

WARREN BOARD WANTS TO SEE FBI EVIDENCE

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By a Washington Correspondent
of the Post-Dispatch

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 — The special commission investigating the assassination of President John F. Kennedy is asking for documentation to support the skeleton reports it has received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of State.

Chief Justice Earl Warren, chairman of the commission, disclosed the action after the group held its third session, a two-hour closed meeting yesterday.

The seven-member commission, as it has in the past, made only a brief report of its actions.

Warren said the next session probably would not be held until after Christmas.

Reports in 'Skeleton Form'

The Chief Justice described the FBI report and the State Department report, which reached the group yesterday noon, as "merely summary reports of what happened in more or less skeleton form."

"It is essential to our work to have the materials on which the reports are based," he said. "We are formally requesting these materials from the agencies."

Warren said the materials would include interviews and official reports, but probably no physical evidence. He specifically excluded guns and bullets said to have figured in the shooting of the President and the later killing of the man suspected of assassinating him.

No Need for Guns, Bullets

"We don't need possession of guns and bullets," Warren said. "We can see them if we want to."

He said that such items should not be handled too much.

John J. McCloy, one of the commission members, interjected that the commission would want to look at such pieces of

Physical Evidence

As to the substance of the commission's inquiry, Warren said the group believed that "no statement of any kind at this particular moment" would serve a useful purpose.

Earlier, the Chief Justice had said the group might issue a summary report after going over the FBI report. He did not rule that out as a later possibility.

The seven members met in a second-floor conference room in the National Archives building where they had met before. Former Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed entered with Chief Justice Warren and commission counsel J. Lee Rankin of New York, who was solicitor general in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Administration.

It was understood that Reed administered an oath of office to members of the commission. He came out of the room after five minutes.

When the meeting broke up, reporters were admitted and Warren made a brief report of what had been accomplished.

He said that the commission had acquired quarters on the fourth floor of the Veterans of Foreign Wars building, near the Supreme Court, and would have a files expert, additional lawyers and a secretarial staff.

He said the commission had had a chance to read the reports received from the State Department. It was thought that they might include a Soviet report on the activities, in a visit to the Soviet Union, of Lee Harvey Oswald, who was killed when in custody as a suspect in the assassination.

Subpena Power

Since the commission's earlier meetings, Dec. 5 and 6, Congress has given it power to subpoena witnesses. At its first session, the commission voted to seek subpoena power and approved the wording of the resolution at its second meeting. Congress adopted a joint resolution providing the power, and President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the resolution Saturday.

The commission has not indicated whether it will use the subpoena power and conduct its own investigation or whether it will merely analyze and pass judgment on reports by the FBI, the Secret Service and other agencies.