

3 Congressmen Still Doubt Warren Verdict

By FRANK WINSTON
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Congressional leaders are launching new probes aimed at revealing the truth about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Thirteen out of 20 lawmakers interviewed by TATTLER said they are not satisfied with the facts that have been made public during the 10 years since the assassination.

Rep. Shirley Chisholm, D-N.Y., said she is drafting legislation to remove the executive seal placed on documents of the Warren Commission.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, who succeeded Kennedy, pasted the secret seal on a vast array of records, documents and physical evidence, to keep them in effect for as long as 75 years.

Mrs. Chisholm said the public should be given all the facts now.

"Any one member of Congress could raise this question," she said, "but it would be lost in the maze of committees. If all these members who say they want this type of information should be free and open will put their muscle where their mouths are, we might open these papers up."

More significantly, Mrs. Chisholm wants the assassination investigated anew by a special panel.

"IT SHOULD BE composed of people from all races, economic levels and political persuasions, and the most important factor is that they must all be free from any governmental pressure of political ambition."

Rep. Henry Gonzalez, D-Texas, told TATTLER he has launched his own probe into the tragedy.

He said he is trying to check the backgrounds of two men who figure prominently in the Watergate investigation.

There are two former members of the intelligence community who were cleared from their Watergate testimony they were capable of an act as cowardly as this and I have made many inquiries from the Library of Congress to the CIA to find out where they were in 1963," said the San Antonio Democrat.

Three Democratic congressmen — Ronald Dellums of California, Bella Abzug of New York and Walter Fauntroy of Washington, D.C. — told this reporter there has been an overt effort by the Washington power structure that followed the Kennedy regime to stymie any search for the real truth.

They said the political murders of John and Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King were an effort to eliminate the liberal leaders of America.

Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, D-Md., said a reopened investigation could be handled by a panel such as the House Judiciary Committee.

Rep. Edward Koch (D-N.Y.) and Rep. Ogden Reid, D-N.Y., said reasons might exist for reopening a probe of the assassination.

"As a long-time advocate of open government, I don't feel there is ever justification for sealing papers for 75 years," said Reid, a Republican-turned-Democrat.

APPARENTLY,
THE N.Y.T. REMAINS
A TRUE BELIEVER
FROM THE BELIN
REVIEW.

A THEOLOGICAL
POSITION.

"Now that 10 years have elapsed," he added, "they should at least be reviewed and declassified."

Rep. John Rousselot, R-Calif., said he, too, is a serious proponent of reopening an investigation of Kennedy's death.

CONGRESSIONAL FIGURES interviewed said they want to put to rest the numerous rumors and theories that a conspiracy might be involved in the assassination of Kennedy and the murder two days later of Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin.

Former Rep. John Schmitz, who ran for President for the American Party, said he conducted a personal investigation of the assassination.

He found "possible evidence that shots were fired from a storm drain as the motorcade approached," he told this newspaper.

There had been a rush to "clean up the case," he said. The investigation, he continued, was therefore slighted, "because a ready-made explanation was available in the person of Oswald."

Rep. Gerald Waldie, D-Calif., said he has found much public interest in a renewed investigation during his walking campaign for governor of California.

"I finally decided to ask 20 people how they felt about the question and I was amazed when they all agreed it had never been complete and needed to be reopened," Waldie said.

Rep. Jim Wright, the Texas Democratic moderate praised by President Kennedy in his last speech in Fort Worth, said he believes the Warren Commission did a commendable job in its investigation.

He said he would endorse a new investigation only if conclusive new evidence was turned up by qualified investigators.

Wright said he would oppose making public all of the Warren Commission materials - such as photographs of the dead Kennedy's head - because of the possibility of anguish to the Kennedy family.

Rep. Phillip Burton, D-Calif., said he believes the public has no right to any of the investigative material at any time unless the Kennedy family approves it.

Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., in a statement to TATTLER, said Senator Kennedy "should have full control of any release of the Warren Commission papers."

REP. LES ASPIN, D-Wis., said it would be frivolous to reopen the investigation.

Rep. Paul McCloskey, R-Calif., said he would have to talk with former Chief Justice Earl Warren before he would endorse revealing all the commission papers.

Rep. Barbara Jordan, D-Texas, said she is against a new investigation "because it would be too painful to me as a person to go through all that again."

Three California Democratic congressmen - Lionel Van Deerlin, George Danielson and Robert Leggett, said they would support legislation to open all the Warren Commission records.

(Ha Ha!)