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GARRISON PREDICTS SUCCESS FOR PROBE

Convictions Will Result, He Declares

District Attorney Jim Garrison said Saturday that "arrests will be made, charges will be filed and convictions will be obtained" as a result of his intensive investigation of a New Orleans plot preceding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy Nov. 22, 1963.

During a news conference in his office, Garrison asserted that a plan was developed here which resulted in Kennedy's death in Dallas. He said the investigation, which records show has been under way since late last year, has proven that the Warren Commission was wrong in its conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in murdering the President.

The district attorney would not elaborate.

"We already have the names of the people in the initial planning," he told newsmen. "We are not wasting our time and we will prove it. Arrests will be made, charges will be filed and convictions will be obtained."

Garrison stated that the investigation, which has taken his investigators to several states and has thus far cost some \$3,000, was initiated last November when he "began looking into the question because Oswald had spent six months in New Orleans shortly before the assassination."

He added that the Warren

Report had raised questions in his mind which prompted the intense probe. Initial leads uncovered other leads and the probe progressed, he said.

"We were making good progress until the publicity," said Garrison.

HITS NEWSPAPER

He sharply criticized the New Orleans States-Item, which first disclosed the probe in a copy-righted story, and The Times-Picayune, for revealing the investigation.

"The newspapers, in mentioning the names of people we have not charged or mentioned, are being very unfair to these individuals," he charged. Garrison said the life of at least one prisoner has been put in jeopardy because of the news reports.

Admitting that the Warren Commission was "composed of the highest type of men," Garrison then claimed that it "did not have sufficient evaluation machinery."

Contacted in Washington, U.S. Rep. Hale Boggs, a member of the Warren Commission, refused to comment on Garrison's charge that Oswald did not act alone in the assassination.

Commenting on facts thus far

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uncovered by his investigators, Garrison said much of the information is "interesting."

The States-Item said a 26-year-old Cuban who formerly lived only a block from Oswald's last known New Orleans address, was brought from the state penitentiary at Angola to the prison Jan. 30.

The man, the account said, is said, is serving three concurrent nine-year terms for burglaries and "he is known to be connected with the DA's investigation."

ASKED ABOUT BOOK

At a news conference, Garrison was asked about William Manchester's book, "Death of a President," in which the author says Oswald acted alone.

"Manchester wasn't there at the assassination," said Garrison. "Neither was I, but my office has spent considerably more time investigating the assassination than Manchester did and it is my belief that man was wrong."

Questioned if he felt a new federal probe should be launched into the Kennedy assassination, Garrison replied, "There should be several concurrent investigations and the important thing is that the evidence should be evaluated."

The States-Item said Garrison's office is seeking a "physically powerful and dangerous" Cuban man who "is believed to be one of a group of Cubans,

who reportedly hid behind a billboard on the parade route in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963."

Supposedly, the Cuban was photographed in New Orleans handing out "Fair Play for Cuba" pamphlets.

Garrison and some aides are supposed to have covered the Miami waterfront extensively looking for the Cuban. But he is now thought to have left the country.

Miami area police were reported to have believed that the Cuban was wanted on a narcotics charge, unaware that he is a suspect in the Kennedy murder. Only Miami State Atty. Richard Gerstein had been taken into confidence by Garrison, according to The States-Item.

Later Saturday, there were numerous comments from officials and other persons concerned with the case from throughout the nation. The comments included:

In Washington, Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., who was a member of the Warren Commission, said, "If the district attorney has such information he should transmit it to the attorney general, whom I assume would transmit it immediately to the President."

The Secret Service, the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, contacted in Washington, said there would be no comment. Likewise, comment was withheld by Chief Justice Earl Warren, who headed the Warren Commission, and Allen W. Dulles, former head of the Central Intelligence Agency, who was a Warren Commission member.

"I know nothing of it," said Dulles. "I have no comment."

Although Sen. Richard B. Russell, D-Ga., who was also a commission member, was not available for comment, an aide indicated the senator had previously said he would not comment on any stories which might develop since the commission issued its report.

In Stamford, Conn., John J. McCloy, another commission



DAVID W. FERRIE
Calls DA probe a joke.

member, said, "Let's see what his (Garrison's) evidence is. We are always aware that some evidence might turn up in this matter and we know that time is a factor in the favor of someone hunting such evidence."

McCloy explained, adding, "We did not say that Oswald acted alone. We said we could find no credible evidence that he acted with anyone else."

