

July 15, 1967.

The National Broadcasting Company tonight issued the following statement:

"District Attorney Jim Garrison said nothing in his program tonight that alters the information developed by NBC News about the methods he has used in pressing his theory of the Kennedy assassination. During most of his appearance, Mr. Garrison did not deal with the specific criticisms NBC News had made. Instead, he repeated his version of the assassination of President Kennedy.

"Mr. Garrison, at his request, was given time by NBC to respond to the NBC News Program, 'The JFK. Conspiracy: The Case of Jim Garrison.'

"Mr. Garrison made two specific references to the NBC Program:

"1. NBC News had reported that it had located the true Clay Bertrand and that his name had been given to the United States Department of Justice. Mr. Garrison claimed this man has denied he is Bertrand. NBC News stands by the statements made on its program.

"2. Mr. Garrison said that John Cancler, who had appeared on the NBC Program, had been called before the Grand Jury and had been asked about the truth of his statements on the program. Mr. Cancler refused to answer, invoking the Fifth Amendment. The fact that he availed himself of his Constitutional rights does not affect the truth of his statements.

"Mr. Garrison claims NBC has been silent on these two points. This is untrue. NBC News has reported on the NBC Television Network that counsel for the man identified as Clay Bertrand has denied that identity and that Mr. Cancler has invoked the Fifth Amendment before

the Grand Jury.

"Mr. Garrison's contention that NBC News has conspired with government agencies and other news media to discredit his activities also is untrue. NBC News presented 'The J.F.K. Conspiracy: The Case of Jim Garrison,' on its own initiative in a spirit of journalistic enterprise."