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The New Orleans Probe

The claim by New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison that he has "solved" the Kennedy assassination has triggered a fresh wave of troubled public interest in that tragedy.

Because of his position, Garrison's investigation into what he contends was a conspiracy has aroused more concern than would the latest public comment by authors who have written books raising doubts about the findings of the Warren Commission.

The authors had, among other motives, the prospect of commercial gain in fanning the public's interest into the many facets of the assassination and its key figures. But Garrison is a public official. He has a responsibility to offer more than tantalizing tid-bits to the press about the course of the investigation that he is conducting.

If he has any new evidence Garrison should offer it and his cooperation to the

proper federal authorities. So far, he has refused to do so.

While he talks of possible arrests and convictions of "conspirators," when pressed for details, Garrison has pointedly declined to oblige.

This has resulted in some deserved criticism of Garrison by some other public officials. There also has been speculation that the inquiry could be related to Garrison's ambitions for higher office.

In any case, the widely publicized investigation has generated considerable interest into the New Orleans activities of Lee Harvey Oswald prior to the assassination in 1963.

The only way that Garrison's investigation can be put into its proper perspective is for him to let the proper federal authorities have a look at it to determine whether it is new or whether it is just a rehash of material that was thoroughly covered by the Warren Commission's report.