

Star 2/20/67



DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON
Calls It Suicide

DAVID W. FERRIE
Found Dead

Ferrie Death Probed, Link to 'Plot' Is Denied

A former investigator who claimed to know four conspirators in a 1963 plot to assassinate President Kennedy dropped out of sight early today in New Orleans, but later showed up at Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's office there.

David Lewis, 26, met reporters briefly, to say that David W. Ferrie, 49, former Eastern Airlines pilot found dead in his apartment yesterday was not one of the "possible members of the plot."

Lewis said previously he had given Garrison four or five names of persons involved in the conspiracy, and as a result feared for his life.

He dropped out of sight with his wife and four children last night, but reappeared at the district attorney's office today.

United Press International said he refused to say anything other than that Ferrie was not one of the group he knew.

Ferrie was mentioned in the Warren Report and questioned

1964 Death Is Probed for Link to Kennedy Case. Page A-9

by Garrison in his new investigation of the assassination. Garrison called his death apparent suicide. The coroner said suicide was possible.

Washington sources who refused to be identified told UPI that a Warren Commission investigation of Ferrie showed that he had no connection with the Kennedy assassination.

"The allegations of Ferrie's connection with an assassination plot were washed out by the investigations done for the Warren Commission," the unidentified sources said.

Ferrie emphatically denied in 1963 that he knew either Lee Harvey Oswald or Jack Ruby.

The FBI investigation at the time found nothing to tie Ferrie to the assassination, the Associated Press noted.

Statements Ferrie made un-

See FERRIE, Page A-8