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NS STATES-ITEM

DA May Gain High Prestige, Governor Says

By BILL LYNCH

BATON ROUGE — Gov. John J. McKeithen says that District Attorney Jim Garrison will reap tremendous prestige internationally if he proves his conspiracy charges in the assassination of President Kennedy.

The Louisiana chief executive told a news conference yesterday that he did not believe the Orleans district attorney is politically motivated in the case that has stirred worldwide attention.

McKEITHEN said he has been in touch with Garrison about the situation, but did not want to comment on the possible outcome.

He said he certainly did not want to criticize Garrison "because he has a habit of criticizing back."

A close political ally, McKeithen said that the district attorney's image already is bright in the state.

"There is no doubt about it. If his investigation proves that the FBI, the Secret Service, the CIA, the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court and the Warren Commission have overlooked something, Mr. Garrison has gained stature — not state-wide or nationally — internationally," McKeithen said.

"Political overtones, I don't know, but it would certainly give him tremendous prestige," McKeithen said. "There is no question about that."

ON THE subject of air pollution, the governor said that the state must face up to the problem at hand but is looking to the federal government for

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