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EDITORIAL

District Attorney Jim Garrison

Immediately after the assassination in Dallas, the public was helping with a constant stream of information — much more than the authorities had anticipated. People were volunteering clues at an alarming rate, and it had to stop. The Dallas police told one man to: "Go home and forget it." The FBI told one man: "If you didn't see Oswald shoot out that sixth floor window, you had better keep your damn mouth shut."

The information fed by the public was stopped.

At least four persons, two known to Ruby, told of the assassination before it happened. At least two of those four, both women, have been killed. One was killed in California and one killed in Louisiana.

The pipeline of information was cut, but tag ends of clues, and important facts remain in spite of the professional efforts to erase all of it.

District Attorney Jim Garrison of New Orleans has now said publicly that the CIA is withholding the information concerning the real killers of John F. Kennedy. Not only is this true, but the top Federal Agents have known from the beginning who the real killers were.

A dangerous new step was taken last week, without a ripple of adverse comment, when FBI man Regis Kennedy of New Orleans pleaded executive privilege in a New Orleans court when questioned about the assassination. This FBI man would not reveal his information to the court on grounds that he worked for the Executive Branch of the Government and did not have to tell the Judicial branch

or Legislative branch what he knew.

Does this mean that the Executive Privilege has been extended to every federal policeman in the land? Or does it mean that President Johnson knows what the FBI man knows and Johnson doesn't want the public to know who killed our Prseident?

By a majority of at least five to one, the people of this country do not believe the Presidential Commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren. But the people are lost as to what to do about their fears. Some of the minority are chanting: "But Kennedy is dead, why don't you forget it."

Is this the way to correct evils in a democracy?

To put these fears in their most innocent form, we must conclude that all the top men in the FBI, Secret Service, and CIA know and have known for a long time just who the killers of President Kennedy really are. Now they are helping to protect the killers. (We must assume, since executive privilege has been exercised, that President Johnson must have at some time called these people in and asked a simple question: "Who did it?") We are sure they did not plead executive privilege to the President. So Johnson knows.

There is one fact that President Johnson must remember. He can never know, whether or not this is the last Presidential killer the Federal police are going to protect.

Is this the type of democracy which should be half way around the world killing thousands of persons weekly in an effort to bring those people our type of democracy? Or do we have more important home work to be done here, before we try exporting our democracy to others?

The country will know the truth. As things appear now, it will take years but we will know the truth.

Just a very few men like Jim Garrison could turn the tide within months. Garrison is a brave American who is fighting hard under tremendous pressures. Unbelievable pressures are being applied by the Federal police agencies in New Orleans by fair and foul means to thwart his efforts. At least two governors including Governor John Connally, are refusing to extradite suspects.

Specifically the District Attorneys of Miami, Florida, Fort Worth, Dallas, and Houston, in Texas and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma hold enough of the unguarded clues to break the assassination, if they would do a tenth as much as Garrison is doing.

If only a few public officials would do their duty to help this democracy. If only a few thousand citizens would force these public officials to act or get out.

If!