

RFK Defends NBC Man in Bribe Charge

Sen. Robert F. Kennedy has warmly defended the honesty and integrity of TV reporter Walter Sheridan, accused by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison of trying to bribe a witness in Garrison's investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy.

The Senator noted that Sheridan had worked with both himself and his slain brother before taking on his present job as an investigative reporter for NBC.

He said it was impossible that Sheridan might do anything to compromise the truth in the assassination investigation.

Kennedy's statement, issued last night in Washington, said in part:

"I have been fortunate to know and work with Walter Sheridan for many years. Like all those who have known him and his work, I have the utmost confidence in his integrity, both personal and professional.

"His personal ties to President Kennedy, as well as his own integrity, insure that he would want as much as, or more than any other man to ascertain the truth about the events of November, 1963 . . ."

Sheridan was a special assistant to Robert Kennedy when the latter was Attorney General in his brother's Administration.

Sheridan, 41, of Washington, surrendered in New Orleans Tuesday to face Garrison's charges, and was freed on \$5,000