

Appeal Planned
GREMILLION GETS 3 YEARS

Atty. Gen. Jack P. F. Gremillion today was sentenced to three years in federal prison on each of five perjury convictions. The sentences will run concurrently, meaning three years would be the total maximum time served.

The sentence was imposed by U.S. District Court Judge Fred J. Cassibry, who presided over Gremillion's trial last September when the attorney general was convicted of lying to a federal grand jury investigating the operations of the Louisiana Loan and Thrift Corporation.

Gremillion's attorney, F. Irvin Dymond, said the conviction and sentence will be appealed to the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

GREMILLION WAS in a somber mood as he sat in the packed courtroom awaiting sentencing. He made no statement when Judge Cassibry asked if he had anything to say before sentencing was pronounced. He also would not comment to newsmen after the sentencing.

Judge Cassibry told the attorney general that Gremillion's office and his profession made the perjury convictions "serious crimes."

The judge said, "While I have the deepest compassion for you and your wife and family, in the United States no man is so great as to be above the law."

A JURY DELIBERATED one hour and 35 minutes on Sept. 25 of last year before convicting the long-time attorney general. Sentencing was delayed while a pre-sentence investigation was conducted by the federal probation service.

The maximum penalty under each of the five convictions is five years in prison and a fine of \$2,000.

The trial on the perjury counts was the second in federal court for Gremillion in connection with the operations of the bankrupt LL&T.

Gremillion, state Rep. Salvatore Anzelmo and Ernest Bartlett Jr. of Fort Smith, Ark., former LL&T board chairman, all were acquitted last May 19 on charges of fraud and conspiracy.

GREMILLION WAS the only one tried in the perjury case. He was convicted of lying on Jan. 21, 1968, when he denied to a grand jury that he:

- Owned stock in LL&T.
- Had an "economic interest" in the corporation.
- Granted a proxy for his shares of

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LL&T stock at a shareholders' meeting July 11, 1967.

—Testified a \$700 check noted "Dividend No. 1," was a campaign contribution.

The fifth count contained a general charge of perjury without specific alle-

gations.

GREMILLION HAS remained free on bond since his conviction and ran for a fifth term in office in last November's Democratic primary.

Gremillion was eliminated in the first primary, finishing fourth in the voting.

His current term expires in May.