

Garrison Locks Out DA Banquet

NEW ORLEANS — (AP) — District Attorney Jim Garrison angrily locked the National District Attorneys Association out of its convention banquet here last night when officials of the organization recoiled aghast at a proposed speech by the volatile New Orleans prosecutor.

Garrison, whose John F. Kennedy assassination probe roused sharp controversy around the nation, accused the association of attempted censorship of his planned remarks regarding President Johnson, the federal government and the federal courts.

'IRRATIONAL'

"I will not submit to any censorship or any kind of limitations on my comments," stormed Garrison.

William J. Raggio, Reno, Nev., district attorney and president of the association, said Garrison's actions "were completely irrational."

He said the association, somewhat dubious about meeting here because of the controversial assassination probe, had been assured its midwinter session would not be used as a forum by Garrison.

ORPHANS GET IT

The some 600 persons attending the convention, unable to get into the banquet room of the French Quarter's Monteleone Hotel, trooped out to various restaurants.

Garrison said the \$3300 worth of roast beef dinner on the banquet menu would be sent to three orphanages here.

Raggio said a meeting with Garrison was set up after

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some members reported Garrison had told them his previous attacks on the federal judiciary would pale compared to what he would say at the banquet.

The Nevada prosecutor said at a hastily called news conference he told Garrison there was some concern among members that what he planned to say might lack propriety.

"He told me, 'That's no problem. We're going to have a nice little banquet. I'm just going to say a few words. I'm going to tell the people about the — — — federal courts and the — — — President, they ought to hang him.'"

GUARDED DOORS

"I broke in there and said, 'Well, Jim, if that's what you're going to say, I'm going to ask you not to speak.'"

Raggio said Garrison turned to an assistant and said:

"Cancel the banquet. Bolt the doors and guard them. Don't let anybody in."

Garrison then turned to him, Raggio continued, and said:

"You're not running this show, I am."

Vice President Hubert Humphrey originally was scheduled as the banquet speaker, Raggio said, but couldn't make it.

"The first any association officer know of Garrison's plan to make the address, he said, came when they arrived here and looked through the program.