

Return to the

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Church claims evidence agencies kept JFK data

PORTLAND, Ore. (UPI) — Frank Church, the chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and a candidate for president, said Saturday his panel uncovered evidence about the assassination of John F. Kennedy that the FBI and CIA did not give to the Warren Commission.

Church said the information would be contained in the committee's final report April 18. He made the statement in response to a question at a meeting of civic groups, but did not hint at the nature of the evidence.

Asked if he believes the investigation of the assassinations of President Kennedy, Sen. Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King should be re-opened, Church replied, "I have already said I favor establishment of a special prosecutor's office for a review of the Martin Luther King assassination.

"There are just too many unanswered questions there. The FBI by its actions before he was killed disqualified the Jus-

tice Department from making an impartial investigation.

As for President Kennedy and his brother, Sen. Robert Kennedy, the committee has uncovered certain evidence in the possession of the FBI and CIA which those agencies did not turn over to the Warren Commission. This was evidence which was relevant to the investigation.

He said there was no formal explanation why the evidence was not reported to the Warren Commission, established by President Lyndon B. Johnson to investigate Kennedy's death. "Apparently they didn't want to embarrass their agencies," Church said.

"This information in itself is not sufficient to lead Congress to re-open the investigation," Church said, "but if any more evidence of this kind comes along, then Congress will have to appoint a special committee for this purpose. I think we're moving in that direction."