

# The mind of Jim Garrison—a central character in the Kennedy story

**JEREMY CAMPBELL**

WASHINGTON, Friday.—Only a few days after declaring in a nationally televised news conference that President Johnson knew the real names of the men who assassinated President Kennedy, New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison woke today to find his army medical records splashed over the front pages of several American newspapers.

The records, made available by the Pentagon and the Army Record Centre in St. Louis, show that Garrison was discharged from the Service as totally unfit for military duty.

A report to the Evaluation Board from an army medical

# PSYCHHO

centre at San Antonio, Texas, is quoted as length.

It says, in part: "This patient has a severe and disabling psychoneurosis of long duration. It has interfered with his social and professional adjustment to a marked degree. He is considered totally disabled from the standpoint of military duty and moderately incapacitated in civilian adaptability. His illness existed long before his call to active duty and is of the type that will require long-term psychotherapeutic approach."

Garrison underwent psychotherapy, the report revealed, in October 1950, by a psychiatrist on the staff of the Louisiana State University Medical School in New Orleans, and continued the treatment for a total of four and a half years.

## 'I've solved it'

Another statement by a medical examining board at the same hospital recommended that Garrison be classified as "10 per cent permanent disability." The Board described the incapacity as "chronic anxiety reaction manifested by hypochondria, chronic exhaustion and psychogenic allergic manifestations."

The records disclose that Garrison was under the care of Dr. Robert Matthews, psychiatrist on the staff of Louisiana University after his discharge from the U.S. Army in 1951.

In April 1955 he was allowed to enter the National Guard after his case had been reviewed by the Surgeon-General of the Army, but in February of this year he resigned, giving as his reason for leaving "income-palatable occupation."

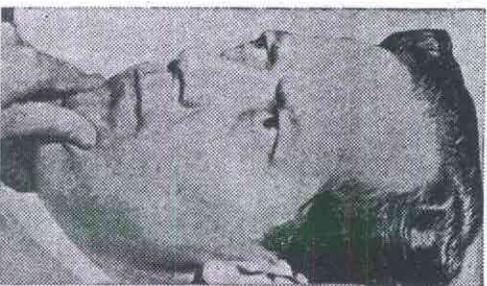
## LBJ accused

Garrison burst on the world stage last February, when he announced that he had solved the assassination of President Kennedy. He claimed that the murder was the result of a conspiracy by a group of people working with Lee Harvey Oswald. He arrested Clay Shaw, a retired businessman, as a part of that conspiracy.

Earlier this week he issued a warrant for the arrest of an evangelist named Edgar Eugene Bradley, who, like Shaw, denies having any connection with the case.

Garrison broadened his field this week by saying that the FBI had been tipped off about the assassination plot, and still took no action, and claiming that President Johnson was concealing the names of the real killers.

The publication of his medi-



**JIM GARRISON**

cal and psychiatric history, given considerable prominence in the Press today, is certain to embarrass Garrison, who has long accused the Government of hindering his investigation and damaging his credibility.

It has frequently been hinted that Garrison went through a period of instability in the Army but this is the first time that his complete records have been opened to the public and his illness recounted in detail. Garrison served five years in the Army during the Second World War. In 1951, after a brief stint with the FBI, he volunteered for active duty in Korea. He was given his medical discharge in the following October.