

EIGHT

MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 1971

Heavy Secrecy Covers Probe

A special federal grand jury called to probe organized crime here opened its investigation today under maximum security conditions and the utmost secrecy.

U.S. Atty. Gerald J. Gallinghouse and John Wall, who heads the federal organized crime and racketeering strike force in New Orleans, refused to identify any of the witness-

es called for today or the cases the jury is considering.

One phase of the probe will be federal charges that Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison, two policemen and seven persons linked to the pinball industry here violated the federal organized crime act through bribes to protect pinball owners.

There was no immediate indication when the Garrison matter would come under investigation by the jury, which was created last week.

Gallinghouse said the grand jury, empowered to sit for up to 18 months, would make a comprehensive and thorough investigation covering organized crime and related activities.

He said from time to time reports will be issued on the scope and progress of certain phases of the investigation so the public will be informed of significant developments.