

DEC 18 1972

Gremillion Conviction Stands As Supreme Court Bars Hearing

Former State Atty. Gen. Jack P.F. Gremillion today lost a last-ditch appeal of his federal perjury conviction growing out of the Louisiana Loan and Thrift Co. (LL&T) case.

The U.S. Supreme Court, by an 8-0 vote, refused to consider Gremillion's contention that federal prosecutors had denied him the constitutional right to confront witnesses

against him during his trial in U.S. District Court here.

The former attorney general thus faces a three-year prison sentence imposed last January after his conviction for lying to a federal grand jury investigating operations of the bankrupt LL&T.

The conviction was upheld by the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. Gremillion took the case to the Supreme Court, contending the trial judge should not have admitted as evidence a company work sheet and a letter.

He also contended he was a victim of double jeopardy since he and three other men were found innocent of conspiracy in a separate LL&T case earlier.

Gremillion was defeated in his bid for a fifth consecutive

term in last year's first Democratic primary.

The perjury conviction grew out of Gremillion's sworn testimony he had no financial interest in the firm.

The Supreme Court decision, in which Justice Thurgood Marshall did not participate, was not accompanied by written comment. Gremillion was not available for comment.

A spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office here said it may be 30 to 40 days before the federal appeals court receives official certification of the Supreme Court decision and issues a mandate to the district court to execute the sentence.

Gremillion then would have as much as 120 days to seek a reduction in sentence, the spokesman said.