

GARRISON SUBPOENAS TWO NEW WITNESSES

by Steven Burton

NEW ORLEANS, La. Jan. 12 (LNS)—District Attorney Jim Garrison has announced the subpoenas of two more witnesses in his continuing probe of the Kennedy assassination. They are James Hicks of Enid, Oklahoma and Kerry Thornely, an ex-Marine buddy of Lee Harvey Oswald.

The district attorney's office said that Hicks, an estimation specialist at Vance Air Force Base, was in Dealey Plaza, Dallas when President Kennedy was murdered. His name appears nowhere in the proceedings of the Warren Commission.

No further information on Hicks was released in New Orleans, but I learned that Hicks had been to see Garrison in July, 1967. At that time, he told Garrison that he was near the Presidential limousine when the President was killed. He said that he saw gunshots come from the grassy knoll and the book depository building. He also said that he saw a man inside an automobile truck before the shooting.

Hicks also identified six men

from photographs shown him by Garrison as Cubans he had known in Dallas.

Hicks has called Garrison "one of the most sincere and dedicated men I have ever met." He also said that, after meeting with Garrison, he is convinced that the district attorney has strong evidence which shows that more than one man was involved in the assassination.

Garrison disclosed that Thornely had been associated with Oswald in the Marines. Thornely told the Warren Commission (SH82-117) that he had met Oswald in early 1969 while they were stationed at El Toro Marine base in Southern California.

Oswald had been attached to Thornely's company after losing his secret security clearance by pouring beer over a sergeant's head. He had previously worked in the security files and had a higher clearance than most Marines in that company.

Some critics of the Warren Report have pointed to Thorn-

ley's testimony as one of many indications that Oswald was not a leftist. It would be odd for a Marine who identified himself as a Communist and subscribed to a Russian newspaper to have a high security clearance. Perhaps, they say, he was preparing for undercover work for a government agency. Thornely later wrote a book **THE IDLE WARRIORS**, which was, he said, inspired by Oswald and his defection to the Soviet Union.