

T-P 4/9/67

'Conditions Impossible,' Foreman of Jury Replies

Telegrams Make News in JFK Plot Probe

Telegrams made the news Saturday in District Atty. Jim Garrison's probe of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Orleans Parish Grand Jury foreman Albert V. LaBiche Jr. fired off a terse telegram to probe figure Gordon Novel's Columbus, Ohio, attorney, Jerry Weiner. It read simply: "Conditions Impossible."

The telegram referred to Novel's volunteering to return to New Orleans if he were given immunity from prosecution.

An assistant district attorney said Friday that Novel is in no position to bargain and that "we will get him back here on our own conditions."

Garrison's office worked on just that Saturday, assistant district atty. James Alcock said. The office was working on extradition papers to have Novel returned to New Orleans.

A second telegram also urged this. The telegram came from the Gahanna, Ohio, police department. Gahanna is a suburb of Columbus, Ohio.

"Mr. Novel was within Municipal Court April 3, 1967, and was released on \$10,000 bond. He is fighting extradition, and it is our hope that you will get your necessary extradition papers started."

The telegram was signed by Gahanna police Chief Robert F. Brandon and Det. Robert Kelley, assigned to the Novel matter.

The Times-Picayune was unsuccessful in obtaining any comment from the district attorney's office about the fact that more than 300 cases which have been before the magistrate court since January have not had bills of information filed on them.

First Assistant District Atty. Charles R. Ward said Friday that he could not get an immediate comment on the story. Ward was reported not at the DA's office Saturday morning.