

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

WEEK'S REVIEW OF 'JFK PLOT' CASE

# Contradictions Mark DA's Probe

By JACK WARDLAW

Newsman from around the globe converged on New Orleans this week, the biggest such influx within the memory of long-time Crescent City journalists.

They were here because of a story which broke in the States-Item last Friday — the story that Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison is investigating a conspiracy in the death of President John F. Kennedy.

This is sensational news because it contradicts the report of the Warren Commission, which concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, killed Kennedy in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963.

Garrison, however, says, "I have no reason to believe Oswald killed anybody on Nov. 22, 1963."

THE DA SAYS HE HAS SOLVED THE assassination case and promises arrests and convictions. But the timetable for these actions has ranged all the way from a few weeks away to 30 years, depending on which statement of Garrison's you read. He later said he was joking about the 30 years.

Ironically, the person least happy about all the attention is Garrison, according to his own public statements.

When the story first broke, he refused to confirm or deny it. Two days later, he acknowledged the probe was under way, and castigated the States-Item for revealing it,

complaining that the "premature publicity" had slowed down his investigation.

He said that instead of having arrests within "a few weeks" it would now be "a few months."

Garrison said, "Anyone who says I had seen that story before it was published is a liar."

"THAT STORY" IS THE ORIGINAL STORY published Feb. 17 by the States-Item. The fact is that a reporter showed him a copy of the story the previous day. He looked at the first page, threw it down and said: "I will not comment on this. I refuse to confirm or deny it."

Garrison did not ask that the story be withheld. He did not say that it would damage his investigation.

The reporter then told Garrison the States-Item planned to use the story.

"Go ahead," said Garrison.

Then why was Garrison so furious when the story appeared? One explanation is that he planned to break the story himself, in a national magazine under his own byline, thus gaining the maximum national publicity for himself.

This was only the first of a series of puzzling statements by Garrison on the case. The others centered around the man whose sudden death in the midst of all the publicity

Page 1, Column 1

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

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