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# Garrison Hit at Hearing Plot Charge Called 'Fraud'

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COLUMBUS (Ohio) —

The former chief investigator in the New Orleans "assassination plot" swore yesterday District Attorney Jim Garrison's conspiracy is a "baseless fraud."

William J. Gurvich, testifying in a post-of-state witness hearing on Gordon Novack in Columbus, detailed for the first time under oath his seven-month tenure as No. 1 agent for the New Orleans district attorney.

Gurvich is seeking the return of a "confidential" source of New Orleans to help in the case of Novack and Gurvich says they believe the source is innocent of what they charge.

Gurvich, 42, was in New Orleans for 12 years as a family man in the city. He recalled some of the witnesses and the reporter, to testify in Novack's alleged case.

### TALE OF INTRIGUE

But Gurvich wound up telling an Ivan-the-terrible tale of intrigue and misuse of power in the office of Garrison. These were some of his sworn revelations:

• Garrison once said the  
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# Hearing Told Garrison Plot Charge a 'Fraud'

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assassination probe would end with the chief defendant, Novack, charged with conspiracy to commit a murder.

• Garrison once ordered Gurvich to "invest, harass and harass" two NBC newsmen, Peter Sheridan and Robert Downey, who had been critical of Garrison's investigation.

Garrison changed his tactics abruptly and sometimes over-stated his own different views of the case — none of them were substantiated.

Gurvich's testimony, Henry L. Hadden, who turned over to the FBI a document which he said was a "copy of a letter" from Garrison.

Garrison was "a man of many guises" and "a man of many faces" and "a man of many masks."

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
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