

Police Suspend Soule

U.S. JURY GETS PAYOFF CASE

Police Capt. Frederick Soule Sr., one of nine men charged with Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison for alleged pinball payoffs, was suspended today as a federal grand jury began looking into the case.

Soule was suspended this afternoon by Supt. Clarence Giarrusso for violating the rules of the department and pending further investigation.

U.S. ATTORNEY Gerald J. Gallinghouse confirmed today that he had briefed the grand jury on the background of the case. There was no immediate indication of when the jury might begin a full scale probe.

Garrison and the others, including two policemen, were charged in a direct bill of information, but all federal cases above the misdemeanor level require grand jury action.

Gallinghouse said yesterday other public officials may be charged in the continuing followup to the series of arrests that netted Garrison and nine others Wednesday.

GARRISON AND the others arrested, including New Orleans Police Capt. Frederick A. Soule Sr. and vice squad commander Sgt. Robert N. Frey, face a July 9 preliminary hearing. They are charged with accepting money in return for protecting pinball gambling and with obstruction of law enforcement.

The 113-page affidavit filed by the office of U.S. Attorney General John N. Mitchell in federal court alleges Garrison was getting up to \$1,500 a month in payoffs from pinball operators, the others lesser amounts.

Others charged are a legislative lobbyist for the pinball industry and six executives of New Orleans amusement machine firms.

Gallinghouse said yesterday the affidavit is only a small part of the evidence the strike force has accumulated.

THE STATES-ITEM continues today its publication of the full text of the Mitchell affidavit. Today's portion is on Page 37.

"This is just the beginning of law enforcement action following a comprehensive investigation into illegal operation of pinball machines," he said.

Though he would not name names or discuss specifics, he added:

"But I can tell you that this is not only an investigation into illegal gam-

bling activities involving the coin-operated gaming devices, but many other related activities, including reports of possible bribery of other public officials."

There were these other developments yesterday in the wake of the Garrison arrest:

—**PERSHING GERVAIS**, the former Garrison aide named in the affidavit as the government's informant, was reported out of the country and under guard.

—**THE METROPOLITAN Crime Commission** called for Garrison to re-

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sign, and asked Gov. John J. McKeithen to remove him if he doesn't.

—**A N O T H E R FORMER** Garrison aide, William R. Alford Jr., appeared before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury. He said his appearance had no connection with the arrests but told newsmen "upper echelon" members of Garrison's staff pressured him into not prosecuting pinball cases while he was an assistant DA.

Alford resigned from the DA's office June 21 saying he could not function because the DA permitted gambling and prostitution to flourish and permitted "fixes" of cases for friends.

He said yesterday Garrison never personally instructed him to stop his pinball investigation, but other unnamed officials in the DA's office did.

Alford said he attempted in August of 1970 to conduct a grand jury probe of pinball activities but was discouraged from pressing it and was shortly thereafter removed as advisor to the jury.

HE SAID HE believes the reason he was removed "was that I was embarrassing the district attorney's friends."

Yesterday's grand jury proceedings were behind closed doors as usual. Alford testified for about two hours.

Alford in 1969 was one of the prosecutors in the Clay L. Shaw case in which Shaw was acquitted of conspiring to kill President John F. Kennedy. Yesterday, he said he disagrees with Garrison's assertion that the Central Intelligence Agency interfered with that investigation.

"It is men like Jim Garrison that will destroy our country if the people don't stand up and fight back," Alford said.

MAYOR MOON LANDRIEU said today he had no knowledge of any payoffs to public officials even though he once had been an attorney for TAC Amusement Co.

Asked if he knew of any payoffs, he said, "Absolutely none whatsoever, at no time, no place or no how."

The mayor emphasized that one of those arrested was John Elms Jr. and that he had been associated with Elms' father.

He said he was surprised that police officials had been arrested, but was not shocked beyond belief. The mayor added he knew of no one in his administration who was under investigation by the Justice Department.

THE QUESTION of suspension of the two officers involved was one that would have to be made by Police Supt. Clarence Giarrusso. The suspension recommendation would go to him through Chief Administrative Officer Ben Levy for approval.

He said he had not talked with Giarrusso because the superintendent was in the midst of an investigation of the matter. That probe, he said, was being conducted to see if anyone else was involved and to make sure it never happens again.

Asked why he did not know of such payoffs when he was attorney for the firm, Landrieu replied, "I don't know why an attorney should know of that kind of thing or even be remotely conscious of it."

The mayor said he has no fear of being investigated or that he is actually under investigation.