

GARRISON CHARGES PRESSURE BY U.S.

Declares 'Federal Power'
Won't Stop Plot Inquiry

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District Attorney Jim Garrison said last night that "a tremendous amount of Federal power" had been brought to bear on him in an attempt to stop his investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy.

He predicted that other efforts to curb him would be made.

But, said Mr. Garrison, "there is not enough money in the United States Treasury and there is not enough printer's ink in the country to keep us from developing facts about the murder of President Kennedy."

He said the criticism of his investigation proved two things: "First, that we were correct when we uncovered the involvement of the C.I.A. [Central Intelligence Agency] in the assassination; second, that there is something very wrong today with our Government in Washington, D. C., inasmuch as it is willing to use massive economic power to conceal the truth from the people."

'No Substance'

The comment was reported by the National Broadcasting Company and Newsday this week. Mr. Gurnich refused yesterday to comment on his June 8 meeting with Senator Kennedy, brother of the slain President.

Mr. Garrison made his statement after his former chief investigator, William H. Gurnich, was quoted as having told Senator Robert F. Kennedy that there was "no substance" to the Garrison investigation.

The District Attorney did not comment on Mr. Gurnich's conference with Senator Kennedy. But one of Mr. Garrison's assistants said Mr. Gurnich had not been connected with the investigation for more than two months.

Mr. Garrison has contended that the President was killed in Dallas by a group of disgruntled Cuban refugees, several of whom had worked for the intelligence agency. He has charged that a 54-year-old New Orleans businessman, Clay I. Shaw, and a former airline pilot, David W. Ferrie, who is now dead, were the leaders of the plot.

Oswald Role Discounted

Lee Harvey Oswald, who was named by the Warren Commission as the sole assassin of Mr. Kennedy, was a "patsy" who had no part in the assassination, Mr. Garrison has said.

Several persons questioned by Mr. Garrison and his staff during the investigation have asserted that they were offered concessions if they would plant evidence or give false testimony to bolster the case against Mr. Shaw. These have included convicts now in prison in Louisiana.

Mr. Garrison has dismissed these accusations as "unworthy of comment." But the Metropolitan Crime Commission, a private reform group in New Orleans, has asked for a state investigation of Mr. Garrison's methods.

Louisiana's Attorney General, Jack P. Gremillion, said yesterday he had no authority to make such an investigation.

Text of Statement

Following is the text of Mr. Garrison's statement:

There will continue to be developments, all of them mysteriously coordinated, which are designed to create the idea that our investigation should be stopped immediately if not sooner. These developments are no great surprise. There will undoubtedly be others always suggesting that our methods are inhuman or that we have no case at all.

A tremendous amount of Federal power is being brought to bear on anyone connected with our investigation whether he be witness or investigator, in an effort to conceal the real truth about President Kennedy's murder. It is obvious that the official Washington attitude is that our inquiry must be stopped at all cost.