

16
TCT Report + Hoover's Notification

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State's Report on Kennedy Assassination Made Public

By JON FORD

EXPRESS-NEWS AUSTIN BUREAU
AUSTIN — Atty. Gen. Warren Carr, in a Supplemental Report on the Assassination of President Kennedy, Monday lapped FBI failure to provide local police with advance information Lee Harvey Oswald was in Dallas.

Carr presented his 5,000-word summary report, supported by 11 thick volumes of supporting statements, pictures and other exhibits, to Gov. John Connally. He said it was designed to supplement the federal Warren Commission report and "show how the people of Texas shouldered their responsibility in the investigation" of Kennedy's assassination and the wounding of Connally last Nov. 22 in Dallas.

The attorney general concurred fully in the Warren Commission conclusion that Oswald acted alone, and not as a part of any conspiracy, assassinated Kennedy, wounded Connally and later killed Dallas police officer J. D. Tippit.

He also agreed with the commission finding there was no connection between Oswald and Jack Ruby, who shot Oswald to death Nov. 24 in Dallas jail basement.

Press Criticized

Carr criticized over-zealous news coverage of the early investigation, Oswald's arrest and Ruby's trial. He said law enforcement agencies should devise better channels for exchanging information on criminal and subversive suspects and recommend improved security measures for high officials and guests.

The attorney general further acknowledged deficiencies in Dallas police security for Oswald

wald following his arrest and questioned free comments of police officers and prosecuting attorneys to news reporters on "facts and legal issues before arraignment or indictment of suspects."

He said he called off his earlier plans for a Texas court of inquiry into the assassination and instead worked closely with the federal investigation at request of Warren Commission Chairman Earl Warren, chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. The decision, he said, proved a sound one because the course followed avoided duplication of effort and expense and offered "definite investigative advantages," as the federal commission had broader powers than state agencies.

Recommendations

Carr offered these recommendations as the result of his own study, and Connally concurred:

• That representatives of the State Bar, news media, local and state officials "take steps to establish a fair and satisfactory working relationship designed to prevent future disorder and confusion in pretrial activities, deficiencies in security for prisoners, as well as to improve judicial ethics in criminal trials."

• That federal, state and local law enforcement agencies conduct "a thorough study for the improvement of coordination

and exchange of information concerning criminal or subversive suspects and recommend ways and means of improving security measures for the protection of the President, other high officials and distinguished guests while visiting our state."

Believed Complete

"So far as is known to me, or my special counsel," Carr said, "there are no untapped sources of information in the assembling of all material facts pertaining to the assassination."

The report, exhibits, clothing worn by Connally when he was shot by Oswald and an article from the packing case on which Oswald's rifle rested during the assassination will be placed on display in the State Archives.

"Immediately following the arrest of Lee Harvey Oswald and after the arrest of Jack Ruby, the orderly procedures of the rule of law were placed under severe strain and unusual demands in three particulars," Carr's report stated.

News media, he said, "virtually took charge of Dallas City Hall entrances, hallways and public rooms, stringing miles of wires and cables and setting up cameras and other equipment."

Chaos Feared

"The city manager and chief of police," the report said, "concluded that if an attempt

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Page 2-A

San Antonio Express

San Antonio, Texas

62-109060-
Sept. 11, 1964
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had been made to remove the news media and their equipment, hard feelings and chaos would have resulted."

Local officials, Carr said, are aware of their mistakes but they should not be expected to bear full responsibility for tragic events of last November.

"They had no knowledge whatever of Oswald and his background until after the assassination on Nov. 22, when they were advised of his presence in Dallas and his past activities by federal authorities," the report stated.

Carr, in a press conference, pointed to a "noticeable lack of communication between the FBI, which knew Oswald was in Dallas, and the police who had no such information."

Special Counsel Leon Jaworski of Houston and Dean Robert G. Storey of Dallas, who assisted Carr in the report, underscored that the FBI had a file on Oswald's activities in Russia and on behalf of Fidel Castro but did not tell Dallas police he was in the city until after the assassination.

"Not . . . Violent"

Jaworski said an FBI agent explained that Oswald was "not regarded as potentially violent."

"Mass media coverage of the verdict of the jury was allowed, with permission of the court, in the Ruby trial," the report continued; and the opportunity was provided for the leading defense counsel to seize the microphones from cooperative news media in the courtroom and, in a vindictive manner, castigate the jury, judiciary, and the city of Dallas, with discredit to himself and the legal profession, of which he is a member.

Letters in a correspondence file submitted along with the report show there was some friction on two occasions between the Texas attorney general and the Warren Commission.

On Feb. 4, he threatened to revive his plans for a Texas court of inquiry after the commission failed to notify him of its meeting to take testimony from Mrs. Marina Oswald, widow of the accused assassin.

Again, on Aug. 14, he expressed concern that the commission might not keep a commitment to let him and his special counsel study its proposed final draft before its release.

The disagreement in both cases was smoothed out, and Carr was provided advance copies of the report.

"We just insisted they live by their agreement," Carr told reporters. "We had no trouble with them at all."

Avenues Explored

"As I have been able to determine," Carr stated in the report, "the Warren Commission has explored fully all available avenues of information and has left no stone unturned in an effort to ascertain the full truth."

The correspondence file reflects that Dallas Police Chief Jesse E. Curry was called on by the commission to explain why he did not call to its attention until April 22 the FBI's Nov. 22 notification that Oswald was in Dallas.

Curry, in an answering letter, related a sequence of events in which he maintained FBI Special Agent Gordon Shanklin, head of the Dallas office, asked him to retract a statement to the press about the report.

He said he then altered his statement, telling reporters he had no personal knowledge the FBI knew of Oswald's presence and adding the federal agency was under no obligation to pass on such information to Dallas police if they had it.

The police chief said he decided, after the Warren Commission was appointed, to present personally to the investigators a full report on the FBI data — which he did in April.

FBI Special Agent James P. Hosty Jr. reportedly passed on the information about Oswald at 2:50 p.m. Nov. 22 to Police Lt. Jack Revill. A statement from Revill in the correspondence file said Hosty told him the FBI had information that Oswald "was capable of committing the assassination of President Kennedy."

Carr said he would convene a court of inquiry any time it appears further investigation is needed, but sees no present necessity for such a proceeding.

Probers Lauded

Connally commended Carr and the special counsel for a "superb" job on the report.

Carr indicated he feels the recommended meeting of law enforcement agencies should be "coordinated by state authorities."

Connally said he sees no reason agencies could not meet on their own and agree on better methods of information exchange.

The governor said Col. Homer Garrison Jr., director of the state Department of Public Safety, works in close cooperation with local and federal authorities and has told him that passing on information to federal agencies is "something of a one-way street."

Carr said he has enough copies of the summary report for free distribution to the public on request to his office. One copy of all the data goes in the Archives, one to Connally, one each to the special counsel and one will be retained in the attorney general's files.



STATE'S REPORT—Atty. Gen. Waggoner Carr holds the 20-page summary of the Texas Supplemental Report on the Assassination of President Kennedy. —UPI Telephoto.