

GARRISON'S TRIAL TO START TODAY

Prosecutor Is Accused of Taking Gambling Payoffs

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 19 (AP)—District Attorney Jim Garrison goes on trial in Federal Court here tomorrow, accused of taking payoffs to protect illegal gambling. Six of his alleged accomplices are reported ready to testify against him.

Mr. Garrison and nine others were indicted in 1971 on a charge of conspiracy to obstruct law enforcement by giving or accepting bribes to protect pinball gambling. Three entered pleas of guilty. Three others were granted separate trials. United States Attorney Gerald Gallinghouse said all six had agreed to turn state's evidence.

Still on trial with Mr. Garrison, who is 52 years old, are John A. Callery, 63; Harby Harks Jr., 57; and Robert Nims, 40.

Mr. Garrison, who received wide attention for his investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, called the



Associated Press

Jim Garrison

bribery charge a frameup. He said the Federal Government was trying to get him for his

effort to show that the inquiry into the assassination was botched.

2 Policemen Ousted

Mr. Gallinghouse charged that the pinball operators paid more than \$50,000 a year to Mr. Garrison and two police officers, Capt. Frederick A. Soule Sr., 52, of the district attorney's office, and Sgt. Robert N. Frey, 39, head of the vice squad. After their indictments, both were dismissed.

Since then Soule has pleaded guilty, along with John Elms Jr., 29, a partner in the TAC Amusement Company and Louis Boasberg, 60, a partner in the New Orleans Novelty Company. The Frey case was severed for separate trial. So were the cases against John E. Pierce, 54, owner of the Pierce Amusement Company, and Lawrence Lagarde Sr., 52, a partner in TAC.

The maximum sentence on the charge is five years prison and a \$20,000 fine.

The trial of Mr. Garrison is the first of three Federal cases facing him. Pending are a tax-evasion case and a \$5 million-damage suit filed against him and a number of New Orleans businessmen who helped finance his investigation of the Kennedy assassination.

The damage suit was filed by Clay Shaw, a retired businessman who was acquitted of Mr. Garrison's charge that he conspired with Lee Harvey Oswald to murder President Kennedy, who was shot in Dallas in 1963. Mr. Garrison has been district attorney here since 1962. His term expires next April. He has not announced whether he intends to run for a fourth four-year term.

*Jim Garrison
John E. Pierce*