

Big Wind Pact 3/4/67

The country has been waiting for some time, largely with unbated breath, for the District Attorney of New Orleans, Big Jim Garrison, to reveal the details of an asserted conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy which he says he has solved. So far he has identified one alleged conspirator, who died in his bed last week under circumstances which seemed suspicious only to the D.A., and has arrested another, who emphatically denies any complicity and who was investigated and cleared by the FBI in 1963.

Like the redoubtable Muhammad Ali, known to his nonworshippers as Cassius Clay, Mr. Garrison has been predicting prosecutorial knockouts pretty loudly and brashly. In Muhammad Ali's case, it must be acknowledged that his predictions have pretty regularly come to pass. When Muhammad says that a challenger is going to go down in the fourth round, it is not at all a bad bet that that particular challenger will be numbered 12.

Out of innuendo, conjecture, extrapolation, clairvoyance and assorted fluff, Mr. Garrison has contrived a "plot" in regard to the assassination which might, if the details could be made to hang together, be worth a small amount of space in one of the less exacting detective fiction pulp magazines. Maybe this is paying off for him in headlines and local notoriety. But unless he can speedily back it up with something of substance he will have to stand convicted of just another sleazy exploitation of one of the most tragic events in American history. (There has already been far too much of this empty-headed and empty-hearted nonsense.)