

2 PRESIDENTS HELD AWARE OF PLOTS

Aide in Two Inquiries Cites
Eisenhower and Kennedy

By RICHARD L. MADDEN
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WASHINGTON, Nov. 23—The former chief counsel of the Rockefeller Commission that investigated the Central Intelligence Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy knew of the agency's assassination plots against Prime Minister Fidel Castro of Cuba.

David W. Belin, an Iowa lawyer who also was a counsel on the Warren Commission that investigated the assassination of Mr. Kennedy, said that the "evidence is in conflict" on Presidential responsibility for C.I.A. actions.

But, appearing on the CBS "Face the Nation" television program, Mr. Belin noted that Allen W. Dulles, then Director of Central Intelligence, was the brother of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles in the Eisenhower Administration and that Robert F. Kennedy was Attorney General in his brother's Administration.

'Reasonable' Assumptonal

"I think it's reasonable to assume that they did know when the brother of the President knew, and when the brother of the head of the C.I.A. was Secretary of State," Mr. Belin said.

Mr. Belin said he assumed "that the Presidents could read between the lines" and that "these people were not naive people from the hinterlands but were people in sophisticated Washington."

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence said in its report last week on assassination plots that it was unable to establish that any former United States President had directly ordered the killing of a foreign leader.

But the report added, "Whether or not the President in fact knew about the assassination plots, and even if their subordinates failed in their duty of full disclosure, it still follows that the President should have known about the plots."

'A Thorough Job'

Mr. Belin, who served on the commission earlier this

year headed by Vice President Rockefeller that investigated intelligence activities, said he thought that the Senate committee's report had been "a thorough job," but added: "so far as whether it's easy, too easy or not too easy on Presidents, several of whom are not living now, I think that the evidence is in conflict on that."

Mr. Belin urged yesterday that Congress reopen the investigation into President Kennedy's death because of new questions stemming from findings of United States involvement in plots against foreign leaders. He reiterated today that he was convinced that Lee Harvey Oswald "was the sole gunman that killed President Kennedy" but that a new inquiry "would greatly contribute toward restoration of creditability in government for the people to know that the Warren Commission did find the truth."