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JIM GARRISON, INVESTIGATOR INTO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION, DIES
NEW ORLEANS, OCT 21, REUTER - FORMER NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT
ATTORNEY JIM GARRISON, WHO PROMOTED THE CONSPIRACY THEORY IN THE
1963 ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, DIED HERE ON
WEDNESDAY, THE CORONER:S OFFICE SAID.

GARRISON, WHO WAS 71 YEARS OLD, DIED AT HOME OF NATURAL
CAUSES, SAID THE CORONER, DR FRANK MINYARD. HE SAID AN AUTOPSY
WOULD BE CONDUCTED ON THURSDAY.

GARRISON:S BOOK ABOUT THE NOVEMBER 22, 1963 ASSASSINATION
BECAME THE BASIS OF OLIVER STONE:S 1991 FILM

JFK,:: IN WHICH

THE NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY IS PORTRAYED AS A MAN WHO
WOULD DO ANYTHING TO GET AT THE TRUTH ABOUT KENNEDY:S KILLING.

THE FILM HAS BEEN CRITICISED FOR BLENDING FACT AND FICTION
BUT STIMULATED GREAT PUBLIC CURIOSITY ABOUT THE KILLING.

GARRISON, WHO CONDUCTED HIS OWN INVESTIGATION AFTER THE
ASSASSINATION, IS KNOWN FOR BEING THE ONLY PERSON EVER TO BRING
CHARGES IN KENNEDY:S SLAYING.

HIS CONSPIRACY CASE AGAINST NEW ORLEANS BUSINESSMAN CLAY
SHAW ENDED IN SHAW:S ACQUITTAL ON MARCH 1, 1969.

THE TRIAL, PROBING GARRISON:S CONTENTION THAT SHAW WAS PART
OF A WIDER GROUP THAT CONSPIRED TO KILL KENNEDY, WAS WIDELY
VIEWED AS A COURTROOM DISASTER.

BUT OVER THE YEARS MANY HAVE JOINED GARRISON IN REJECTING
THE OFFICIAL 1964 REPORT BY THE WARREN COMMISSION, WHICH SAID
THAT KENNEDY WAS KILLED BY LEE HARVEY OSWALD, ACTING ALONE.

STONE, WHO DIRECTED THE MUCH-DISCUSSED FILM, URGED CONGRESS
LAST APRIL TO MAKE PUBLIC SECRET GOVERNMENT MATERIAL ON THE
ASSASSINATION TO HELP RESOLVE CONSPIRACY THEORIES.

GARRISON ALSO EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT REOPENING AN
NVESTIGATION INTO THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION WOULD HAVE THE
SUPPORT OF A GREAT MANY AMERICANS.

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