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CIA PHOTO WAS PHONY, SAYS DA

Garrison Hits Testimony Before Commission

Picture in Sec. 1, Page 3

District Attorney Jim Garrison Saturday took issue with U.S. Central Intelligence Agency testimony before the Warren Commission and charged the CIA gave the commission a fake photograph of Lee Harvey Oswald.

Garrison made the reply after the CIA, indirectly, denied a copyrighted story by the States-Item, that Oswald may have been acting as an undercover agent for the organization.

A CIA spokesman would not comment directly on the story, but referred reporters to CIA testimony before the commission in which they denied any connection with the accused slayer of President John F. Kennedy.

'RESERVES COMMENT'

"The testimony which the CIA gave the Warren Commission necessarily must be taken with a grain of salt," said Garrison.

Garrison said he wanted to "reserve comment" on the States-Item story "for the time being." Instead he challenged the CIA to produce what he said was an important photograph of Oswald which has been suppressed "for more than three years."

The district attorney said the CIA produced a "fake photograph" when the Warren Commission asked for a picture of Oswald and a Cuban companion leaving the Cuban embassy in Mexico City.

"When the Warren Commission asked for photographs of Oswald and his companion, the CIA presented the picture of a balding, stocky, middle-aged gentleman who obviously was neither Lee Oswald nor his com-

panion," charged Garrison.

'NEVER ADMITTED'

"During the Warren Commission testimony, the director and deputy director of the CIA were very careful never to mention that they had produced the wrong picture. That picture is now immortalized in the Warren Report as, photograph of an Unidentified Man."

According to Garrison, Oswald and the Cuban with whom he was photographed in Mexico a few days before Kennedy's assassination were "seen frequently together in New Orleans and Dallas in November of 1963."

Continuing, Garrison charged, "It is perfectly obvious that the reason the true picture of Oswald and his companion was withheld and a fake picture substituted, was because one or both of these men were working for agencies of the United States government here in the summer of 1963."

Garrison challenged the CIA to produce the "true picture."

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Comm. Exh. 237

COMMISSION EXHIBIT 237

EXHIBIT 237 of the Warren Commission report showing an "unidentified man" is called a "faked" picture by District Attorney Jim Garrison. (Story on Page 1.)

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