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JFK Assassination Not Conspiracy, FBI Chief Claims

BOSTON (AP) — Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director Clarence Kelley believes the assassination of President John F. Kennedy has been solved and that there is no evidence of a conspiracy, according to a report in the *Boston Sunday Herald Advertiser*.

Kelley, interviewed by Hearst Newspapers on Sunday, was quoted in a story from the *Herald Advertiser's* Washington bureau as saying there is no indication Kennedy was killed in retaliation for a reported U.

S. assassination plot against Cuban Premier Fidel Castro.

ASKED IF the Kennedy assassination case would ever be completely solved in the minds of the public, Kelley told the newspaper, "I think it's solved now. And I don't know of any connection with any conspiracy.

"We're not discarding that as a possibility. We explore it. But we feel we have determined who assassinated the president and we feel that this will be borne out by the review of our investigation."

A Senate Intelligence Committee report on the assassination is expected to be issued within a week. If the report, written by Sens. Richard Schweiker (R-Pa.) and Gary Hart (D-Colo.), points to a conspiracy, "we'll explore that," Kelley told the *Herald Advertiser*.

"But we have gone through everything we know about that might lead to such a possibility. We just don't have any evidence to indicate that," he said.

KELLEY SAID "some bits of information" on an alleged Castro murder plot were found in FBI files after Hart and Schweiker requested some material. The director said the information was not turned over to the senators earlier because of "an indexing problem." He said the FBI has more than 50 million indices.

"In this situation, I don't exactly know how it was indexed," Kelley was quoted as saying. "But, it might be indexed as 'reported attempt to assassinate Fidel Castro' or it might even be indexed as 'attempted assassination report.'"

As to why someone in the FBI did not suspect a possible connection with Castro at the time of the Kennedy killing, Kelley said, "You see that was in the early 1960s, and the recollection of men for 12, 15 years — there are some who probably were around then — but their memories are dim.

"IT MAY well be they simply didn't recall that. Then when you bring it to their attention, they say, 'Oh, yes, I remember that obscure situation' or something of that type."

Kelley, who joined the FBI 10 years after the assassination, said there is "always some aspect of a case that is not explored."

He said the FBI investigation of the assassination was "a good investigation ... we did develop the information as fully as we could. I know of nothing to indicate that we were remiss."