

OSWALD FINDINGS DOUBTED ABROAD

U.S. Reports Many Papers
Reject the Conclusion That

Assassin Acted Alone

NY 10/3/64
By MAX FRANKEL

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2—The finding that one man, without conspiracy, assassinated President Kennedy has evoked widespread skepticism and outright disbelief in many newspapers throughout the world.

Editorial comment overseas on the Warren Commission's report has varied greatly, not only between the political left and right in various countries but also from country to country.

The most approving and trusting comment occurred in the nations of the British Commonwealth, in Scandinavia and West Germany. The press of Latin, Arab and Communist countries was the most doubtful.

That summary of press reaction was issued today by the United States Information Agency. Interest in the Warren Commission's findings remains great, the agency said, and other surveys will be made later.

Excerpts of Text Printed

The conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald alone was responsible for the murder of the President and that Jack L. Ruby acted alone in killing Oswald received heavy and prominent news coverage in most countries.

Many newspapers were said to have printed extensive selections of the text of the commission's report.

Editorial comment was extensive in Western Europe and in most of the Near East and South Asia. It was moderate to heavy in Latin America, light in the Far East and sparse in Africa.

The following is a summary of U.S.I.A.'s report by regions:

In Western Europe, the Communist and pro-Communist press bluntly condemned the report as a whitewash. Other pa-

pers tended to follow country rather than party lines in their assessments.

In most countries, notably Britain, Germany and Scandinavia, most papers endorsed the Warren Commission findings. In France, and to a slightly lesser extent in Belgium and Austria, critical questioning or rejection were predominant.

There is little evidence that the commission's findings have forced any real change of view among those papers that originally entertained conspiracy theories. Supporters as well as critics of the report noted the difficulty that Europeans have in accepting the assassination as the work of one man.

In Latin America, the integrity of the commission was rarely doubted, but its findings were doubted and rejected as well as accepted in the non-Communist press. Many doubts remain.

There are numerous references to Bertrand Russell's

charges that facts were suppressed. The most frequent theme is that many remain unconvinced and that history will have to provide the definitive account.

In the Near East and South Asia, only the Indian press largely accepted the finding that Oswald and Ruby acted alone. Arab and Pakistani papers still favored theories of conspiracy. Most Egyptian papers, however, withheld comment.

Many Greek papers used question marks in their headlines to encourage doubt. Most commentators felt that a mystery remained and might never be resolved.

In the Far East, only light comment followed heavy news coverage and it varied sharply between Commonwealth and other Asian nations. There was skepticism in Japan, doubt about the effectiveness of the commission's argument in the Philippines and critical comment in one Cambodian paper.

In Africa comment was sparse but generally approving except in Ghana, where the commission was accused of "shocking" efforts to "suppress the facts."

In the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe the press gave wide publicity to the Warren Commission's report but questioned its validity, suggesting that it had failed to reveal the truth.

Some accounts linked the report to the American election campaign. Yugoslav reaction was generally milder and mixed.