

F. B. I. Chief Sees a Limit On Guard for President

By ANTHONY LEWIS
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WASHINGTON, Oct. 2—J. Edgar Hoover warned the Warren Commission against tightening protection of the President to the point where the nation would have "totalitarian security." "I don't think you can get absolute security without almost establishing a police state," he said, "and we don't want that." Portions of the testimony of the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were printed in The Washington Evening Star today. It was generally believed here that Mr. Hoover

Excerpts from testimony by Hoover are on Page 16.

or an aide had made the material available in an effort to rebut criticism of the bureau in the Warren report.

The report said the bureau had taken "an unduly restrictive view of its role in preventive intelligence work" before President Kennedy's assassination last Nov. 22.

It said a wiser view might have led the bureau to warn the Secret Service about Lee Harvey Oswald, who the commission concluded was the assassin.

Some criticize Warren

This conclusion is known to have stung Mr. Hoover and other F. B. I. officials severely. They regarded it as unfair, and some said privately that they thought Chief Justice Earl Warren, the commission chairman, had an animus against the bureau.

The commission report was unanimously agreed to by the seven members. The passage on the bureau conceded that it was written with the benefit of "hindsight." And brief note was made of the dangers of too sweeping security measures.

Mr. Hoover's testimony was going to be made public shortly in any event, along with the many other volumes of commission transcript. The feeling was that this advance leak was designed to produce a quicker and better-publicized response.

A bureau spokesman, asked whether any official had made the transcript available to The

Star, said, "I do not think so." "I don't know just where it came from," he added.

Makes 2 Points

In his testimony, which he gave on May 14, Mr. Hoover made two main points that related to the commission's subsequent criticism of the bureau.

One was that total preventive security for the President would mean rounding up all conceivably suspect persons in a city he was to visit, or placing them under house arrest. This, Mr. Hoover said, would be intolerable.

Secondly, he contended that information available on Oswald did not indicate that he was a potential assassin. He said the bureau had seen a "report of the State Department that indicated this man was a thoroughly safe risk."

The State Department issued a statement this evening saying that a thorough search of its files disclosed no document that had made or implied any such finding on Oswald.

Embassy Report

Mr. Hoover's testimony indicated that he was referring to a report of the American embassy in Moscow concerning Oswald's change of mind about defecting to the Soviet Union and his request to come back to the United States.

Asked for his estimate of Oswald's motives, he replied that Oswald was "no doubt a dedicated Communist." But Mr. Hoover discounted any claim that Oswald was a Soviet agent or had been acting on behalf of the U. S. S. R.

He said he thought Oswald

should have been allowed to renounce this citizenship at once when he made his one attempt in Moscow, and then not allowed to return.

On the question of what had been known about Oswald in Dallas before the assassination, Mr. Hoover emphasized — as the commission report showed — that no one except his wife had known Oswald had shot at former Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker.

No Hint of Violence

At the time, Mr. Hoover said, "we found no indication at all that Oswald was a man addicted to violence."

On the broader question of what precautionary measures could be taken when a President is visiting a city, Mr. Hoover took a position notably sensitive to civil liberties.

He said that during a recent president trip to Chicago, local police had taken a list of names supplied by the F. B. I. and had held those persons "almost in a huge arrest."

He saw a severe danger that local police would resolve all risks in the favor of tighter security and keep anyone on a Secret Service list, however broadly defined, in his house until after the President had left town.

"That is what you would call totalitarian security," Mr. Hoover said.

Denial by Chicago Police

Special to The New York Times

CHICAGO, Oct. 2—Superintendent of Police O. W. Wilson said that to his knowledge no person had been placed under arrest by his men during President Johnson's visit to Chicago on April 23 and 24.

"We received names from the Secret Service of potential security risks to be watched during the President's visit and we did," Mr. Wilson said. "But nothing was done to embarrass any of these persons."

The superintendent said he had received a letter from Jams J. Rowley, chief of the Secret Service, commending the Chicago police for their work during the President's visit.