

Oswald Did Fire, Dallas Officials Insist

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DA's Team Theory Also Discounted

By PEGGY SIMPSON

DALLAS (AP) — Key Dallas investigators of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy here in 1963 don't believe Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's claim that Lee Harvey Oswald never fired a shot.

They also disbelieve the New Orleans prosecutor's theory that a precision team of

(Stories on developments in the Garrison investigation and the discovery of a letter draft written by fugitive witness Gordon Novel will be found on Page 6B.)

guerrilla adventurers fanned out on the crest of a park to kill Kennedy and escape undetected, until now.

"I don't think there's any question but that Oswald did some shooting, and indications are all of the shooting," said Dist. Atty. Henry Wade.

RETIRE POLICE Chief Jesse Curry, who drove the car preceding the President's in the motorcade, said there was no ruckus on the Dealey Plaza lawn preceding the shooting, as Garrison claims.

He said if guerrilla gunmen had crouched behind a three-foot stone wall in the plaza as Garrison says, Curry and Sheriff Bill Decker and Secret Service men could have seen them from the street as they drove by. He said his policemen atop the railroad overpass overlooking Dealey Plaza likewise could have spotted any persons behind the stone wall or even behind

the five-foot-tall picket fence which is 26 feet in back of the stone wall.

"THERE WERE people in (Turn to Page 6-B, Column 7)

the park and by the stone wall but they sure weren't squatted down shooting, I'll tell you that," Curry said. "We just didn't see anything that would indicate that at all."

For eight months, Garrison has independently been scrutinizing the assassination, vowing to prove the Warren Commission wrong in its finding that Oswald alone killed Kennedy and that Jack Ruby also acted independently when he gunned down Oswald during a jail transfer two days later.

Garrison says he has uncovered a conspiracy to kill Kennedy between Oswald; a now-dead pilot, David Ferrie; a New Orleans business magnate, Clay Shaw, and others.

HE SAYS THE Central Intelligence Agency is concealing the whereabouts of the assassins because they had been CIA employees.

"I never did rule out some encouragement of Oswald," said Wade, "but whether there was a conspiracy or an accomplice before or after the assassination is a matter of speculation. I don't know."

"I don't have any way of knowing about the CIA," Wade said.

But he said he was just as sure now as in 1963 that police had the evidence to send Oswald to the electric chair as the assassin.

"It was his gun, there were three empty shells by the window, he was seen in the window, his prints were found there, and everybody else was down watching the motorcade and he was upstairs," Wade said.

WADE AND CURRY said they looked but found no proof that Oswald and Ruby knew each other.

Wade said eight or 10 persons volunteered information

that Ruby and Oswald were together on occasions but he said he could not vouch for the credibility of any of them. A local lawyer failed a lie detector test about such beliefs and some of the other informants were alleged homosexuals or police characters.

Garrison said the assassins apparently used "frangible bullets," which he described as a type forbidden by the Geneva Treaty, that explode into little pieces and leave nothing behind to be traced to the gun. He said these bullets would be favored by forces working for an intelligence agency.

A FIREARMS expert here said a frangible bullet does indeed fragment into tiny pieces—but the shattering is upon impact, before any penetration. The soft, compressed graphite bullets are used for target practice and might barely pierce a tin can at 50 yards. The firearms expert said he knew of no bullet which combines the characteristics Garrison named, since soft-nose bullets which cause a gaping wound and much internal damage leave traceable elements.

The FBI identified a whole bullet found after the assassination on a stretcher as coming from Oswald's rifle and said fragments of a second bullet came from the same rifle.

Curry said Garrison's probe hasn't refuted any Warren Commission findings, as far as he is concerned.

"It's difficult for me to believe that a group of men sat around and formed a conspiracy and carried it out to assassinate the President. The evidence doesn't show that to me," Curry said.