

Baltimore Sun, Sunday November 24, 1963

ASSASSINATION SPURS FEAR

IN U.N. OF INTENSE "RACISM"

By Paul W. Ward, Sun Staff Correspondent

New York, Nov. 23--Not yet fully recovered from the shock of President Kennedy's death yesterday, United Nations Assembly delegates got another jolt on being told today that his assassination is now officially charged to a Marxist.

The representatives of 110 foreign governments gathered here for the Assembly's 1963 meeting had almost uniformly assumed until then that the assassin was a Southern segregationist or, as most of them would say, a "racist," and as such, a fanatical foe of President Kennedy's civil rights program.

Hopes Replaced By Fears

They also tended toward a general indulgence in hopeful speculations that the Dallas tragedy would create a tidal wave of emotion that would sweep into extinction all groups and organizations in this country which --in the words of a condemnatory "declaration" the Assembly adopted Wednesday with only South Africa dissenting--"promote or incite to racial discrimination."

Today, judged by what they were telling local representatives of their homelands' newspapers and radio stations, their hopeful speculations on that score had been replaced by fears that the Dallas tragedy will, instead, lead to an intensification of organized "racism" and related forms of "rightist extremism" in this country.

Their apprehensions even extended to predictions that the stressing by Dallas police authorities of the alleged assassin's Russian background and pro-Castro affiliations will lead to a renewal of rightist demands for a United States military invasion of Cuba and to an even more acute Soviet-American confrontation in the Caribbean than the one last fall.

File on Oswald

Guards at United Nations headquarters reported, meanwhile, that Lee Harvey Oswald, the alleged assassin being held at Dallas, was known to them as one of several pro-Castro, or "Fair Play for Cuba," demonstrators they had had to grab and throw off the premises in past years.

They also said a dossier, including photographs of him, was on file here. But confirmation was unobtainable in the absence tonight of any officer with authority to open the security files.

The majority of foreign delegates here tend to be not only distrustful of "Communist" or "Marxist" labels pinned upon the alleged assassin but also resentful of their use by "Rightists."

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Excerpt from story on same page as Paul Ward's report "Assassination Spurs Fear..."

Assassin Is Factor

A final factor may be the political sympathies of Mr. Kennedy's assassin. A State Department official stated flatly today that he had no information to connect Russia, Cuba, or any other foreign power with the murderer.

But it would still pose a serious propaganda problem for the East if the killer is established to be even a maverick Marxist.

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