

HALL 'MAY HELP' GARRISON CASE

Reverses Stand in JFK
Probe—L.A. Times

The Los Angeles Times reported Wednesday that a key witness sought in District Attorney Jim Garrison's assassination probe has reversed his position and admitted that he may have information which could support the theory of a conspiracy to murder President John F. Kennedy.

The newspaper said Loran E. Hall, who had been subpoenaed to appear before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury in connection with the probe, changed his position in an appearance before Edwin Meese, California Gov. Ronald Reagan's legal affairs and extradition secretary.

The story was written by former New Orleanian Jerry Cohen and stated that Hall had his memory "jogged" by "certain individuals" who reminded him of persons he was in contact with in 1963 before Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas.

Hall had previously insisted he knew nothing about a conspiracy to kill the president and had successfully fought Garrison's subpoena in the California courts.

Hall reportedly met Meese Tuesday in Sacramento, Calif., and handed over to the governor's aide a list of names of "certain individuals" reminding him of persons he met while making speeches in the Los Angeles area for raising funds for anti-Castro activities.

Hall was quoted as saying he was in touch with Meese to protect himself in case he decides to go to New Orleans to testify. He said he has been giving "serious thought" to appearing in New Orleans.

Hall claimed he spoke at more than 50 meetings in Southern California in the early 1960s seeking support for anti-Castro guerillas. A former prisoner of Fidel Castro, Hall said he overheard people discussing the possibility of assassinating Kennedy and how it might be done after he finished talking at most of the meetings.