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Garrison Rejects ^{News} Terms ^{4/8/67}

NEW ORLEANS, April 8 (UPI) — Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison and a grand jury rejected yesterday an offer by nightclub owner Gordon Novel to testify in an investigation of President Kennedy's Assassination if given immunity from prosecution on a munitions burglary charge.

Mr. Novel is in Columbus, Ohio.

Assistant Dist. Atty. James L. Alcock spoke for Garrison:

"Mr. Novel is not going to dictate conditions to us. He's not in a dictating position. He is a fugitive from justice and we're going to get him back in our own good time."

DEPARTED

Mr. Novel, 29, was once questioned by the grand jury, then, before he could be summoned a second time, he sold his interest in a New Orleans nightspot and departed.

In a hectic 10 days he surfaced briefly in Columbus, in Chicago, in Virginia and reportedly in Canada before he was arrested at his apartment across the street from a suburban Columbus police station.

All the while, Novel kept firing broadsides at Mr. Garrison, calling his investigation a "fraud," calling Mr. Garrison a "Cajun James Bond," and comparing Mr. Garrison to showman P.T. Barnum who engineered the Cardiff giant hoax.

'LOADED'

Yesterday Mr. Novel said he wanted to testify before a grand jury "that isn't loaded." He said the New Orleans grand jury was "composed of some of his (Mr. Garrison's) best friends."

Mr. Novel is wanted by Mr. Garrison as a material witness in the assassination investigation and for conspiring to burglarize a Houma, La., munitions dump in 1961.