

SIX-PHASE INQUIRY ON ASSASSINATION CHARTED BY PANEL

Aides Chosen for Detailed Study of Kennedy Slaying and Security Agencies

NY-112
By ANTHONY LEWIS
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11—The staff of the commission investigating President Kennedy's assassination has divided its job into six broad areas of inquiry.

One covers every detail of Lee Oswald's activities on the day of the assassination, Nov. 22. Oswald was charged with the crime.

A second topic is the life and background of Oswald—an attempt to reconstruct his associations and ideas and psychology.

Oswald's career in the Marine Corps and his stay in the Soviet Union will be handled separately as a third.

His murder in the Dallas police station will be the fourth subject, including all the controversial questions of how it was allowed to happen.

Fifth will be the story of Jack Ruby, the nightclub operator who slipped into the police station and shot Oswald. This will be a particularly delicate subject because of possible conflict with Ruby's trial.

Study of Agencies

Finally, the staff will inquire exhaustively into the procedures used to protect President Kennedy. This will involve a scrutiny of the performances of the Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Dallas police, as well as the influence, if any, of hate movements in the Dallas community.

The commission's counsel, J.

Lee Rankin, outlined the plan in an interview.

He said it was clear to him now that the job could not be done in a matter of weeks, but he still hoped the inquiry could be finished three to six months from now. He recognized the importance of not letting it drag on.

The commission realizes that the country wants to be sure of the facts," Mr. Rankin said. "The first thing is to do the job right. The second is to do it as quickly as possible."

New Name to Be Added

A senior lawyer assisted by a younger man will handle each of the six inquiry subjects. Mr. Rankin himself will have charge of one topic, and a group of distinguished lawyers from around the country has been gathered for the other senior posts.

The commission announced four of these senior appointments today, and a fifth is expected to follow shortly. The four named today, all men in active practice, are:

Francis W. H. Adams of New York, 59 years old. He was Police Commissioner in New York City in 1954-55.

Joseph A. Ball of Los Angeles, 61 years old, a leading criminal lawyer, a member of the Supreme Court's Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and a professor at the University of Southern California Law School.

William T. Coleman Jr. of Philadelphia, 43, a law clerk to Justice Felix Frankfurter in 1948-49. Mr. Coleman is a Negro.

Albert E. Jenner Jr. of Chicago's, 56, vice chairman of the National Joint Committee on the Administration of Justice.

The commission also listed the following five younger men from around the country who will join the legal staff:

David W. Belli of Des Moines, 35; Burt W. Griffin of Cleveland, 31; W. David Slawson of Denver, 32; Arlen Specter of Philadelphia, 33, and Samuel A. Stern of Washington, 34.

These younger lawyers were all high in their law school classes, Mr. Rankin said, and have already had a variety of achievements. Mr. Specter is chief of the litigation division of the Philadelphia District Attorney's office. Mr. Stern was once a law clerk to Chief Justice Earl Warren, who heads the commission.

In addition, Prof. Norman Redlich of the New York University Law School will serve as Mr. Rankin's personal assistant. He is 38 years old.

All these lawyers have agreed to serve on as nearly a full-time basis as possible. The younger men are expected to give up all private affairs. The senior lawyers, it is understood, will have to continue some private practice.

Like Mr. Rankin himself, all will be paid as consultants out of the President's contingency fund. The exact fees have not been set, but the maximum allowable is \$100 a day.

Mr. Rankin said the commission expected to have recommendations as well as factual findings—recommendations, for example, on how better to protect Presidents in the future and how to handle explosive criminal cases like Oswald's without endangering fair trial and, as it happened, life.

"We think it would be wise," Mr. Rankin said, "to reassure this country and the world not only that we can protect our President but that accused criminals can be treated fairly."

Mr. Rankin said there was no intention to appoint a lawyer to act in Oswald's behalf as a kind of defense counsel. This had been suggested by, among others, Mark Lane, a former New York Assemblyman.

"The commission is not engaged in determining the guilt of anybody," Mr. Rankin said. "It is a fact-finding body."

He also emphasized that the commission would take every precaution to assure fairness in any hearings it holds. These hearings will be closed to the public.

A first hearing is expected to be held later this month to take the testimony of Oswald's Russian-born wife, Marina, who has not talked to the press since the tragedy.

Mr. Rankin said there was no present intention to hire private investigators. Instead the commission will rely primarily on Government investigative agencies for any further checking needed. But Mr. Rankin said that there would be no shying away from intensive scrutiny of these same agencies' performance.