

Jeremy Campbell 2/6/67

## WHY LBJ IS KEEPING AN EYE ON MR. JIM GARRISON

PRESIDENT JOHNSON has been keeping a discreet but watchful eye on the strange events in New Orleans, where District Attorney Jim Garrison has been sleuthing into a conspiracy to take the life of President Kennedy. I would be taking a liberty with the language to say that the President is impressed with the Garrison case, but I am told that he is thinking seriously of asking the Justice Department to begin a study of all the new evidence that has arisen on the Dallas tragedy since the Warren Commission reported. At the same time, he has asked his new Attorney General, Ramsey Clark, to review all the unpublished Warren Commission documents and recommend which of them should be released. The chances are that, at long last, we shall now know whether or not Lee Harvey Oswald was a member of the

Communist Party. Among the unpublished papers is a file from the Mexican Government which is said to contain decisive information on this point. Apparently the FBI has warned the White House not to dismiss the New Orleans investigation as a circus act, and Garrison as a buffoon. Under Louisiana law, with its peculiar Napoleonic roots, a conspiracy charge can be made to stick if an assassination is merely discussed, and never acted upon. "If Garrison can show that a conversation or conversations did in fact take place, then he can, contrary to popular impression, obtain a conviction," said one FBI source. "It won't be the kind of conviction the country expects, but it could carry a sentence of five years and this, I suspect, is why the man is still so cocky in spite of a bad press."



**GARRISON**  
Not a circus.