

May 18, 1967

A CBS NEWS INQUIRY: "THE WARREN REPORT"

TO BE BROADCAST ON SUCCESSIVE NIGHTS, JUNE 25-26-27

Each Major Point of Controversy Will Be Examined, New Evidence Presented, and Conclusions Reached

A CBS NEWS INQUIRY: "The Warren Report," an examination of the major questions raised by critics of the Official Report on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, will be broadcast on three consecutive evenings at the same hour, <u>Sunday</u>, <u>June 25</u>, <u>Monday</u>, <u>June 26</u> and <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>June 27</u> (10:00-11:00 PM, EDT), in color on the CBS Television Network.

CBS News Correspondents Walter Cronkite and Dan Rather, and Eddie Barker, news director of KRLD-TV, Dallas-Fort Worth, are the reporters.

(Note to editors: The CBS NEWS INQUIRY pre-empts regular programming on these three dates.)

The broadcast will review the Warren Commission's findings about events before, during and after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald, and also the criticisms of these findings.

Each point of controversy will be examined by CBS News, including the investigation conducted by District Attorney James Garrison of New Orleans.

(More)

A special unit under executive producer Leslie Midgley has been at work for more than six months. The resulting broadcasts will contain filmed interviews, reconstructions of events and the findings of various tests and experiments conducted in many parts of the country.

Five months ago, Richard S. Salant, President of CBS News, announced that CBS News had been intensively re-examining the Warren Report and other information concerning the assassination of President Kennedy, but that no decision would be made concerning the broadcasting of the results of this re-examination unless, as the investigation proceeded, CBS News could determine that "it can contribute to public understanding and enlightenment."

"I did not feel," Salant said today, "that it would be useful simply to pit critics and defenders against each other in a debate, and felt special broadcasts were not justified unless CBS News could clarify the issues and relevant facts, and contribute to public understanding on the basis of an independent journalistic investigation. These broadcasts have now been set because of my conviction that CBS News can accomplish this objective."

"We have allotted three hours to this CBS NEWS INQUIRY because of the subject's size, detail and crucial importance," added Salant.

"Each major point of controversy has been examined in great detail; we have uncovered fresh material and we will present the conclusions of CBS News based on our analysis and investigations."

"We needed three hours to present the results of the six-monthlong inquiry," Salant continued, "but we feel that a three-hour broadcast in a single evening is too much to ask of the viewer's attention span for so complex and controversial a series of questions and issues."

Salant stated that "for this reason, we will, for the first time in network television history, deal with a subject on three successive prime-time broadcasts at the same hour each night. At the beginning of the second and third broadcasts, we will review briefly what has gone before."

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