

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

V. 74 No. 336 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1975 HOUSTON, TEX.

Carr Wants CLE

BY MARTIN RALBOVSKY

Chronicle Staff

Waggoner Carr, the chairman of the Texas Court of Inquiry into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, today called for a limited investigation by Congress into the possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald was connected with the FBI or CIA, but another member of the court, Leon Jaworski, Houston attorney, dissented.

Carr, former attorney general of Texas and head of the Court of Inquiry, wrote letters to U.S. Sens. John Tower, R-Tex., and Lloyd Benisen, D-Tex., urging the Senate Intelligence Committee to conduct a public investigation "to determine the truth" as to whether Oswald was connected with the FBI or CIA, or both.

But Jaworski, Court of Inquiry counsel in 1963-64, said.

"I don't know what he (Carr) is doing. I don't want to get into any crossfire with him, but I personally stand by the

conclusions of the Warren Commission report and our own Texas supplemental report.

"Read the supplemental report. It was carefully worded and checked. There are no doubts in it about Lee Harvey Oswald being the assassin. There is nothing in there to suggest that a conspiracy to assassinate the President existed.

"In fact, the Texas report confirms the conclusions of the Warren report in very strong language.

"He (Carr) is going to have to eat his own words. I don't have any suspicions today that anything in the Warren Report was wrong. I haven't seen anything since that might suggest that the conclusions of the report were in error.

"No, I am not in favor of reopening anything."

Jaworski is the former Watergate special prosecutor.

Robert Storey, Dallas attorney and the third member of the Texas Court of

Inquiry, is, according to his son, 81 years old, infirm and unable to talk.

Carr had recommended to the Warren Commission in January 1964 that the commission "comb the depths" of both agencies to find out if any agents, informant, undercover agent or spy in its ranks had any knowledge of Oswald. The commission, instead, he said, allowed the agencies to investigate themselves. The answer from both was no, Oswald was not connected with the CIA or FBI, Carr said.

Carr wrote:

"I strongly urge the Senate of the United States, through a proper committee such as the Senate Intelligence Committee, to conduct a thorough, independent and public investigation to determine the truth of (1) whether Oswald was connected in some way with the FBI or CIA, or (2) whether the FBI and/or CIA

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and/or Secret Service had advance information that Oswald was a threat to the life of the President."

Tower, a member of the Senate Select Committee investigating intelligence ac-



LEON JAWORSKI



WAGGONER CARR

tivities, chaired by Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, had voted against a resolution introduced by Sen. Richard Schweikert, R-Pa., to reopen an investigation of the John Kennedy assassination. Kennedy was slain Nov. 22, 1963.

Carr, now an attorney in Austin, said: "If your Senate investigation reveals past acts of perjury, false swearing, obstruction of justice, or other crimes, on the part of those testifying before the Warren Commission on these events, those who committed such acts should be dealt with as severely as those who committed like acts during the Nixon era."

Carr had told the Chronicle in recent interviews that he had been "frustrated" to this day because the Commission had failed to act upon his recommendations of January 1964. Those recommendations he said, were based on rumors and reports "all over Texas" that Oswald was in some way connected with the FBI, CIA or even both.

Of the 552 witnesses which the commission called, only two were connected with the CIA — its director and one of his assistants. The commission called only three FBI people from Dallas and one from Houston. At the time, Carr told the Chronicle, "I presumed the commission was taking statements, affidavits and depositions from FBI and CIA people from around the country. I found out later that wasn't true. It hadn't done that all."

In his letter to the senators, Carr also said:

"Do not be misled into thinking that people of this country are going to believe the result of a federal agency investigation of itself. It is a sad thing to say, but it is true, that we have been misled too many times in recent years. Buy that again. Credibility of such investigations will be largely restored in time, but it has not been attained at this time."

Carr continued: "Recently the Texas news media, resentful of the investigative reporting the Watergate mess, have revealed that the FBI, during the investigation of assassination, destroyed and covered the threatening letter it received from Oswald several days before the act; further, denies it had advance knowledge that Oswald was capable of killing President. This has now been confirmed by the present head of the FBI who is conducting his own investigation of his own agency."

Carr was referring to recent stories in the Chronicle and a Dallas newspaper. The Chronicle reported on Sept. 1 that Jesse Curry, chief of Dallas police, written a confidential, registered letter to Chief Justice Earl Warren on May 1964, in which he admitted covering for five months a statement from one of his lieutenants quoting an FBI agent saying the bureau not only knew Oswald, but knew he was capable of committing the crime.

The letter apparently was ignored by Warren and the coverup was not investigated by the Commission.

In concluding his letters to the senators, Carr wrote:

"Due to my previous responsibility in this matter while I was serving as Texas attorney general, I feel, as a citizen today, I must speak up. In a democratic country such as ours should never fear the truth."

"We can ill afford timid leadership afraid to offend colleagues or honest with our people. Today we are troubled. Give us the facts."

Senators Tower and Bentsen have yet received the letter as of 11:30 a.m. But press spokesmen for both the senators were opposed to an investigation into the Kennedy assassination unless some new and substantive evidence surfaces. They both declined to elaborate on the definition of "evidence."