

LAWYERS PONDER OSWALD EVIDENCE by Alan Levin

Edward Bennett Williams...today assailed the handling of the LHO case by the DP and said some of the evidence was open to challenge.

"I am not willing to accept evidence until it's tested under cross-examination," he said...Williams...said Dallas authorities had made a fair trial for the accused assassin virtually impossible by their repeated assertions that Oswald was guilty.

Emile Zola Berman...said that Oswald's ownership of the murder rifle seemed damning, but was not conclusive evidence. "Some other person could have used the weapon to kill the President and concealed his own fingerprints," he said...He added, "In effect I am saying that the presumption of innocence is the touchstone of our legal system. It alone sometimes prevails against circumstantial evidence."

Maurice Edelbaum, a noted criminal lawyer here, said the case against Oswald was strong, but added: "The main incongruity I see is the report of Oswald's swift descent from the sixth floor. The moment a policeman rushed into the building Oswald was there. Oswald may have been on the ground floor as lookout for somebody else and somebody else may have pulled the trigger."

Raymond Brown, head of the Hudson County NAACP and one of N.J.'s top criminal lawyers, had questions about Oswald's movements in the book warehouse... He questioned whether Oswald's staunch denials were not also significant.