

President Would Have Understood

Part 1/2/3/4

Mourners Mark Anniversary of Kennedy Death

Observances Marred

By Rising Doubts

Over Warren Report

By Richard Harwood
Washington Post Staff Writer

A disquieting undercurrent of suspicion marred this year's anniversary of John F. Kennedy's murder in Dallas.

It infected many parts of the country and many elements of American society and was directed at the official version of the assassination issued more than two years ago by the Warren Commission.

Did Lee Harvey Oswald, contrary to the Commission's findings, have an accomplice in the killing? Were more than three shots fired? Were President Kennedy and Gov. John Connally of Texas struck by different bullets from different rifles?

The doubt raised by these questions was reflected in recommendations from such diverse men as Sen. Russell Long and historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr. See SHOTS, A5, Col. 4



By Harry Nalichsyan, Staff Photographer
IN MEMORIAM—This rose, with a tie boat, were placed on President Kennedy's grave yesterday by his brother, Robert.

10,000 Gather
At Grave 3 Years

After Assassination

By John Carmody
Washington Post Staff Writer

John Fitzgerald Kennedy was three years dead yesterday and at the Arlington Cemetery gravesite the ceremonies and remembrances were modest and the sounds of life and movement were all about in the November sunshine.

Three years after Dallas, it was the kind of anniversary that those who loved him best could appreciate.

The noonman in charge of the guard of honor said that 10,000 persons came to the flower-banked site during the chilly day. It was an orderly crowd, never bigger than 200 at a time.

There were a few children and many cameras, and the reverent mourners were sometimes almost lost amidst the curious. It was a typical American crowd the late President would have wryly understood. It was a day filled with the See KENNEDY, A5, Col. 1



United Press International

PRAYER FOR A PRESIDENT — Among visitors to John F. Kennedy's grave in Arlington Cemetery yesterday were the late President's sister Eunice and her

husband, Sargent Shriver. On the third anniversary of the Kennedy assassination they led their children, from left, Marie, Timmy, and Bobby in a graveside prayer.

Schlesinger Jr. that a new inquiry into the assassination be undertaken.

Gov. Connally and former White House assistant Malcolm Kilduff added to the public uncertainty by disputing one of the crucial findings of the Warren Commission: That the first bullet that struck the President had also wounded the Governor.

"There is my absolute knowledge," Connally said in a statement this week, "and Nellie's (Mrs. Connally's) knowledge, too, that one bullet caused the President's first wound and that an entirely separate shot struck me."

Kilduff, who was riding in the motorcade that day, agreed with Connally's recollection.

If they are correct, there is a strong probability that at least two assassins were at work in Dallas that day. Films of the assassination strongly suggest that Kennedy and Connally were wounded within a period of one-half second, at the minimum, and less than two seconds at the maximum.

It was physically impossible for a sniper to fire two rounds in that flash of time from a bolt-action rifle of the type Oswald used. Thus, Kennedy

and Connally were either struck by the same bullet or two men fired two nearly simultaneous shots.

House Majority Leader Carl Albert brushed off this dilemma yesterday as "a minor inconsistency" and said there was no need for a new inquiry. House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford agreed.

Sen. Long, on the other hand, said he had been convinced for some time that Oswald had an accomplice who was "a much better shot than Oswald."

Another Senator who was also a member of the Warren Commission, Richard B. Russell of Georgia, disclosed in an interview that he had objected to any categorical finding by the Commission that no conspiracy was involved. "I'm the only man that bucked the report," he said. Nevertheless, Russell said in a statement yesterday after numerous inquiries:

"I certainly do not have any objection whatever to appointing any number of commissions to review this tragedy, although I am of the opinion that in the absence of additional testimony, any of these commissions—whether composed of leaders

of the American Bar Association, the Congress or any of the other groups suggested—will come to the same general conclusion (as the Warren Commission)."

There even was disagreement yesterday among eyewitnesses to the assassination. Jack Bell, an Associated Press reporter riding in the same car with Kilduff, agreed with the Commission's findings.

A spectator in Dallas, S. M. Russell, on the other hand, insisted that four or five shots were fired and that at least two of them came from in front of the presidential car, rather than from the Texas School Depository where Oswald was located behind the car.

Russell's version, however, was denied by another eyewitness, Charles E. Brehm, who said he was standing 20 feet from the President when he was shot. Brehm said there were three shots, that they all came from the Book Depository, and that in his opinion the Warren Commission was right in its conclusions.

Connally may hold a press conference today to elaborate on his views. But Robert F. Kennedy and other members of the President's family had nothing to add to the controversy.