

S. F. Sunday Examiner & Chronicle, February 26, 1967 ☆☆

Witness in JFK Probe in Seclusion

NEW-ORLEANS (UPI) — J. S. (Jack) Martin, a man believed to have given District Attorney Jim Garrison much of the information on which his investigation of the Kennedy assassination is based, is in seclusion "for reasons of security," it was learned yesterday.

Martin's publishing agent in a book-writing venture,

Raymond J. Berg, released a statement from Martin in the form of a news release dated Feb. 22.

He echoed the tone of Garrison's comments Friday that more people may die before the investigation is over.

Martin said in the statement that he heard about David W. Ferrie's death and thought the circumstances

sounded similar to those in the death of the late W. Guy Banister, a private investigator.

Banister once was agent in charge of the local FBI office and for a time was police superintendent.

"Therefore, for my own protection, I deem it feasible to enter seclusion at this time for reasons of se-

curity," Martin's release said.

Garrison said Friday he intends to arrest all persons involved in a series of intertwined plots — "Those who are alive."

Ferrie's death, Garrison said, came about the same time it had been decided to arrest Ferrie because it was feared he would kill himself.

The coroner, however, says that Ferrie died of natural causes.

Martin knew Ferrie and Banister. Ferrie was mentioned in the Warren Commission report on Kennedy's death but was reported to have no connection with the death.

However, Garrison has said he considers Ferrie to have been a key in his probe.

A Secret Service report in Washington said Martin has a reputation of giving authorities wrong information.