

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1968

**U.S. LOSES ON MOVE  
ON HOFFA WITNESS**

BATON ROUGE, La., May 3 (AP)—A United States Court judge accused the Justice Department today of a "payoff" because of its refusal to prosecute criminal charges against a local union leader who gave key testimony at the trial of James R. Hoffa, Teamsters union president.

Judge E. Gordon West rejected a Justice Department motion to dismiss an embexxlement indictment against Edward Grady Partin, business agent for Teamsters Local 5 of Baton Rouge.

Michael Epstein, an attorney for the Justice Department, denied the judge's accusation that a "deal" had been made with Mr. Partin to dismiss charges against him if he turned state's evidence against Hoffa. He said only that the "In-

terests of justice would best be served" if the indictment were not pressed.

Mr. Epstein declined to go into detail on the Justice Department's reasons for asking for a dismissal of the indictment. The motion did say that certain key records were missing, one Government witness had died, and a number of Government witnesses were biased against Mr. Partin.

Judge West said he was not convinced the reasons were true.

**In-Law Wins Backing**

CHATTANOOGA, (AP)

Signal Mountain charged his mother made his life "r filed a chance seeking to home. H mother- with pline Tw fr

