

Schweiker sees Cuban link to JFK

By James McCartney
Inquirer Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON—A senator investigating the assassination of President John F. Kennedy has personally concluded that a "Cuban connection" is the probable key to the assassination.

Sen. Richard Schweiker (R., Pa.) said yesterday that he was not yet sure of the details, but that he believed that Kennedy's alleged assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, probably acted "with either pro-Castro or anti-Castro" confederates.

Schweiker is the main author of a secret 172-page report on the Kennedy assassination that is expected to be made public by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence within two weeks.

The report is expected to charge that there was an elaborate CIA and FBI cover-up in dealing with the Warren Commission, which investigated the Kennedy assassination.

The commission concluded officially that Oswald acted alone.

Schweiker has charged that the CIA and the FBI lied to the Warren Commission — withholding information about secret U. S. attempts to kill Cuban Premier Fidel Castor, and thus failing to reveal to the commission a possible motive for the assassination.

An article in the current New Republic magazine charges that both President Lyndon B. Johnson and Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy became parties to a cover-up, withholding key facts from the Warren Commission.

Although he would not comment directly on the charges in the article, Schweiker said the committee's report explored the cover-up question in detail.

A major question, he said, will be whether the Warren Commission may have been used as a "front" by the Johnson Administration to avoid making public the whole story behind the assassination.

At least two members of the commission, Schweiker pointed out, had

(See KENNEDY on 5-A)

Schweiker sees link to Cuba in JFK death

KENNEDY, From 1-A

been associated with the CIA—Allen Dulles, a former director, and John McCone, who was director at the time of the Warren inquiry.

Neither, however, according to Schweiker, told the commission as a whole about repeated efforts by the CIA to kill Castro.

Schweiker has repeatedly made the point that Castro warned in Havana a month before Kennedy's assassination that "United States leaders" would be in danger of they tried to kill Cuban leaders.

The possible connection between these remarks and attempts by the U. S. government to kill Castro, which began in 1960, was never pointed out to commission members by CIA or FBI representatives, according to Schweiker.

Schweiker has been the most active member of a subcommittee of the Senate intelligence committee assigned to look into the assassination.

Schweiker said, however, that the subcommittee had not been able to piece together the full story of the assassination. He said a "wide-open" investigation was needed to try to put it all together.

A major question in Schweiker's mind when the investigation began was whether Oswald and Oswald's alleged killer, Jack Ruby, were linked to U. S. intelligence agencies.

He pointed out that former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover had consistently denied, for example, that Ruby had been an FBI informer.

"Ruby on eight or nine occasions had been contacted by the FBI as a potential informer," Schweiker said.

"When Hoover said Ruby was never an informant, he was saying black is white."

Oswald, he said, also had many known ties to intelligence agencies.

Schweiker said Oswald also had ties to both pro-Castro and anti-Castro groups and that it was not yet clear what his sympathies really were.

The New Republic article furnished information which, if true, goes beyond Schweiker's disclosures.

The article said the Warren Commission has never told that Robert Kennedy secretly formed — before his brother was killed — a special intergovernmental committee that included FBI and CIA representatives to look into the possibility that Castro might organize attempts on the lives of high U. S. government officials.

U. S. attempts on Castro's life were unknown publicly, and throughout much of the U. S. government establishment itself, until they were disclosed last year by the Senate intelligence committee.

New Republic said a "cover-up" still continues, because the FBI still refuses to turn over some of its most sensitive files to congressional investigators.