

University Trustees Sidestep Action On Kennedy Critic

URBANA, Ill. (AP) —Trustees of the University of Illinois made no move today to unseat a professor who sharply criticized the late President Kennedy, but adopted a report condemning the teacher's lack "of good taste."

The anti-Kennedy remarks were published by Prof. Revilo P. Oliver, 54, a classicist, in the John Birch Society magazine, American Opinion.

He wrote that Kennedy may have been assassinated because he ceased to be useful to a Communist conspiracy to overthrow the United States.

The trustees voted 8-1 to approve the report. They have final jurisdiction concerning Oliver's professional status.

Oliver had no comment immediately.

Ruby Attorney Draws ABA Chief's Fire

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — Walter E. Craig, president of the American Bar Association (ABA) said Wednesday attorney Melvin Belli was guilty of flagrant disregard of the legal profession's code of ethics in his remarks following the Jack Ruby murder trial.

Craig made the statement in conjunction with a speech to the bar association of San Francisco, Belli's home town.

The ABA president revealed that complaints of unethical conduct against Belli had been received by ABA headquarters in Chicago. He said the complaints were being referred to the association's committee on professional grievances for investigation.

Craig said Belli "in his unrestrained comments on the trial of Jack Ruby in Dallas — which have been widely broadcast and reported — the chief counsel for the defendant made intemperate and abusive statements about the trial court and the entire Dallas community.

"The effect was to question the integrity of the court and jury."

Craig said "the canons of ethics provide that the lawyer having any justified reasons against a member of the judiciary should lodge that grievance with the appropriate authorities and not indulge in public defamation."

"Mr. Belli should know this," Craig said. "That he should so flagrantly disregard the code of professional ethics, and his oath as an attorney, is a discredit to him and to his profession."

The ABA president said "the first duty of every lawyer is to maintain a respectful attitude toward the court. That rule is imposed not for the sake of the temporary incumbent of the judicial office but for the maintenance of its supreme importance."

He certainly didn't violate this precept when he was the Commission "Watchdog"