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Rejects Kohn Call

Gremillion Refuses To Probe DA Tactics

By BILL LYNCH

(States-Item Bureau)

BATON ROUGE — Attorney General Jack P. F. Gremillion today refused to intercede in New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Gremillion had been asked by the Metropolitan Crime Commission of New Orleans to take steps leading to an investigation of Garrison's handling of the probe.

The MCC had cited a television show by the National Broadcasting Co. which was critical of the district attorney's methods.

GREMILLION SAID IN an

opinion this morning that Garrison appeared to be handling his duties under the law.

He said, "District Attorney Garrison has not requested assistance from this office, and it is evident from the press releases that he is attempting to perform the duties of his office as he sees those duties.

"For those reasons, and because of the law . . . I must respectfully decline the request made by the Metropolitan Crime Commission."

Gremillion responded to a letter written to him by E. C. Upton Jr., president of the MCC, and Aaron M. Kohn, managing director of the private organization.

The MCC asked Gremillion to form a nominating committee composed of the deans of the law schools of Louisiana State University, Tulane and Loyola, the presidents of the state, city and criminal courts bar associations, the presidents of Public Affairs Research Council, Council for a Better Louisiana and the

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State League of Women Voters.

UNDER THE MCC proposal, the nominating committee would have recommended that three attorneys be appointed assistant attorneys general to investigate the conduct of Garrison's office.

"Let me observe that there is no authority within the law for such a procedure," the attorney general declared.

He told the Crime Commission that it was not the first time that it had asked him to supplant or supersede a district attorney. He said that similar action was requested in 1963 involving another parish and he rendered an ad-