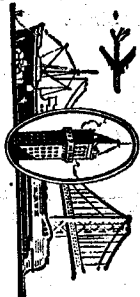


Oakland Tribune



A RESPONSIBLE METROPOLITAN NEWSPAPER

★ THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1967

10¢ DAILY, \$5

JFK 'Death Plot'

Figure

Disappears

New Phase Of Mystery Developing

Compiled from AP and UPI
NEW ORLEANS — A man fearing for his life because he told Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison names of people in an alleged plot to kill President Kennedy had dropped out of sight today.

The disclosure came after a routine check for former private investigator David Lewis for comment on the death of David W. Ferrie, a key figure in the investigation directed by Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison. Ferrie was found dead in his apartment yesterday.

Lewis reported had come in contact with Lee Harvey Oswald several times during Oswald's six-month 1963 stay in New Orleans.

Meanwhile, Garrison trained his sights on an apparent major inconsistency in the death hour of Ferrie.

Dr. Nicholas Chetta, New Orleans coroner, said rigor mortis had set in and death must have come sometime Tuesday evening.

But George Lardner, a reporter for the Washington Post and Times-Herald, covering Garrison's controversial investigation, said he went to Ferrie's apartment about midnight and stayed until 4 a.m. Wednesday interviewing him.

"Once you get him talking it's hard to shut him off," Lardner had said before he learned of Ferrie's death.

Chetta said Ferrie's death had to occur before 4 a.m., but Lardner insisted he had visited with Ferrie until that hour.

Garrison said the time of death estimated by the coroner, and the time that Lardner said, was a major inconsistency in the case and was "one of the mysteries we don't understand."

At a news conference yesterday Garrison said his staff was not large enough to provide protection to the principals of the investigation.



DAVID LEWIS
Leaves town



DAVID W. FERRIE
Secrets to his grave?