

Officials Rapped In Oswald Death

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (UPI) —Former California Gov. Goodwin Knight Sunday was critical of the Dallas police force in connection with the shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald. Knight said the accused presidential assassin was "still entitled to a fair trial and protection."

DN-4/25
"One of the great fundamentals of American justice which John Kennedy many times praised and worked for was violated during the last two days in Dallas," Knight told United Press International.

He said the shooting was "most regrettable."

"Apparently the evidence against Oswald was overwhelming, but under our great system of American justice he was still entitled to a fair trial and he was still entitled to protection."

Knight accused the Dallas district attorney, chief of police and other officials of "trying Oswald via television and newspapers when they should have been directing their attention toward gathering the evidence and making sure that the accused would face a trial."

"This is a crime of the century," said Knight, "yet because of the carelessness of these officials in Dallas the American people will now forever be denied the whole truth of the assassination."

He said people in the United States should not forget that "we have condemned violence and fake trials in Russia, but because of either carelessness or the eagerness of these officials in Dallas to get before television cameras they have made serious blunders in administration of justice."

Knight said the purpose of his statements was not to criticize individuals but offer a "hope that this double tragedy will never be repeated."