

## TOP AIDE TO SEEK GARRISON SHIFT

Gurvich Will Ask 'New Look'  
Into Plot on Kennedy

By ROBERT E. DALLOS

District Attorney Jim Garrison's chief aide in the New Orleans investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy, who has "grave misgivings" about the inquiry, will ask the District Attorney to take "an entirely new look at the whole matter."

The aide, William H. Gurvich, was interviewed here Saturday night a few hours before he left for New Orleans. He said his misgivings concerned "the behavior of certain people in the District Attorney's office and the criminal procedures employed in this case."

In the last few weeks several key witnesses in the investigation have said they were offered concessions for their testimony.

### Will Confront Garrison

"When I return to New Orleans I expect to confront Mr. Garrison as a gentleman, as a friend and as his chief aide," Mr. Gurvich said. "I will thoroughly explain my feelings to him and ask him to take an entirely new look at the whole matter. The results of this meeting will determine my status as a member of his staff."

Mr. Gurvich declined to list his specific misgivings but said he "would like to see more extensive and thorough searches made in the gathering of evidence to clarify questions that develop."

"Up until now this standard and professional method of criminal investigation was not always used in all phases of this investigation," he said.

Mr. Garrison contends that his investigation uncovered a conspiracy to kill President Kennedy that originated in New Orleans. Clay L. Shaw, a 54-year-old retired businessman, has been bound over for trial after a preliminary hearing at which Mr. Garrison alleged that Mr. Shaw, Lee Harvey Oswald and the late David W. Ferrie had plotted to shoot Mr. Kennedy. The Warren Commission concluded that Oswald was the lone assassin.

### Asked About Evidence

Asked if he felt the apprehension he had about the investigation also made him believe that the evidence against Mr. Shaw was insufficient, he answered:

"If done properly, we could have a better case against the defendant. Or we could have had a weaker case. But any responsible person would accept the findings of such a professional and reliable investigation and no matter if the findings support your case or weaken it, you have no choice other than to accept it."

He declined to comment when asked if he thought Mr. Shaw should stand trial.

Mr. Gurvich had been in New York City for a week staying at an East Side apartment his cousin, Carl, has subleased from Xavier Cugat. He was dressed in a sports shirt and khaki trousers and wore no shoes during the interview.

Throwing one foot over the arm of a soft couch, he said he had "no reason to believe that District Attorney Garrison does not believe that there was a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy hatched in New Orleans."

"He is sincere in his belief," Mr. Gurvich said.

Mr. Gurvich, 41, was reported to have told Senator Robert F. Kennedy during a meeting on June 8 that the Garrison investigation "had no basis in fact." He declined to comment on the substance of their talk but said:

"We talked about the investigation. What else was there of interest between me from New Orleans and Robert Kennedy, the brother of John Kennedy."

Mr. Gurvich said he had "no comment" on whether he had told the Senator the Garrison investigation was a hoax or had no basis in fact.

### Runs Detective Agency

Mr. Gurvich, who with two brothers runs the New Orleans Patrol Service, a private detective agency founded by their father in New Orleans, answered a statement made over the weekend by another of Mr. Garrison's assistants that Mr. Gurvich had not been connected with the case for more than two months.

"I am today still his chief aide," he said walking from the living room to a large veranda overlooking Manhattan. "I have never been fired. I have never quit. I have done all of his key investigative work, all of his ballistics work, 95 per cent of his photography work, all of his aerial photography, all his important electronic work."

"This is why he asked me to come into this investigation. He commended my work. I have been dispatched to make all of his key arrests — excluding Shaw — and arrests were not made only after I reported to him that there was no basis for an arrest."

### Doubtful on Statement

He added that he thought the statements from New Orleans came from "some disgruntled person" in Mr. Garrison's office and that he could not believe that the statement came from the District Attorney. He said that as late as June 10 he had questioned a woman here in connection with the inquiry.

Mr. Gurvich said that he had worked on special projects for the District Attorney's office for some years and that until late 1966 he was a dollar-a-year man. When he joined Mr. Garrison full time, he said, he was assured he would be paid but had received only \$3,410 reimbursement of expenses until now.