

# Warren told of U.S. plots to kill Fidel



Earl Warren

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former head of the Secret Service has confirmed that the late Chief Justice Earl Warren once told him he learned of U.S. plots to kill Cuba's Fidel Castro, but not until three years after the Warren Commission had concluded its investigation into the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

James J. Rowley, who retired in 1973 as director of the Secret Service, Monday also confirmed that he had passed the information to the FBI in a memo to then FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

Earlier Monday, well-informed sources reported that the Senate intelligence committee has obtained a copy of that memo.

ROWLEY said the information had been provided to Warren by an unidentified source at a meeting arranged by the late columnist Drew Pearson.

Rowley was unable to confirm specifics of the memo, saying: "I can't recall the exact words of the text."

The memo provides the first evidence that Warren, who headed the investigation that

concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in killing Kennedy, ever learned of the CIA plots to kill Castro. Rowley's memo was written in 1967, three years after the Warren commission published its conclusions.

Columnist Jack Anderson, who said he also has a copy of the memo said Monday that Rowley mistakenly told Hoover that Warren also had learned from the source that Castro ordered Kennedy's death in retaliation or the attempts on his own life.

ANDERSON, a former partner of Pearson's, said the source had direct after-the-fact knowledge of the CIA plots but was only speculating when he told Warren about a possible Castro retaliation.

Rowley said only that, "We tried to do it (the memo) as was presented to us (by Warren)."

Anderson described the contents of the memo Monday after the Las Vegas Sun reported that a secret report in the hands of the Senate committee documents that Castro had ordered Kennedy's assassination

and probably that of his brother, Robert.

It could not be determined immediately whether the memo described by Anderson and the report cited by the Sun were the same document.

SEN. FRANK Church, chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, said the Sun report seemed to involve information published previously in a September, 1963, AP dispatch from Havana quoting Castro as saying: "U.S. leaders should think that if they are aiding terrorist plans to eliminate Cuban leaders they themselves will not be safe."

A spokesman for Sen. Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.), who is heading the intelligence panel's investigation of the John Kennedy assassination, refused to confirm or deny the existence of the memo.