

LBJ Mulls New JFK Quiz

By ROBERT S. ALLEN and PAUL SCOTT

WASHINGTON — For the first time since the Warren Commission published its findings, President Johnson is seriously considering designating a federal agency to receive and examine any new evidence turned up on the assassination of President Kennedy.

Under a proposal discussed in the White House, the Justice Department, with FBI assistance, would be empowered to study and pass on new information.

Authority for such a review and the issuing of reports and findings by the Justice Department would be included in an executive order to be issued by the President. This order, it has been suggested, might be promulgated in connection with the National Freedom of Information Act enacted by Congress last year and due to become effective July 4.

THIS LAW requires the President to determine which of the still-classified records of the Warren Commission on file at the National Archives should be made available to the public.

Approximately two-thirds of the commission's estimated 28,000 documents have been declassified since it published its findings on Sept. 28, 1964. The remaining one-third, which includes several hundred documents believed to have significant news value, are still barred from public scrutiny.

As interpreted by the Justice Department, under the new law government documents can be kept secret only if the President rules that is necessary "in the interest of national defense or foreign policy."

Pending decision on what to do about the proposed plan, the President has asked Attorney General Ramsey Clark to review the still - unpublished Warren



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Commission documents and recommend which should be declassified.

THE PRESIDENT also plans to discuss the proposal with the seven members of the Warren Commission. One of them, Congressman Hale Boggs, D-La., has suggested that Attorney General Clark examine the X-rays of President Kennedy's body made at the time of the autopsy.

It has been charged that the Warren Commission did not study these X-rays. This is flatly denied by Boggs, Senator John Sherman Cooper, R-Ky., and other members. They say emphatically the commission did have the X-rays and examined them.

Under arrangements between the Kennedy family and the Justice Department, the X-rays and other photographs taken during the autopsy for a five-year period can only be seen by "persons authorized to act for a congressional committee or governmental agency vested with authority to investigate the assassination."

In discussions at the White House, the President has been urged to have Clark, a trusted personal friend, study the X-rays and advise him what should be done regarding them.

AT THE President's request, the attorney general also is keeping him informed on the assassination inquiry being conducted by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison.

Among the Warren Commission documents awaiting the President's decision on whether they should be declassified is a file submitted by the Mexican government covering its investigation of Oswald's visit to Mexico City before the assassination.

Some of the material from the Mexican government is included in the published report of the commission. But one document dealing with Oswald's visit to the Cuban embassy in Mexico City is still secret.

He went there to try to get a visa to Cuba, but without success.

Reportedly, this document relates that Oswald showed to a Senora Silvia Tirado de Duran, a Mexican citizen employed at the Cuban embassy, a membership card in the Communist Party.

THIS COMMUNIST Party card reputedly was found among Oswald's possessions after his arrest. If it actually exists, it has never been made public.

At the time of the commission hearings, Arnold S. Johnson, an official in the American Communist Party, who visited Moscow only last October, voluntarily testified under oath that Oswald was not a member.

Among published Warren Commission records are a number of identification items that Oswald had with him on his trip to Mexico City seeking a visa to Cuba. They include:

A Spanish-English dictionary; an address and telephone number book; his 1963 passport and the one he used to go to Russia in the late '50s; his correspondence with the Communist Party and the Soviet embassy in Washington, some of it in Russian; marriage papers; newspaper clippings concerning his arrest in New Orleans for activities in behalf of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee; and work cards given him as a defector in Russia.

THIRD PARTY—Stokely Carmichael, militant "black power" leader, in a little-publicized speech in Montreal, declared, "The time has come for Negroes to organize a third party to form a solid base from which to negotiate. People say we can't do it because it has never worked in America. They say it will lead to black isolation. In fact, quite the reverse will be true. When the black man can negotiate from a position of political power, the chances of his being able to make a meaningful alliance on specific issues will be increased."

NOT THE NATIONAL INTEREST
DISINTERESTED PARTY