

NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM gar 12 JULY 1971

Special Grand Jury Sought by Gallinghouse

U.S. Atty. Gerald J. Gallinghouse said today he is hopeful that a special federal grand jury to investigate organized crime can be empaneled here in about two weeks.

The special grand jury, which Gallinghouse will ask U.S. District Court Judge E. Gordon West to grant approval for, would consider charges against Orleans Parish District Attorney Jim Garrison and nine others who

have been arrested on bribery charges growing out of alleged pinball gambling activities here.

Gallinghouse also made it clear there would be many more matters other than the pinball bribery allegations for a special grand jury to consider, if one should be empaneled.

"THE STAFF of the U.S. Dept. of Justice Organized Crime Strike Force

has conducted a broad and wide-ranging investigation that would result in quite a few matters for the grand jury to consider in addition to the case involving allegations about pinball gambling and bribery," Gallinghouse said.

Under the terms of the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970 passed by Congress, a special grand jury may be empaneled by the chief judge of a federal judicial district if it becomes "necessary because of criminal activity in the district."

Gallinghouse said he hopes to confer with Judge West, the chief federal judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, late this week about the need to empanel a special grand jury.

THE U.S. ATTORNEY said that if Judge West concurs, the special grand jury could be empaneled within a week or so following authorization.

"The staff of the Organized Crime Strike Force and the office of the U.S. Attorney are in agreement that conditions existing here justify the empaneling of a special grand jury to conduct an intensive investigation of conditions that involve violations of federal criminal statutes," said Gallinghouse.

If the special grand jury were empaneled, it would have the authority to look into criminal activities throughout the entire area that makes up the eastern federal district of Louisiana.