He said the commission investigated Oswald's activities here and "the investigation, at least at that time, didn't produce anything. Maybe someone will come forward some day with credible evidence of a conspiracy," he added.

In Detroit, Mich., Earl Ruby, brother of Jack Ruby who killed Oswald, said he has never been contacted by New Orleans authorities.

Sol Dann, the Ruby family attorney, stated, "It looks as though we may not yet be through with the most fantastic of events (the assassination). If they have any evidence, or if any indictments are to be issued, they will not indict a dead man. So that leaves Jack Ruby out. I wish them all the success in the world."

"A BIG JOKE"

Meanwhile, David W. Ferrie, a pilot and sometime investigator, called the Garrison investigation "a big joke." Ferrie said he has been pegged as the get-away pilot in an elaborate plot to kill Kennedy.

No official source has pegged Ferrie as "the get-away pilot." But Ferrie said an acquaintance of his has. He did not wish to identify the acquaintance.

Sitting in his uptown apartment, Ferrie told of how he came to be linked with the investigation currently being un-

dertaken by Garrison's forces.

Ferrie said he was working in November, 1963, as an investigator for attorney G. Wray Gill, who was trying a federal court case involving Carlos Marcello.

TELLS OF TRIP

About 3:20 p. m. Nov. 22, 1963—the day of the assassination of President Kennedy—Ferrie said he and two friends on the spur-of-the-moment decided to go to Texas.

"We drove by car to Vinton, La., then to Houston and Galveston, where we hunted geese," explained Ferrie. "Our route brought us back by Alexandria on the Sunday after; and it was there I learned that 13 law officers, including Garrison and former assistant district attorney Frank Klein, had broken into my home and carted off books, photographs and some other personal belongings."

Ferrie said the district attorney's office "took a substantial amount of my property to Tulane and Broad (location of the DA's office)."

When he returned, Klein questioned him and his companions, said Ferrie. "We were all thrown in jail and booked with being fugitives from Texas," said Ferrie bitterly.

Ferrie said he asked Gill to

call the FBI and Secret Service. He said that he had interviews with both organizations after being released by Klein.

Recently, Ferrie said he received a subpoena to appear before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury. But as he arrived at the Criminal Courts bldg., he was intercepted and asked to come to first Assistant District Attorney Charles R. Ward's office.

ASKED QUESTIONS

Ferrie was asked to go to Ward's office by chief investigator Louis Ivon. Ivon led him to an office where John Volz, a trial assistant, was waiting. Volz told him they wanted to ask him some questions about 1963.

According to Ferrie, he was asked to recount all of his activities on the week that President Kennedy was killed. Because he couldn't remember, he asked if he could go to the FBI to get a copy of the statement he made immediately after the slaying.

Ferrie said he heard nothing more until friends and acquaintances began calling him and telling him that they had been questioned about Ferrie.

The flier said he couldn't recall the date he was questioned at the district attorney's office, but it was in January.

Ferrie said he called Ivon in January and was told by Ivon that the office had "positively uncovered a plot in New Orleans to assassinate Kennedy."

Ferrie denies knowing Lee Harvey Oswald, accused killer of President Kennedy and a one-time New Orleans resident.

According to Ferrie, the FBI became interested in him when

a New Orleans man saw Oswald on television and told a local TV station that he served with Oswald in a Civil Air Patrol unit under Ferrie.

Ferrie claims the man, whom he identified as Ed Voble, was in the Moisant Squadron and he was in the Lakefront Squadron.

Ferrie has been looking into possible local tie-ins to the assassination on his own. Asked if he thinks Oswald had an accomplice, Ferrie said, "I believe it would be fruitless to look for an accomplice."

ASSESSES OSWALD

Listed in the city directory as a psychologist, Ferrie said, "My assessment of Oswald is that he would be incapable of conspiring because he would be incapable of any interpersonal relationship, especially anything as delicate as a conspiracy to kill."

Ferrie said he is a native of Cleveland, Ohio, but he has been living in New Orleans for 15 years.

Told that he will become a national celebrity now, Ferrie said, "What will being a national celebrity get me? Thirty-five cents and being a national celebrity will get you a hamburger. I want to be left alone to my flying."

Ferrie said he had been ill at his home for about three weeks with encephalitis.

When The Times-Picayune contacted Garrison Friday to ask him about the status of the investigation — or to confirm that one was going on — the district attorney huffed that he didn't have to account to the newspaper for trips by his attorneys. He accented this message with a profane sentence.

Records show that the district attorney's office has already spent more than \$8,000 on the investigation.