Fri., July 9, 1971

San Francisco Chronicle

9

Judge's Ruling

Garrison Can't Arrest Accusers

New Orleans, La.

United States District Judge Herbert W. Christenberry yesterday barred District Attorney Jim Garrison from arresting two government officials who brought Federal charges against him.

Christenberry granted a Government motion shortly after the opening of a hearing of a hearing of a hearing of a hearing in the case, staying the arrests of U.S. Attorney Gerald J. Gallinghouse and John Wall, head of the Justice Department's crime strike force here.

Christenberry's action came two days after he had granted a temporary order preventing the Orleans parish district attorney from taking the two Justice Department officials into custody.

Garrison was charged last week with accepting payoffs to protect illegal gambling in connection with pinball machines in the area. He called the charges a frameup and

termed the Government's case a "pollution of prejudice."

Garrison's charge against the Federal officials included criminal mischief, threatening a witness, malfeasance, and inciting a felony.

In his initial decision, Christenberry ruled against another aspect of the case and refused to block newspaper publication of the text of a Government affidavit.

The text, filed with the Government's charges against Garrison, was being printed by the New Orleans Times Picayune and the States-Item. It contains transcripts of alleged conversations between the payoff man and Garrison, as well as others among hose charged in the case.

Associated Press