

KILL CONSPIRACY NOT CONFIRMED

Nixon Allegedly Target;
Militants Watched

By JIM BRIGANCE } 7
(AP Writer)

Investigators have been unable to establish sufficient evidence to make arrests in connection with an alleged plot to assassinate President Nixon, sources close to the inquiry say.

One informant said federal and local officers will "just be watching" six black militants reportedly involved in a plot to kill Nixon. "We'll just ride it out," the source said.

In a rare public announcement, the Secret Service recommended Nixon abandon plans for an open-car motorcade Monday through downtown New Orleans after learning of the alleged plot. Nixon was here to address the Veterans of Foreign Wars convention.

A White House source has said FBI agents and other law enforcement officials considered the threat serious enough to cancel the motorcade. But an intense probe failed to yield enough evidence to warrant arrests and trial, according to a local police source.

The alleged plot was reported by a police informant who told of a meeting at which assassination plans were discussed, a local source said. The source said the informant told police later of another meeting between two of the original six alleged conspirators at which a rifle changed hands.

New Orleans police then drew federal agents into the case who issued "arrest authorizations."

But, the source said, Nixon came and left before police could establish enough basis for arresting anyone and have not yet been able to corroborate the informant's information.