

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Cash to Garrison Made 'No Secret' Of Grant--Governor

Gov. John J. McKeithen says he made no secret of his \$10,000 grant to Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison for his John F. Kennedy assassination plot investigation and doesn't plan to ask the DA for an accounting.

The governor said here yesterday he contributed the money from his emergency fund because "at that time we thought he (Garrison) might have something."

The contribution was revealed publicly here last week at a court hearing involving Clay L. Shaw, acquitted of a Garrison charge that he conspired to kill President Kennedy but now fighting a perjury charge brought by Garrison in connection with Shaw's testimony in the conspiracy trial.

McKeithen said no effort was made to keep the contribution secret although the news media may not have known about it.

The governor said he gave the funds directly to Garrison and not to Truth and Consequences, a group created to fund the Kennedy assassination investigation.

McKeithen said he gave the money to Garrison because he thought it was important "to carry out the investigation."

McKeithen, long rumored as an opponent for Sen. Allen Ellender in 1973, said he has not made up his mind on that race or on other plans when he leaves the governor's office next year.

THE GOVERNOR lashed out at Aaron M. Kohn of the Metropolitan Crime Commission of New Orleans and Ed Steimel of the Public Affairs Research Council, accusing both men of "negativism" toward Louisiana.

He said tourism is at an all-time low in Louisiana because "men like Kohn and Steimel tell businessmen that if they come to Louisiana the Mafia will get them."

He said Kohn "hasn't turned up a Mafia man yet."

McKeithen said he will not call a special session of the legislature and accused legislators of being interested in the \$50 a day they would draw while in Baton Rouge for such a session.

THERE HAS been talk of a special session for legislative reapportionment.

The governor's attack on legislators drew prompt criticism from state Sen. Jules Mollere of Metairie.

"Has he lost his mind or something?" Mollere asked angrily in reply to the governor's statements.

"I feel he owes a very strong apology to the entire legislature for stating, in effect, that all of the members of the legislature are dead-heads who merely want a special session so they could be paid for the time they spend in such a session," Mollere fumed.

Mollere disagreed with McKeithen's view that reapportionment could be handled during the fiscal session of the legislature in May. McKeithen said this could be accomplished by a two-thirds vote. Mollere contends it would require a three-fourths vote.

McKeithen was in New Orleans for the second anniversary performance of the Desire Community Chorus at the George Washington Carver High School.

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

PAGE 8

SECTION 1

THE STATES-ITEM

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Date: 2-1-71

Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: WALTER G. COWAN

Title:

ASSASSINATION OF
PRESIDENT JOHN F.
KENNEDY, TEXAS

or 11-22-63

Classification: 89-69

Submitting Office: N. O., LA.

 Being Investigated

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
FEB 1 1971	
FBI - NEW ORLEANS	

62-104060-699