

# Public Is Still in the Dark As Garrison Probe Plods On

By HOKE MAY  
(First in a Series.)

**NEW ORLEANS (NEA)** — Where is the Garrison investigation — that probe of the murder of President John F. Kennedy which has evoked dedicated support, bitter denunciation, snickers and outright laughter?

Few know it, because little is being reported through most of the regular channels of the U.S. press, but the investigation and its many outgrowths are proceeding at deliberate speed guided by the six-foot, six-inch district attorney of New Orleans.

Outwardly, the inquiry is a study in confusion and frustration, and people — even people in New Orleans — are admittedly bewildered both by lack of information and because of the mind-boggling information which has filtered through to them.

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In the 18 months since Jim Garrison began his independent investigation of what he contends was a New Orleans-based plot to assassinate the late president at Dallas Nov. 22, 1963, this — at least on the surface — is what has happened:

Two men, 55-year-old retired New Orleans businessman Clay L. Shaw and a 49-year-old California representative of a conservative radio evangelist, Edgar Eugene Bradley, have been charged by Garrison with engaging in a conspiracy here to kill President Kennedy.

A hip-talking lawyer and one-time assistant district attorney from adjoining Jefferson Parish, Dean A. Andrews Jr., has been accused of perjury, tried and sentenced to 18 months because a jury decided he lied about a mysterious telephone voice which Andrews identified for the Warren Commission as Clay Bertrand.

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A young would-be teacher and music graduate, Layton Patrick Martens, also has been charged with perjury. And so has Kerry Thornley, a Tampa, Fla., author who was a close buddy of Lee Harvey Oswald in the U.S. Marines and the man who told the Warren Commission that Oswald was a Marxist. Neither has been tried.

Two television newsmen, Walter Sheridan of NBC (who was chief investigator, for the Senate Rackets Committee when Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was its leading counsel), and Richard L. Townley of NBC have been accused by the New Orleans DA of

intimidation and public bribery of Garrison witnesses.

Finally, Garrison has leveled theft charges against his one-time investigator, William Gurchich, who quit Garrison's office last summer after paying a call on Senator Kennedy in New York and announcing that the Garrison investigation was a baseless fraud. The DA, in this charge, says Gurchich stole secret files when he departed.

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Superimposed upon this list of accusations and a single conviction by the big Louisiana DA has been a growing spate of national publicity, much of it in the form of ringing denunciations of Garrison and his probe. On his part, the DA has granted magazine interviews and has appeared on national television to tell his side of the story.

Through all of that literature and rhetoric, however, little of the hard, cold facts about what Garrison has done and what he intends to do apparently has gotten through.

Who is Shaw? Who is Brad-

ley? Why was Dean Andrews tried and convicted? And what is the premise of Garrison's case for a widespread conspiracy which ended with the shots which murdered a president? Does the DA from New Orleans have any evidence, and, if so, what is it?

This and three succeeding articles will deal with the Garrison Case, the attacks upon it and the defenses thrown up by the man he has charged.

(NEXT: Who is Clay Shaw?)



David Ferrie



James Garrison



Clay Shaw



Dean Andrews



Lee Oswald