

Senate blasts CIA, FBI on

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate intelligence committee said Wednesday the CIA and FBI failed to provide the Warren Commission with evidence that "might have substantially affected the course of the investigation" into whether there was a conspiracy to kill President John F. Kennedy.

The committee stressed that "it has not uncovered any evidence sufficient to

justify a conclusion that there was a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy."

But the panel said that failure of the CIA and FBI to pursue the possibility of a conspiracy behind the assassination "impeaches the process" which led the Warren Commission to conclude that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone.

The committee outlined these leads

which it said were never adequately investigated.

—The possibility that Cuba's Fidel Castro ordered Kennedy's assassination in retaliation for a CIA plot against his life that was in progress at the time of the Nov. 22, 1963 slaying in Dallas;

—A report that on the evening of the day Kennedy was killed a Cuban airlines flight from Mexico City to Cuba

THE POST, Frederick, Md., Thursday, June 24, 1976 — Page A-3

Kennedy investigation

was delayed five hours awaiting the arrival of an unidentified passenger who boarded the plane without passing through customs;

—The "strange travel" of "a Cuban-American" who an FBI informant claimed was involved in the Kennedy assassination and who may have been in indirect contact with Oswald.

Sen. Richard Schweiker, R-Pa., who

headed the committee's investigation, said other "interesting leads" had been left out of the 106-page report in order not to jeopardize further investigation.

Schweiker accused the CIA and FBI of "a cover-up" and said "there is no longer any reason to have faith in (the Warren Commission's) picture of the Kennedy assassination." But committee chairman Frank Church, D-Idaho, said

that "whether there was a conscious cover-up or not has not yet been determined" and added that he is not yet prepared to call for a full-scale reopening of the assassination investigation.

The report said it did not know why "senior official in the CIA and FBI permitted the Warren Commission to reach its conclusions without all relevant information" but added that "the possibility exists that senior officials in both agencies made conscious decisions not to disclose potentially important information."

Noting the controversy which has surrounded the Kennedy assassination for more than 12 years, the committee said "regrettably, this report will not put the matter to rest." The panel recommended that the investigation be continued by the new, permanent Senate intelligence committee. The assassination report was the last work of a temporary, special intelligence committee which has now gone out of existence.

The report said that senior government officials "wanted the investigation completed promptly and all conspiracy rumors dispelled." According to the report, within 14 hours of Kennedy's death, the FBI had narrowed the focus of its investigation to Oswald alone and within weeks issued a report concluding that Oswald was the sole assassin.

FBI director J. Edgar Hoover "perceived the Warren Commission as an adversary" which might criticize the bureau's monitoring of Oswald's activities before the assassination and its investigation of the killing itself, the report said.

Hoover concealed from the commission the fact that 17 FBI agents had been disciplined for their failure to recognize Oswald as a security threat.