

More alleged bribes

Probe still on despite verdict

U.S. Atty. Gerald J. Gallinghouse said today that in the wake of the pinball trial of District Atty. Jim Garrison and two others, another grand jury probe into possible bribes involving protection of pinball gambling will continue.

Gallinghouse, expressing disappointment at the jury's verdict that acquitted Garrison, John Aruns Callery and Robert Nims, said, "That's the system and we have no complaints. The grand jury probe that is looking into other aspects of this matter, however, will continue."

It is the other grand jury that has heard already from former police Supt. Joseph I. Giarrusso and government undercover agent Pershing O. Gervais.

Gervais appeared before the grand jury yesterday. Giarrusso, who was alleged in testimony by pinball executives Lawrence Lagarde Sr. and John Elms Jr. to have received \$30,000 in protection money from them, earlier appeared before the federal panel.

Earlier, Gallinghouse, obviously disappointed but not broken, told newsmen that the federal government had broken up a multi-million pinball gambling industry even though it failed to convict Garrison, Nims and Callery.

"The people are not total losers," Gallinghouse said.

"There will be other battles," Gallinghouse said. "We can't win them all."

"We broke up what was a very corrupt system of bribery and corruption by illegal gambling interests. The people are the beneficiaries of federal law enforcement efforts. We would hope the people who engage in these activities would mend their ways... especially public officials."

Gallinghouse said his office is "not going to get down in the gutter with Mr. Garrison or anyone else." He referred to a Garrison statement that the Justice Department is corrupt.

Both statements came shortly after Garrison and pinball figures John Aruns Callery and Robert Nims were found innocent in U.S. District Court.

"You know," Gallinghouse said, "you've all heard the expression you can fool some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time. but I would hope Mr. Garrison would know you can't fool all of the people all of the time."

Gallinghouse said his office will "continue our efforts to enforce vigorously and totally

"We naturally are disappointed, but we accept the jury's decision with humility."

After the decision, Garrison said he realized there was nothing the federal government would not do to convict him when he heard tapes he said he knew were altered. He labeled the case a frameup.

Asked about that, Gallinghouse loudly replied: "That's ridiculous, ludicrous, and he knows it."

Gallinghouse said he was appalled at anyone who would attempt to turn the people against the U.S. government.

"At some other forum and some other time," Gallinghouse said he would like to join in battle with those "who would make blanket statements against the U.S. government."

"But we are not going to get down in the gutter with Mr. Garrison or anyone else," he said.



—States-Item photo by Pat Patterson

U.S. Atty. Gerald J. Gallinghouse