

CIA Killed John Kennedy, Garrison Says at Banquet

"The CIA killed John Kennedy," Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison maintained last night at a \$100-a-plate dinner held in his honor at the Roosevelt Hotel. Garrison pledged to continue his probe into the assassination until he has proved his theory to the world. He also said his statement that the Central Intelligence Agency was responsible for the former President's death is "not speculation."

He called the Warren Commission report, which concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, shot President Kennedy "totally fraudulent."

"THE WARREN Commission report," Garrison declared, "told you what did not happen. The United States government was involved in the assassination."

"The CIA was the agency involved. The CIA killed John Kennedy. But they're not so smart that they can kill the President of the United States without someone finding out."

The district attorney thanked Orleanians for their past support and called on them for their continued backing until "some day everyone in the world will know that New Orleans is the city that found out what they did to John Kennedy."

At the end of the banquet, Garrison was asked by newsmen about the possibility that he might run for governor in 1971. "It's possible," he replied, "but I haven't given it much thought."

GARRISON'S comments came at the end of a night of congratulations and humor to celebrate his first-primary victory over three other candidates in his bid for re-election as district attorney.

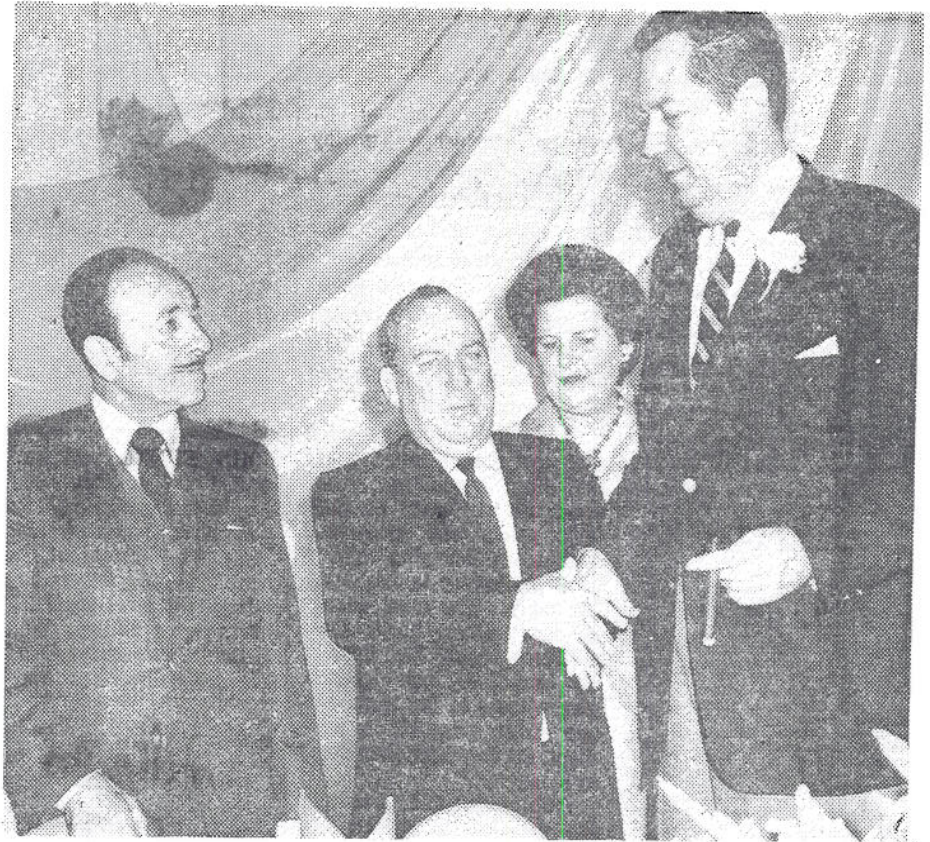
Comedian Mort Sahl, master of ceremonies, set the tone for the change from levity to seriousness by cutting short his jokes to attack the Warren Commission report and the news media treatment of Garrison.

Garrison received a congratulatory telegram from Gov. John J. McKeithen, who was to have been the principal speaker but

was unable to attend because of his father's death yesterday.

On hand to praise Garrison were Lt. Gov. C. C. Aycock, Mayor Victor H. Schiro, state Atty. Gen. Jack P. F. Gremillion and Democratic mayornominee Moon Landrieu.

Banquet chairman was Cecil M. Shilstone.



SHAKING HANDS with Orleans Parish DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON at last night's testimonial dinner is ATTY. GEN. JACK P. F. GREMILLION. MAYOR VICTOR H. SCHIRO looks on at left. Woman in background is unidentified. —States-Item photo.