

EXPANSION SOUGHT FOR F.B.I. ACADEMY

NY 5/27/65
Katzbach Tells Graduates
of \$10 Million Request

WASHINGTON, May 26 (AP)—The confusion that followed President Kennedy's assassination, from a quarrel over removing his body to the fatal shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald, was reviewed today at a House Judiciary subcommittee hearing on corrective legislation.

Representative Hale Boggs, Democrat of Louisiana, and Gerald R. Ford Jr., Republican of Michigan, members of the commission that investigated the assassination, strongly backed legislation that would enable Federal authorities to take charge immediately in such cases.

Oswald was in the custody of Dallas officers when he was killed. Mr. Ford said that J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, had told the commission that, if the F.B.I. had had jurisdiction, it would have taken charge of Oswald "and I do not believe he would have been killed."

Mr. Ford said the commission had been amazed to find that no notes had been kept on the interrogation of Oswald, the assassin. He quoted Mr. Hoover as saying that better interrogation might have brought a confession and averted the continuing speculation about the crime.

Mr. Ford also said that the commission had reviewed radio and television statements made by local officials. Members of the commission felt these were so prejudicial to Oswald that they would have seriously embarrassed the prosecution if it had been possible to bring him

had been possible to bring him to trial, Mr. Ford declared.

Both Mr. Ford and Mr. Boggs referred to the scene in the Parkland Memorial Hospital when a local official tried to block the removal of Mr. Kennedy's body until an autopsy could be performed. Mr. Boggs said it was "only on the direct order of the new President that President Kennedy's body was put aboard Air Force 1," the Presidential plane.

Mr. Ford asserted that the "embarrassing and disagreeable scene" at the hospital had threatened "a delay of hours or possibly days at a time when the Presidential party was trying to return as quickly as possible to Washington, both for the safety of President Johnson and for the comfort of Mrs. Kennedy."

Mr. Boggs said it was fortunate that Gov. John B. Connally Jr. of Texas, who was seriously wounded, had agreed to consolidate the state and Federal investigative efforts. "Otherwise, we could have had a half dozen investigations going on around the country, with all the speculation that would have involved," he said.

In addition to Mr. Ford, the House Republican leader, and Mr. Boggs, the assistant Democratic leader, a number of House members testified in favor of various versions of the legislation to make it a Federal crime to kill, assault or kidnap a President or anyone in line of Presidential succession.

The Administration version would provide penalties up to death for murder, life imprisonment for kidnapping and 15 years' imprisonment for assault. The Attorney General would be authorized to pay up to \$100,000 for information leading to the apprehension of the guilty person. The principal effect, however, would be to vest immediate and exclusive jurisdiction in Federal officials. END