

# FBI Chief Reports No Riot Plot Found



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**PROBE BEGINS**—New York Mayor John Lindsay, a member of the President's Commission on Civil Disorders, and David Ginsburg, at right, Washington attorney

who has been named executive director of the Commission, head for its first meeting. In the rear is J. Lee Rankin, Warren Commission aide who was the first witness.

## 1st Session Held By LBJ Panel On Disorders

By William Chapman  
Washington Post Staff Writer

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover was quoted yesterday as saying he had no evidence on which to conclude that the summer's urban violence was a result of a conspiracy.

Hoover submitted a report on 52 city disturbances to the new Special Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, which held its first working meeting here yesterday.

The commission's chairman, Gov. Otto Kerner of Illinois, later disclosed some of the comments, quoting Hoover as saying he had "no intelligence on which to base a conclusion of conspiracy."

### Sees No Pattern

Kerner also said it is his personal opinion at this point that there is no evidence of a pattern of organized sniping in the violence that has enveloped many Negro ghettos.

"All of us are impressed by the fact that they (the riots) all seem to start from some little incidents," Kerner added.

Several members of Congress have said they see evidence of coordinated conspiracy causing the outbreaks. Sen. Everett M. Dirksen (Ill.), the Senate Republican leader, has said there is "mounting evidence" that the riots "may be the result of organized planning and execution on a national scale." The anti-riot bill pending in Congress assumes that some persons cross

state lines to foment trouble.

#### 'Some National Plan'

House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.) has said, "I can't help but believe that there is in the background some national plan."

Kerner emphasized that he has formed no full conclusions on the causes of rioting and did not elaborate at length on Hoover's statement, volunteered by the FBI director to the commission.

Kerner said he thinks the commission will have difficulty meeting the deadlines laid down by President Johnson, who appointed it last week. The commission is to make an initial report by March 1 and go out of business in late July.

The commission's executive director, David Ginsburg, said its members expect to become

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*McClellan committee authorized to investigate riots.*  
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"intimately" involved in the investigation of what causes the disorders. The members probably will break up into small groups and visit cities struck by the recent outbreaks, Ginsburg said.

In emphasizing that the members will follow closely the staff's fact-gathering, Ginsburg was responding to a question posed by criticism of the Warren Commission that investigated the assassination of President Kennedy.

#### Relied on Staff Work

Analysts concluded that Warren Commission members spent relatively little time in meetings and relied heavily on the work of their staff. Ginsburg said this issue was discussed yesterday with J. Lee Rankin, who headed the Warren Commission staff.

Kerner's commission yesterday approved Theodore A. Jones, a Negro and director of the Illinois Department of Revenue, as its staff director. Ginsburg picked Jones after dining Monday night with him and Kerner. Ginsburg said he had interviewed a half-dozen other possibilities for the job but found Jones to be the most capable.

Jones, 53, is a graduate of

the University of Illinois who went on to study business management at Northwestern University. He was a partner in a Chicago accounting firm and, for one year, regional director of the U.S. antipoverty agency before being appointed to the finance post in Illinois. He also is a member of the President's Committee on Equal Housing Opportunities.

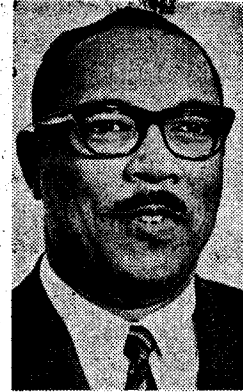
The Commission on Civil Disorders heard yesterday from Warren Christopher, a Deputy Attorney General who was vice chairman of the McCone Commission that investigated the Watts riot of 1965.

#### Gen. Hollis Testifies

Present to testify about the National Guard's capabilities in riot-control were Army Brig. Gen. H. W. Hollis, director of operations in the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, and Maj. Gen. Winston P. Wilson, chief of the Army's National Guard Bureau.

Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare John W. Gardner led off a series of Administration officials who will discuss problems in the big-

hear as commission witness.



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**THEODORE A. JONES**

... named staff director

city ghettos. Today the commission will hear from anti-poverty Director Sargent Shriver, Labor Secretary W. Willard Wirtz, and Robert C. Weaver, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Kerner told reporters the commission has made no decisions yet about whether it will hold open or closed hearings.

It will open offices in midtown Washington and probably will resume its meetings next week, Kerner said.



**TOPIC: RIOTS**—The President's new Advisory Committee of Civil Disorders meets in its first session at the White House. Seated are, from left, Roy Wilkins, Illinois Gov. Otto Kerner, the

President, Mayor John Lindsay of New York and I. W. Abel. In the rear: Charles R. Thorton, Rep. James C. Corman, Rep. William M. McCulloch, Sen. Fred R. Harris, Vice President

Humphrey, Katherine G. Peden, Herbert Jenkins, Sen. Edward W. Brooke, Cyrus Vance, who represented the President in Detroit during rioting, and Attorney General Ramsey Clark.

UPI Photo by Maurice Johnson