLAIM KENNEDY WAS KILLED BY SEVERAL ASSASSINS, SOME CONNECTED TO THE CIA.

SUCH THEORIES WERE THE SUBJECT OF OLIVER STONE:S FILM JFK,:: WHICH FOCUSED ON ATTEMPTS BY THE LATE NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY, JIM GARRISON, TO CONVICT A NEW ORLEANS BUSINESSMAN AS A CONSPIRATOR IN KENNEDY:S DEATH.

A CIA SPOKESMAN CONTACTED ON THURSDAY SAID:

THERE IS NO

RECORD THAT ROBERT D. MORROW WAS EVER A CONTRACT AGENT OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.::

BUT MORROW CLAIMED THE AGENCY WAS USING A LINGUISTIC TRICK TO AVOID NAMING HIM.

I WAS A CONTRACT EMPLOYEE, NOT AN AGENT, AND I WAS PAID BY THE U.S. ARMY,:: HE SAID.

MORROW REFERRED TO OSWALD, LONG THOUGHT TO BE KENNEDY:S

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

ASSASSIN, AS

A PATSY:: IN THE WHOLE PROCESS, WHICH HE CLAIMS LED TO THEN VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON AND FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER.

HE SAID HE HAD HEARD OSWALD:S NAME MENTIONED BEFORE THE SHOOTING AS A LOW-LEVEL CIA OPERATIVE WHO HAD BEEN SENT TO RUSSIA.::

MORROW CLAIMS IN HIS BOOK THAT HE CUSTOMISED THE RIFLES SO THAT THEY COULD BE DISMANTLED, HIDDEN AND REASSEMBLED QUICKLY. HE ALSO CLAIMS THAT HE SUPPLIED CIA OPERATIVE DAVID FERRIE WITH FOUR RADIO TRANSCEIVERS THAT WERE NOT DETECTABLE BY ANY COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT THEN AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET.

MORROW SAID HIS CIA CASE OFFICER ASSURED HIM AFTERWARDS THAT HE WOULD BE CLEAN AS A WHISTLE:: AND COULD NOT BE IMPLICATED IN THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT.

HE SAID HE DID NOT COME FORWARD WITH ANY OF THE INFORMATION BECAUSE BARNES TOLD HIM HE WOULD BE SENT TO PRISON FOR VIOLATING THE OATH OF SECRECY THAT ALL CIA AGENTS TAKE.

MORROW, 65, SAID THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN TWO ATTEMPTS ON HIS LIFE SINCE THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION.

BUT HE SAYS HE WAS DETERMINED TO WRITE THE BOOK IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT THE DANGER TO HIMSELF AND HIS FAMILY HAS ABATED WITH THE EXPECTED RELEASE OF CONGRESSIONAL FILES ON THE ASSASSINATION.

MORROW ALSO CLAIMS THAT U.S. PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH HAD FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE ASSASSINATION CONSPIRACY, THOUGH HE DID NOT SPECIFY WHEN BUSH, DIRECTOR OF THE CIA FROM 1976 TO 1977, MIGHT HAVE BECOME AWARE OF IT.

GEORGE BUSH KNEW EVERYTHING,:: SAID MORROW.

REUTER DC ADS JE

REUT22:51 11-19

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED