

24, 1968

'Journalistic Scavengers' Blasted

Connally Defends Warren Report

AUSTIN, Tex., Nov. 24 — Texas Gov. John Connally yesterday criticized "self-appointed experts who, with no evidence, no new facts . . . use distortion, inference, innuendo, in order to cast doubts and create 'confusion' about the assassination of President Kennedy.

Gov. Connally, wounded in the shooting on Nov. 22, 1963, said he saw no reason for another investigation into the tragedy — despite his disagreement with some of the findings of the Warren Commission.

The 49-year-old governor, who still carries a bullet fragment in his left leg, said he heard three shots fired at the motorcade in downtown Dallas.

"I am convinced beyond any doubt that I was not struck by the first bullet," Gov. Connally said.

The Warren Report said three shots were fired at the President by Lee Harvey

Oswald. The first hit Mr. Kennedy in the neck and passed thru his throat to hit Gov. Connally in the shoulder, right wrist and left leg. The Commission said a second shot hit Mr. Kennedy. "I know that I heard the first shot, that I turned to see what happened, and that I was struck by a second shot," he said. "The third shot hit the President and not me."

The Warren Commission "chose to disagree, which is their privilege," he said.

"I want to make it very clear, however, that simply because I disagree with the Warren Commission on this one detail does not mean that I disagree with the substance of their overall findings," Gov. Connally said.

"Unless and until there is some new evidence of significant value," he said, another investigation "is neither warranted, justified or desirable."