

What would be the purpose? We've done more in the past few months with a small staff than in the past several years with 2000 men."

Dead Man Not Involved in Assassination Plot, Oswald Probe Figure Says

From Our Wire Services: A figure of the assassin's flight path on the day of the assassination was not one of the "possible members" of a conspiracy investigation, another figure in District Attorney Garrison's office. The figure is David W. Ferris, the Garrison believes existed in New Orleans.

DROPS FROM SIGHT

David Lewis, 26, who handles baggage at a Continental Travel agency, said he did not believe Ferris was one of the group. The nude body of Ferris, a 49-year-old former Eastern Air Lines pilot, was found in his apartment Wednesday. Garrison used the occasion to call a news conference and declare the dead man was "involved in the events culminating in the assassination of President Kennedy."

MURDER RULLED OUT

Dr. Nicholas Chelzo, Orleans Parish coroner, ruled out murder in Ferris' death. Chelzo said he made the decision because there was no evidence of tissue damage which would have resulted if the brain hemorrhage that caused death had been due to a blow. The district attorney already had said Ferris' death apparently was suicide. But there was no official ruling as to whether the hemorrhage was natural or had been caused by a blow. The coroner's final report, which could shed more light on the cause of death, will take a week to complete.

NO MELAVES SHOW UP

Three men who were in the apartment could not have been involved in the assassination, a report by a federal official said.

OFFERS NEW DATA

The Warren Commission investigation showed Ferris and his plane were in New Orleans at the time Mr. Kennedy was shot in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963. Commission version of the assassination, said in Paris the A New Orleans politician subsequently told the commission he thought the plane was in the case wide open."

INTERVIEWED

George Lardner, Jr., said he interviewed Ferris from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday. Lardner said Ferris was certainly living when he was interviewed. Ferris, a bookish person of startling appearance, had his hair and eyebrows burned off in an explosion and wore a low-cut, high-collared jacket. He was men-lane quoted her as saying: "I was in the Warren report but never linked with the assassination."

CONFERRED

Part of the information James Earl Ray, the assassin, had given to Garrison in New Orleans was sent to the Warren Commission. According to Lardner, that a man looking like alleged assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, a P.O.K.E. member, had been in the area of the assassination two months before Mr. Kennedy was shot. Oswald, in an explosion and wore a low-cut, high-collared jacket. He was men-lane quoted her as saying: "I was in the Warren report but never linked with the assassination."