

CIA KILLED JFK, SAYS GARRISON

DA Pledges to Continue Assassination Probe

By ROBERT L. PACK
District Attorney Jim Garrison declared Tuesday night that "the CIA killed John Kennedy," and pledged to continue his probe into the assassination until he has proved his theory to the world.

Speaking at a \$100-a-plate testimonial dinner held in his honor in the International Room of the Roosevelt Hotel, Garrison said that his statement that the Central Intelligence Agency was responsible for the former President's death was "not speculation."

He called the Warren Commission Report, which concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, shot President Kennedy "totally fraudulent."

"The Warren Commission Report," Garrison declared, "told you what did not happen. The United States government was involved in the assassination."

"The CIA was the agency involved. The CIA killed John Kennedy. But they're not so smart that they can kill the President of the United States without someone finding out."

Garrison said that he is one of those persons who has discovered who was responsible for Kennedy's death and he pledged:

"I won't retreat. I won't compromise. And there's nothing they can do to stop me because I know who did it."

The district attorney thanked Orleanians for their past support and called on them for their continued backing until "someday everyone in the world will know that New Orleans is the city that found out what



AMONG THOSE honoring District Attorney Jim Garrison at a testimonial banquet at the Roosevelt Tuesday night were (standing from left) Lt. Gov. C. C. "Taddy" Aycock,

Cecil M. Shilstone, banquet chairman, and Attorney General Jack P. F. Gremillion. Mrs. Garrison is seated at left.

—Photo by The Times-Picayune.

they did to John Kennedy."

Garrison said that in an effort to put an end to his investigation of an alleged plot to kill President Kennedy, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has been investigating his federal income tax returns for the past 14 months. But he said he believed that if the IRS had been able to find him guilty of any wrongdoing, the investigation would not have lasted nearly so long.

Garrison's comments came at the end of a night of congratulations and humor to celebrate his first primary victory over three other candidates in his bid for reelection as district attorney.

Comedian Mort Sahl, master-

of-ceremonies, set the tone for the change from levity to seriousness by cutting short his jokes to attack the Warren Commission Report and the news media treatment of Garrison.

He accused The New York Times and Time, Newsweek, Life and Look magazines of trying to unseat Garrison on account of his probe of the alleged plot to murder Kennedy.

Sahl said that a recent national poll showed that Garrison was the 13th most admired

man in the country, but that Time and Newsweek eliminated mention of Garrison by listing only the top 10.

Sahl characterized the Warren Commission Report as a \$4 million waste of federal funds and read to the audience, which numbered in the hundreds, excerpts in which former Chief Justice Earl Warren questioned a bartender in Jack Ruby's Dallas night spot about the bartender's marital troubles.

Ruby, who since died in prison, fatally shot Oswald two

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days after the Kennedy assassination as Dallas police attempted to escort Oswald from the jail where he was originally detained to a safer place. A nationwide television audience saw Ruby kill Oswald.

LONGTIME FRIEND

Sahl, a longtime friend of Garrison's, said that former President Lyndon B. Johnson had put many important documents concerning the assassination in the National Archives where they must stay for 75 years before the public can see them.

However, Sahl produced a list of the documents which he said can be purchased from the government for 10 cents. According to Sahl's list, the secret papers range from CIA reports on Oswald to Ruby's dental chart.

Garrison received a congratulatory telegram from Gov. John J. McKeithen, who was to have been the principal speaker, but was unable to attend because of his father's death Tuesday.

On hand to praise Garrison were Lt. Gov. C. C. "Taddy" Aycock, representing Gov. McKeithen, Mayor Victor H. Schiro, Attorney General Jack P. F. Gremillion and Mayor-nominee Moon Landrieu, who promised to cooperate with Garrison in the next four years if he defeats Republican Ben C. Tolodano in the April general election.

On behalf of the city government, Mayor Schiro presented Garrison a certificate of appreciation "for outstanding service." The district attorney also received an inscribed gold watch from banquet chairman Cecil M. Shilstone. The watch was paid for by contributions from Garrison's friends, according to Shilstone.