

MEMORANDUM

April 16, 1996

To: T. Jeremy Gunn
cc: David Marwell
Tom Samoluk
Phil Golrick

From: Laura Denk

Subject: Telephone Conversation with Eades Hogue

On April 12, 1996, I spoke on the telephone with New Orleans lawyer and former Department of Justice prosecutor, Eades Hogue. Jeremy obtained Mr. Hogue's name through a former Covington & Burling lawyer who currently works with Mr. Hogue in a law firm in New Orleans. Hogue was a prosecutor on the BriLab case in 1979-1980. I hoped that he would remember specifics from the BriLab case and that he could assist in our search for records on Carlos Marcello. Hogue was cooperative and eager to discuss Marcello and the case, but he does not recall any Kennedy assassination materials among the BriLab materials. He was certain that had he heard of such references, he would recall them and that he would have followed up on them.

While he was preparing for the BriLab trial, Hogue reviewed many tapes and transcripts from the FBI's surveillance of Marcello. He said that most of the tapes are difficult to hear and understand. The FBI did capture some conversations between Marcello and Trafficante, but Hogue said that the men did not discuss the Kennedys during these conversations. Hogue told me that he also reviewed years of FBI reports on Marcello. He did not, however, remember Kennedy assassination material in the tapes or transcripts.

Hogue does not recall Judge Sear excluding any of the surveillance tapes because they contained references to the Kennedy assassination. I asked Mr. Hogue if he remembered a tape that captured an individual discussing the HSCA investigation with Marcello, Marcello telling the speaker to "shut up," the sound of a chair being pushed back, and then the sound of footsteps leaving the room. Hogue did recall "something about a chair squeaking back" and suggested that we follow up with FBI Special Agent Michael Wachs, who was one of the two undercover agents who helped Joseph Hauser to complete the undercover sting investigation that resulted in the BriLab trial in New Orleans.¹

¹The other agent was Larry Montague. The man who directed the wiretapping was Harold Hughes. 2465 Chelsea Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana 70114, (504) 394-0308, President of Harold

Hogue thought that Wachs might have been resent during such a conversation with Marcello.

Hogue believes that Marcello was an uneducated man who bribed corrupt Louisiana politicians, but that Marcello did not have the “vision” to assassinate President Kennedy. Hogue told me that, had the tapes had contained any statements that revealed that Marcello was involved in the assassination, he (Hogue) would have remembered and would have used his fame as “the man who solved the crime of the century” to become President of the United States.

Hogue recently appeared on *American Justice* on the A&E network, in which he discussed his role in the BriLab investigation.

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File 4. [New Orleans Project/BriLab]