

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.: _____
- Admin. _____
- Comp. Syst. _____
- Ext. Affairs _____
- Files & Com. _____
- Gen. Inv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Inspection _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Eval. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Training _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director Sec'y _____

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UP-041

(JFK ASSASSINATION)

NEW YORK (UPI) -- IN AN INTERVIEW IN 1969, FORMER PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON INDICATED HE WAS NEVER SATISFIED THAT LEE HARVEY OSWALD WAS ACTING WITHOUT FOREIGN INFLUENCE IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN KENNEDY.

"I CAN'T HONESTLY SAY THAT I'VE EVER BEEN COMPLETELY RELIEVED OF THE FACT THAT THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS," JOHNSON SAID IN AN INTERVIEW WITH CBS-TV IN SEPTEMBER, 1969.

JOHNSON SAID HE HAD CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY AND HONESTY OF THE WARREN COMMISSION THAT INVESTIGATED THE ASSASSINATION, BUT ADDED "...I DON'T THINK THAT THEY OR ME OR ANYONE ELSE IS ALWAYS ABSOLUTELY SURE OF EVERYTHING THAT MIGHT HAVE MOTIVATED OSWALD OR OTHERS THAT COULD HAVE BEEN INVOLVED."

CBS NEWSMAN WALTER CRONKITE THEN ASKED JOHNSON IF HIS SUSPICIONS INCLUDED POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT BY CUBA.

"OH, I DON'T THINK WE OUGHT TO DISCUSS THE SUSPICIONS BECAUSE THERE'S NOT ANY HARD EVIDENCE THAT WOULD LEAD ME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT OSWALD WAS DIRECTED BY A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT, OR THAT HIS SYMPATHIES FOR OTHER GOVERNMENTS COULD HAVE SPURRED HIM ON IN THIS EFFORT. BUT HE WAS QUITE A MYSTERIOUS FELLOW AND HE DID HAVE CONNECTIONS THAT BORE EXAMINATION ON THE EXTENT OF THE INFLUENCE OF THOSE CONNECTIONS ON HIM, AND I THINK HISTORY WILL DEAL WITH MUCH MORE THAN WE ARE ABLE TO NOW."

CBS SAID THAT PORTION OF AN EXTENDED INTERVIEW WITH JOHNSON WAS DELETED ORIGINALLY AT THE REQUEST OF THE FORMER PRESIDENT ON THE GROUNDS OF NATIONAL SECURITY.

THE NETWORK SAID IT DECIDED TO RELEASE THE CONVERSATION FOLLOWING REPORTS THIS WEEK BY NEWSPAPER COLUMNIST MARIANNE MEANS OF THE KING FEATURES SYNDICATE THAT JOHNSON HAD TOLD HER HE BELIEVED OSWALD WAS "EITHER UNDER THE INFLUENCE OR THE ORDERS" OF PREMIER FIDEL CASTRO OF CUBA.

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NOT RECORDED

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