

*Madal S. ... 4/26/75*

## LBJ Claimed Oswald Acted For Castro

WASHINGTON (UPI)— Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, but was "either under the influence or the orders of (Cuban premier Fidel) Castro," former President Lyndon Johnson told columnist Marianne Means.

The King Features Syndicate columnist wrote Thursday that Johnson confided the information to her at his Texas ranch about a year before he died.

Miss Means said that

Johnson swore her to secrecy, but that she was breaking that confidence now "because Johnson's opinion appears to debunk the current speculation that the Central Intelligence Agency might somehow have been involved in the Kennedy assassination."

"The former President said that he firmly believed Oswald was acting alone in pulling the trigger," Miss Means wrote. "But Johnson also believed that Oswald did such an outrageous

deed because he was under either the influence or the orders of Castro."

She said Johnson refused to tell her the reasons for his belief.

"He only said that he understood Castro wished to have Kennedy killed because he believed that Kennedy had ordered the CIA to kill him," she said. "And Johnson declined, with a shake of his head, to tell me if that suspicion of Castro's had been an accurate one,

or even if Johnson himself knew whether it was."

She said Johnson told her he was disturbed by the "periodic efforts of amateur sleuths" to keep controversy over the assassination alive.

"Some people even think I directed it," she quoted Johnson as saying with a sigh, adding, "It is a lucky thing I was there in the motorcade and could have gotten it, too."