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Connally Pressing His View on Dallas

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By RALPH BLUMENFELD

Gov. John Connally of Texas today moved to air his dispute with the Warren Commission while Congressional leaders tried to quiet demands for a new investigation of President Kennedy's death.

Connally called a press conference in Austin to answer questions about what he called "recent developments" arising from the tragedy in Dallas, where he was wounded in the same fusillade which killed Kennedy.

He was expected to comment on this week's call by Life magazine for a re-opening of the

See Max Lerner's column on Page 33.

case—a call based on Connally's insistence that his wounds and the President's were inflicted by separate shots. "I'll never change my mind," Connally was quoted as saying.

His statement, supported in every detail by his wife, Nellie, rejected the commission theory that one bullet fired by a lone assassin, Lee Oswald, had hit both Kennedy and Connally.

Russell Agrees

Sen. Russell (D-Ga.), a member of the seven-man commission, said he had agreed with Connally all along, and Sen. Long (D-La.) said he too questioned the Warren report's conclusion that Oswald acted alone.

A counter-reaction came from leaders of both parties in the House of Representatives, who

rejected suggestions by historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr., Long and others that a new investigation be launched in Congress.

House Democratic Leader Carl Albert of Oklahoma said "there is no new evidence that I have seen that would justify even considering that Congress take this up."

Rep. Gerald Ford (R-Mich.), the minority leader, who served on the Warren Commission, also said he knows of no "significant" new evidence or of any need for a new inquiry.

'A War of Words'

Russell, too, said that without new testimony a review of the case would probably reach "the same general conclusions." He said he has no objections to "any number of commissions" but added that he won't engage in an endless war of words that will never terminate, but only generate, new speculation.

Dallas District Attorney Henry Wade, who prosecuted Oswald's killer, Jack Ruby, said that despite the "unanswered questions" about the number of shots fired, "if there were others involved, I don't expect them to come forward and admit it." He observed that "of course, when Oswald was shot, his lips were sealed."

Connally testified before the Warren Commission in 1964, and said then that he thought a separate shot had wounded him. The commission concluded he was mistaken.

Color photographs of the assassination, taken by eyewitness Abraham Zapruder and shown to Connally by Life, left the Governor convinced that he had been wounded a half-second to 1.3 seconds after Kennedy was first hit. The commission established that Oswald's rifle needed .3 seconds between shots.