

Judge Denies Garrison Plea

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11—A federal judge in District Attorney Jim Garrison's bribery trial says if the jury believes the evidence it has heard, there is enough to convict Garrison and his two co-defendants.

U.S. District Judge Herbert Christenberry today refused motions for a directed verdict of not guilty.

The judge said, "There is abundant evidence which, if believed, would support a verdict of guilty as to each of the defendants. The motions are dismissed."

Garrison is on trial with two pinball operators. He is charged with taking \$4,000 in bribe payments over a period of six months in 1971.

The government completed its case Monday. The defense begins Wednesday.

One of Garrison's attorneys, Fred Barnett of F. Lee Bailey's Boston firm, argued the government never proved Garrison got any of the bribe money.

Judge Christenberry interrupted to ask, "What about the money used to pay off that \$1,000 hotel bill?"

The government traced marked money to Garrison on two occasions. In one case, money the government says was paid to Garrison as a bribe was used to pay a hotel bill for Garrison.

Barnett also contended the government never proved that Garrison did anything to block enforcement of anti-gambling laws.

Judge Christenberry dis-

agreed with that too. He said a former police captain assigned to Garrison's office reviewed pinball cases and was in a position to head off prosecution. The former police captain, Frederick Soule, pleaded guilty in the case. He testified he took \$63,000 in pinball bribe money.