

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Garrison Probe News Waits

It was all quiet on the Jim Garrison front Sunday.

The district attorney — harassed in recent days by questioning hordes of newsmen from around the world — was in virtual seclusion from the press this weekend.

He failed to show up at his downtown New Orleans office, thus managing to dodge for one more day any further questioning about his controversial investigation into President Kennedy's assassination.

Garrison contends a plot to kill the chief executive was conceived here and actually carried out on Nov. 22, 1963 — the day Kennedy was shot and killed in Dallas. Last word from the district attorney's office is that the plotters are known to him and he is biding his time until arrests are made.

DALLAS BARS RECORDS

In a related development in the continuing assassination story, it was disclosed over the weekend that the Dallas Bureau of Vital Statistics has denied access to the public of routine public records concerning the deaths of Kennedy, his accused slayer Lee Harvey Oswald, and Jack Ruby. Ruby shot Oswald to death Nov. 24, 1963, in the Dallas police station and himself died of cancer in Dallas Jan. 3 of this year.

Dr. J. E. Peavy, Texas health commissioner, said the records have been inaccessible to the general public since about a month after each man died. The vital statistics bureau comes under the jurisdiction of the state health department.

"If a person has a legitimate reason, he can see the documents," Peavy told The Associated Press Sunday. "It's presumed that newsmen would have legitimate reasons."

The Washington Post said that on Aug. 30, 1961, two young men in a convertible were stopped by police in a residential neighborhood near the New Orleans lake front.

In the car, the Post said, officers found a fully loaded 38 caliber pistol, a makeup kit with human hair, sealing gum and scissors.

Both belonged to David Ferrie, the Post said, adding that one of the young men in the car said they were waiting for him. Ferrie, called by Garrison a "key figure" in his probe, was found dead Wednesday in his apartment.

The Post story said the police were skeptical. The two young men led the officers, the Post account said, to a neighborhood home occupied by Sergio Arcacha Smith, the local head of a Cuban liberation group, and that Arcacha's wife said Ferrie had been there earlier.

CIA LINK HINTED

In the New Orleans police investigation of the Aug. 29, 1961 incident involving Sergio Arcacha Smith's home, the Post reported that the New Orleans intelligence division said several months later that apparently this group (the Cuban Revolutionary Front) was legitimate in nature and presumably had the unofficial sanction of the Central Intelligence Agency although that could not be determined in New Orleans.

The Post story added that Sergio Arcacha Smith, according to reports, had been removed as New Orleans head of the group.

Ferrie's continued interest in the group, if any, remains unknown, the Post story added.

Meanwhile back in Louisiana, a key figure in Garrison's investigation — David F. Lewis Jr. — showed up at his New Orleans home again after dropping out of sight Saturday afternoon.

Lewis, a 25-year-old agent for a bus line, has been questioned recently by the district attorney concerning his knowledge of a plot against Kennedy. Lewis, in turn, has admitted to the press he knows at least four or five people involved in the plot.

bases his knowledge on the fact that he knew Oswald while the latter was living in New Orleans the summer of 1963, a few months prior to Kennedy's assassination.

Concern about Lewis and his continuous whereabouts grew after the death Wednesday of Ferrie. Ferrie was found dead in his apartment from natural causes, according to the coroner. Garrison contradicted the coroner's ruling, however, and maintained Ferrie actually committed suicide because he feared imminent arrest as a result of the district attorney's probe.

In another New Orleans development, Jack S. Martin, a private investigator, claimed an FBI report concerning him was incorrect.

Martin provided information

to Garrison's office in November 1963 which led to Garrison's arrest of Ferrie in connection with the assassination. The FBI questioned Ferrie at the time and also questioned Martin.

Warren Commission documents in the National Archives quote the FBI as saying Martin told them any connection between Ferrie and Oswald was a figment of his imagination.

Martin contacted New Orleans news media Sunday and said he had never told either FBI or Secret Service agents that he made up the story.

Martin's first story — the one he now says is true — was that Ferrie associated with Oswald in New Orleans and trained Oswald in the use of a rifle with a telescopic sight.

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