

Count Clipping in Space Below

Remark on Garrison Denied

WASHINGTON (AP) — A spokesman for Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark denied Saturday that Clarke made statements attributed to him concerning possible federal prosecution of New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison.

Ray Barry, a reporter for the Charlottesville, Va., Daily Progress, quoted Clark as saying Friday night he "might have to prosecute Jim Garrison."

Barry's report to The Associated Press also quoted Clark as saying Garrison "looked like a perfectly fine man. Clay Shaw, and ruined him just for personal aggrandizement."

Shaw is under indictment in New Orleans on charges of conspiracy in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The Justice Department spokesman said he spoke to Clark Friday night after the attorney general addressed the Student Legal Forum at the University of Virginia and participated in an informal question-and-answer period.

The spokesman said someone posed a hypothetical question asking whether there

would be federal prosecution of a state district attorney who had brought unwarranted prosecution.

He said Clark replied, "Yes, if there were grounds for such a case."

But the spokesman said Clark denied specifically making statements that he "might have to prosecute" the New Orleans official or that Garrison "ruined" Shaw "just for personal aggrandizement."

The spokesman added there

are no plans to bring a case against Garrison at this time.

Rosewell Page III, president of the Student Legal Forum, also denied Saturday that Clark made the statements. Page said he was standing next to Clark throughout the informal question period.

Barry, asked for comment on Page's statement, stood firm on his report. "The quotes were exactly word-for-word," he said Saturday.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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