

AICONU

PROBE NL 270

new orleans ap -Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison claimed Thursday the central Intelligence Agency is paying lawyers for some persons who have figured prominently in his investigation of the Kennedy assassination.

"Naturally, they are paying lawyers involved," Garrison told newsmen gathered outside the Orleans Parish Grand Jury room.

"There's no question about that."

Garrison earlier this week accused the CIA and the FBI of taking part in what he called a massive coverup of the true circumstances surrounding the death of President John F. Kennedy. The district attorney claimed the two agencies flooded the Warren Commission with a mass of irrelevant information.

The district attorney named attorneys Burton Klein and Steven Plotkin as having received CIA money. Both men issued immediate denials.

"We have reason to believe that Mr. Klein has recently been to Washington, D. C.," Garrison added.

"I emphatically deny the statement made by Mr. Garrison that I contacted the CIA or spoke to anyone acting for that organization," Klein told newsmen. "There is no basis in fact for the statement."

Klein is the attorney for Alvin Beaubouef, a close associate of the late David W. Ferrie. Garrison has charged that Ferrie, Lee Harvey Oswald and Clay Shaw conspired to kill Kennedy. Ferrie and Oswald are dead and Shaw, a retired New Orleans executive, is awaiting trial on the charge.

Klein said at a news conference Wednesday that Beaubouef had been offered \$3,000 and a job if he would "help substantiate the alleged plot" against Kennedy.

The second lawyer named by Garrison, Steven Plotkin, represents Gordon Novel, now fighting extradition at Columbus, Ohio.

"We know that Mr. Plotkin has been receiving money, if only through an intermediary, from the CIA," Garrison said.

"I have never received any money from the CIA or from any known agent of the CIA," Plotkin told newsmen.

mm944pcd May 11