

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

DA HAS FACTS JFK PROBE MISSED, SEN. LONG

SAYS

Louisiana Sen. Russell B. Long said today in Washington that he is convinced Orleans Parish District Attorney Jim Garrison has "some information the Warren Commission didn't have" about a possible conspiracy to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

Long, the assistant Democratic leader in the Senate told an informal news conference he discussed the possibility of a conspiracy with Garrison at length on a plane trip last October.

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ENCLOSURE

THE SENATOR HAD PREVIOUSLY expressed the opinion that the report of the federal commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren into the late President's death "was not conclusive in some respects."

Garrison has been carrying on an independent investigation of the assassination

and has said he expects arrests, within months, of possible conspirators.

"I am convinced he has some information the Warren Commission didn't have," Long said. "He asked me not to tell the FBI what he was doing, and I didn't."

Long said that Garrison had under arrest one suspected conspirator at the time the Warren Commission made its report, but released him because the commission found that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in the assassination.

GARRISON'S INVESTIGATION, LONG said, is centering around Oswald's former associates in New Orleans.

The senator said Garrison was keeping him informed of developments "only in a general way."

In New Orleans, Garrison threw a cloak of secrecy today around his investigation.

Garrison told a press conference that it may be months before his promised arrests and convictions in connection with the alleged plot.

He blamed the duration of the probe on what he considers premature publicity. The DA had made an agreement to break the story in a national magazine, but the States-Item dug out the news on its own and revealed it

last Friday.

At an hour-long press conference yesterday afternoon (closed to representatives of the States-Item and The Times-Picayune), Garrison said he is clamping strict secrecy on his investigation. He said he will set up a special fund so he won't have to file public expense vouchers which give a clue to the activities of his investigators.

THE OFFICIAL report by the Warren Commission said Kennedy was shot by Lee Harvey Oswald—a former New Orleans resident—and that it found no credible evidence anyone else was involved.

The press conference was by special invitation to all interested newsmen except representatives of the States-Item and The Times-Picayune.

Garrison said he was displeased with the States-Item for disclosing that he was conducting an investigation.

IN THE hour-long conference he revealed no new information of any significance concerning the investigation. One reporter remarked after the conference that Garrison gave an "hour-long no comment."

Garrison said that the disclosure of his investigation had put the life of one witness

in danger and then said this witness was not very important to the case.

Garrison complained that he was short-staffed. When asked by one reporter present at the conference why he doesn't turn his information over to a federal agency to pursue, Garrison's reply was, "What? And wait three years?"

Asked if he thought any foreign country or any official was involved in the alleged conspiracy, Garrison said no. He turned away most questions with "no comment."

GARRISON'S investigation has stirred both interest and skepticism.

In Washington yesterday, Sen. Thomas J. Dodd, D-Conn., urged that the Warren Commission reopen its investigation.

Detroit attorney for the late Jack Ruby, Sol A. Dann, telegraphed Garrison urging him to arrange for a federal or state grand jury probe. Dann sent a similar letter to state attorney general Jack P. F. Gremillion requesting that an inquiry be made into "Jim Garrison's information or evidence."

Garrison said he has no intention now of turning over his information to either federal or state officials.

IN BATON Rouge, Gov. John J. McKeithen said he will provide state cooperation if Garrison needs it.

Mrs. Marguerite Oswald of Fort Worth, Tex., mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, offered any help she could give to Garrison in his investigation.

Dean A. Andrews Jr., assistant Jefferson Parish district attorney, said he was contacted by a man named Clay Bertrand shortly after the assassination and asked to defend Oswald. The Warren Commission was unable to locate the man identified as Bertrand.