

# Gonzalez to ask reopening of probe into death of JFK

By FRANK TAGGART  
Times Herald Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez of San Antonio will ask Congress to reopen the investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Gonzalez in an interview with the Times Herald, said he feels a new investigation is justified in light of recent revelations that the Central Intelligence Agency was involved in legally questionable domestic operations.

"I am not going to say that the CIA itself was directly involved, but if there exists even a small possibility that CIA agents or individuals connected with the agency were involved, then that possibility should be thoroughly investigated because such individuals would be in a position to have carried out the assassination of the president," he said.

The 58-year-old House Democrat said he will introduce legislation within two weeks to establish a special congressional committee, similar to the Senate Watergate Committee to restudy the assassination of Kennedy and perhaps others, including Sen. Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the attack on Alabama Gov. George Wallace.

"A large body of scholarly and responsible people throughout the country have raised serious questions regarding aspects surrounding the Kennedy assassination," Gonzalez said.

"The nation's psyche has been traumatized by a series of almost unbelievable events, beginning in 1953 with the assassination."

"I believe it is the duty of Congress to tell the American people the truth about these events," he said, adding that he felt Congress so far had failed to assume its moral obligation in this matter.

Gonzalez said he has not yet decided on the mechanics of his legislation.

He said it could take the form of a joint resolution in the House and Senate, a House bill with a number of cosponsors or a piece of legislation on his own. Gonzalez said that before deciding on the form he will meet with about 20 fellow House members who have shown some interest in his idea.

He said he thought an investigation of President Kennedy's Dallas death a decade after the fact could be conducted "more seriously, soberly and with less emotion" than the investigation by the Warren Commission, appointed by former President Lyndon B. Johnson in November 1963.

The Warren report, published in 1964, concluded: "All of the evidence before the commission established that there was nothing to support the speculation that Oswald was an agent, employee or informant of the FBI, the CIA or any other governmental agency."

The report also stated: "In its entire investigation, the commission has found no evidence of conspiracy, subversion or disloyalty to the U.S. government by any federal, state or local official ... Oswald acted alone."

However, Gonzalez said he began to have "serious doubts" about the thoroughness of the Warren Commission's findings as the result of Watergate testimony regarding CIA-related activities.

The 13-year veteran of Congress said his concern about possible CIA and FBI involvement in the Kennedy assassination was heightened during the Watergate investigation when in August 1973 it was revealed that acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray had destroyed official files and documents relating to Watergate.

By late 1973, Gonzalez said, he had come up with enough serious questions to convince him the investigation into Kennedy's death should be reopened.

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