

Tampan Charged in Garrison

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Probe Still Awaits Trial

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Tampa free lance writer Kerry Wendell Thornley, 29, still awaits the setting of a trial date in New Orleans on a perjury charge against him in New Orleans Dist. Atty. James Garrison's probe of President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

Thornley, 726 S. 51st St., who served in the same U.S. Marine Corps outfit with accused Kennedy assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, entered a not guilty plea to the charge April 5.

"The goosestepping Garrisonites are always yelling that Garrison is not headline hungry and is not running a carnival," said Thornley.

"I found out from the (news) wire services that I was going to be arrested for perjury on the day before the warrant was served on me. Earlier, I found out from the wire services that I was to be subpoenaed a week before papers were served. Garrison could save tax money by just letting United Press International serve his charges on people."

Thornley, represented by Tampa lawyer Arnold Levine, is the author of a book, "Oswald," written in November, 1964. Since 1965, he has been an outspoken critic of the theory that Oswald was the lone assassin as the Warren Commission concluded in 1964.

"I was much quicker than Garrison in rejecting the conclusions of the Warren Com-

mission," said Thornley. "It took the almighty opinion of a U.S. senator (Russell Long of Louisiana) to change his (Garrison's) mind."

Garrison has charged that Thornley, a native of Los Angeles, lied in saying that he had not associated with Oswald in New Orleans in the summer of 1963.

"When I went to New Orleans to testify," said Thornley, "I turned up in Garrison's office a day early and offered repeatedly to submit to unre-

stricted questioning under lie detection equipment, truth serum and hypnosis. These offers were not accepted."

A few months ago, Thornley tried to resist Garrison's subpoena to testify before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury but was unsuccessful in warding off extradition to New Orleans. He contends Garrison's belief that he was with Oswald in a New Orleans bar in 1963 stems from allegations made by a purported practitioner of witchcraft, Barbara Reid.