

News

Stone back on 'JFK' case

By David Kelly

WASHINGTON — Director Oliver Stone, testifying Tuesday before a House panel, urged the immediate opening of all sealed files dealing with the assassination of President Kennedy, warning lawmakers not to allow intelligence officials to stonewall by citing national security concerns.

Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., who chairs the House legislation and national security subcommittee before which Stone testified, received a letter from the U.S. Justice Department raising numerous objections to the releasing of the files. The letter was unavailable for

inspection.

"Last night we received the Justice Department's position and my worst fears were realized," Conyers said. "Every conceivable legalistic objection is voiced by the department in that eight-page single-spaced letter."

After his testimony, the "JFK" director told reporters that the Justice Department was doing President Bush's bidding. "What could they possibly be trying to conceal?" Stone said.

Inside the hearing room, Stone was received cordially and was told by numerous lawmakers that he was the catalyst for the move to

open the files.

The director went over his arguments for opening the files and his theories on the assassination.

Stone said he would like to see all files released on the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy.

"Otherwise I might be forced to make another movie called 'MLK' in order to get the documents released," he said. □