

New Orleans DA Sees Proof For Conspiracy

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Arrests Are 'Months Away' Garrison Says

NEW ORLEANS, La. (AP) — Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison said Monday he is quite confident he can prove there was a conspiracy behind the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. But Garrison said arrests "are most certainly months away."

The district attorney of Orleans Parish (county), appearing at a crowded news conference, reiterated that his investigation into the assassination has made progress. He began his probe last October.

"There is no question there will be arrests, charges and convictions," he said. But he said premature disclosure of the probe by New Orleans newspapers has seriously hampered the investigation.

"After this, I am not going to give out interviews," he said. "We don't want publicity."

Garrison said arrests of those he believes conspired to kill the late President "probably were just a few weeks away until the disclosures by the local newspapers. Now they are most certainly months away."

Asked if he thought any foreign country or any official was involved in the assassination, Garrison said, "No."

The district attorney, waving a long green cigar, said he expects to obtain convictions for conspiring to kill Kennedy and for being accessories after the fact—that is, "having substantial knowledge and withholding information."

Emphasizing his displeasure with the two New Orleans newspapers, he barred their reporters from the news conference,

held at a local motel.

Garrison's probe, first reported last Friday, has drawn worldwide attention. It has been received with both praise and skepticism.

In Washington, Sen. Thomas J. Dodd, D-Conn., called for the Warren Commission to reopen its investigation of the assassination to determine if Lee Harvey Oswald had Communist conspirators. The commission, in its report, named Oswald as the slayer and said it found no evidence of a plot.

Dodd, a member of the Senate Internal Security subcommittee, said he is impressed that Garrison "feels confident enough to speak in such positive terms of his findings."

Garrison has said he has no intention of turning his information over to the Warren Commission or other federal agencies. He said he will show the conspiracy was plotted in New Orleans.

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Orleans, where Oswald lived during the summer of 1963.

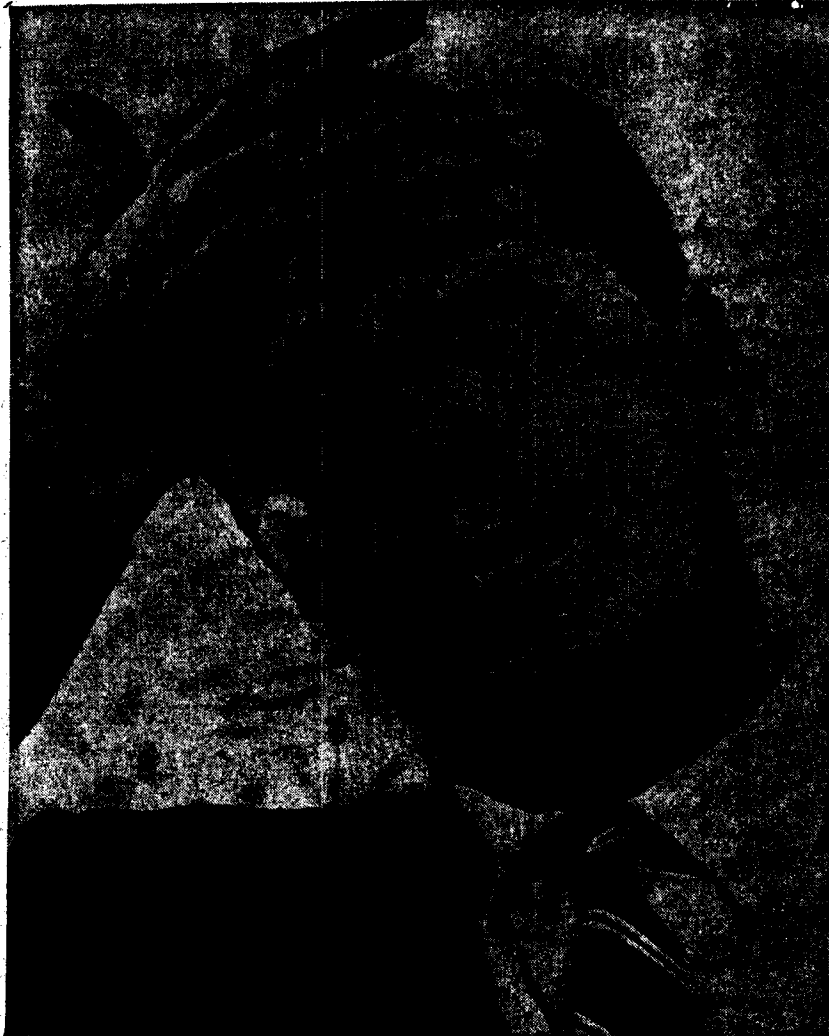
In Dallas, Asst. Dist. Atty. Bill Alexander said he places little faith in Garrison's claim a plot existed and was hatched in New Orleans. Kennedy was shot fatally in Dallas, Nov. 22, 1963.

"The Warren report is unsuccessful and not complete," Garrison told the news conference.

Asked to pinpoint any sections of the Warren report that were shaky, he said: "There is too much information about some areas, and not enough about others."

Garrison said he has set up "a small task force of unusually competent police officers, assistant district attorneys and a private detective" to handle the investigation. "We have made progress. Arrests will be made and convictions will be obtained."

F. Kennedy 7/21/67



PONDERING A POINT — New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison holds his forehead as he tells newsmen that he is quite confident he can prove there was a conspiracy behind the assassination of President John

F. Kennedy but added that arrests "are most certainly months away." Garrison said there was no question that arrests would be made but said that press coverage has hampered the investigation.

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