

7-26-67
**Doubts N.O. DA
Has New JFK
Facts--Connally**

AUSTIN, Tex. (AP)—Gov. John Connally said today he has personal doubts that New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's investigation into the assassination of President John Kennedy will produce "anything new or revealing."

The governor, seriously wounded by rifle fire while riding in the same car with Kennedy in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963, was asked about the probe at a news conference.

"I AM confident in my own mind that the FBI and investigative agencies went into the state and concerned themselves with these individuals," the governor said.

"I really have no comment because I don't know what information he (Garrison) has . . . I have personal doubts that the investigation will come up with anything new or revealing," the governor said.

Connally recently said he plans to write his own account of the assassination and the events surrounding it in answer to portions of William Manchester's book, "Death of a President." The governor criticized the book at a recent news conference and said its account of why Kennedy came to Texas was in error.

"I've been doing considerable work on it," he said. "I don't know yet what form it will take or when it will be completed."

THE GOVERNOR said Garrison had never contacted him in connection with his investigation into the possibility of a plot hatched in New Orleans to assassinate Kennedy.

LEEE Harvey Oswald, named by the Warren Commission as Kennedy's sole assassin, lived for a time in New Orleans.

"I don't think it serves the national interest or anybody else's interest to keep the matter alive with speculation that there was something else," Connally said.

He said, however, he does

not "want to pass judgment" on Garrison's investigation "since I am not apprised of the facts" and said he is sure Garrison is a "responsible public official."

"I AM sure he is aware he has an obligation not to engage in sensationalism . . ." Connally said.

"I think every law enforcement officer or any officer of a court anywhere has a duty, it seems to me, to be sure of his facts . . . before again raising the possibility he has something new or different from what was available at the time of the original investigation," he said.

VIEW STIRRED SUSPICION

Ferrie Blamed JFK For Cuban Fiasco

54-27416

The States-Item National Service reports that records on deposit in the National Archives explain how David William Ferrie became entangled in the investigation of President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

A statement by the Federal Bureau of Investigation said that Ferrie admitted to agents that he had been critical of the lack of air cover for Cuban exiles in the Bay of Pigs, and had blamed President Kennedy "publicly and privately."

ACCORDING TO the statement, Ferrie told FBI agents he had used expressions like "he (the president) ought to be shot," but emphasized that he didn't mean it literally.

Ferrie, according to documents available in Washington, was originally linked to the investigation by Jack S. Martin, who began trying to reach assistant district attorney Herman Kohlman on the night of Nov. 22.

Kohlman and subsequently the FBI had been told that Ferrie had been in the Moisant squadron of the Civil Air Patrol with Lee Harvey Oswald, that Ferrie had taught Oswald how to shoot with a telescopic sight and that the two had plotted the Kennedy assassination.

FERRIE'S alleged role was to fly the getaway plane for Oswald. A licensed pilot, Ferrie formerly was employed by Eastern Airlines and owned his own blue and white Stinson monoplane.

When Ferrie could not be found in New Orleans the night of Nov. 22, 1963, Kohlman and the FBI became interested in him and the district attorney's office began searching the city for him.

A few hours after the Kennedy assassination, Ferrie and two young male companions, apparently unaware that Ferrie was being sought, decided to drive to Houston and Galveston

in Ferrie's 1961 blue station wagon.

THE TRIO registered at the Ala Motel in Houston at 4:30 a. m. Nov. 23. At 11 p. m. they reached Galveston and registered at the Driftwood Motel. At Houston, they apparently had some discussion over the possibility of purchasing an ice skating rink, and they combined that business with a goose-hunting expedition.

According to the statement, Ferrie made four long distance calls from Houston to New Orleans—including calls to radio stations WSHO and WDSU.

The purpose of the calls was not explained.

Ferrie and his companions returned to New Orleans at 9:30 p. m. Nov. 24. Ferrie, apparently aware that he was wanted after a call to G. Wray Gill, for whom he had worked as an investigator, left for Hammond about midnight and stayed at the Holloway Smith Hall at Southeastern Louisiana College.

THE NEXT DAY, however, he returned to New Orleans and, accompanied by Gill, appeared at the district attorney's office, where he was questioned and booked. In separate oral and written statements to the FBI Ferrie denied he had ever known Oswald.

He also said that he had not been in Dallas in "eight or 10 years."

Ferrie denied any involvement in firearms instructions and said that his plane had not been airworthy since 1962.

In following up the Ferrie lead, the FBI interviewed more than a dozen persons whose names had come up, including Martin. *FAP*