-The States-Item learned today that District Attorney Jim Garfison has been given testimony that William David/Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald were seen together in New Orleans shortly before President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963.

This is in direct contradiction to Ferrie's statements before his death that he did not know Oswald

GARRISON'S investigators were told by a New Orleans area law officer that he was making a routine check on Breakwater dr. at the lakefront in the early morning nours in the fall of 1963 when he found two men sitting in a parked car.

- One of the men identified. himself as Oswald, the offi-cer said. The States-Item's informant was not clear on how the other man identified himself. But the officer has since identified Ferrie's body positively as that of the man he saw in the car.

The officer took the pair to his headquarters where his superior declined to arrest them on the grounds there was insufficient evidence they were guilty of any wrongdo-

AFTER THE assassination. the officer said, he recognized Oswald's face and name from the pictures when he was accused of killing the President. He said he took no action because it was well-known that Oswald had lived in New Or-Jeans.

Last week, when Ferrie's name was prominently linked to the probe, the officer gave the DA's office his information.

Ferrie, who was found dead Feb. 21, has been called by Garrison a key figure in his investigation of a possible conspiracy in the slaying of the President.

Garrison planned later today to issue a summary of the progress made in his investigation.

ALSO DUE later today was a news conference by Orleans Parish Coroner Dr. Nichola Chetta, who was expected/to reveal that Ferrie's death has classified as from natural causes.

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Time ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F KENNEDY. 11-22-63 DALLAS, TEXAS

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ously that marder and suicide were unlikely causes of Ferrie's death, but an official classification has been held up pending results of toxio-