

INSIDE WASHINGTON**LBJ Ponders New
Assassin Probe**By **ROBERT S. ALLEN**
and **PAUL SCOTT**

WASHINGTON — For the first time since the Warren Commission published its findings, President Johnson is seriously considering designating a federal agency to receive and examine any new evidence turned up on the assassination of President Kennedy.

Under a proposal discussed in the White House, the Justice Department, with FBI assistance, would be empowered to study and pass on new information.

AUTHORITY FOR SUCH a review and the issuing of reports and findings by the Justice Department would be included in an executive order to be issued by the President.

This order, it has been suggested, might be promulgated in connection with the National Freedom of Information Act enacted by Congress last year and due to become effective July 4.

This law requires the President to determine which of the still-classified records of the Warren Commission on file at the National Archives should be made available to the public.

APPROXIMATELY TWO THIRDS of the commission's estimated 28,000 documents have been declassified since it published its findings on September 28, 1964. The re-

maining one-third, which includes several hundred documents believed to have significant news value, are still barred from public scrutiny.

As interpreted by the Justice Department, under the new law government documents can be kept secret only if the President rules that is necessary "in the interest of national defense or foreign policy."

Pending decision on what to do about the proposed plan, the President has asked Attorney General Ramsey Clark to review the still-unpublished Warren Commission documents and recommend which should be declassified.

THE PRESIDENT ALSO plans to discuss the proposal with the seven members of the Warren Commission. One of them, Rep. Hale Boggs, D-La., has suggested that Clark examine the X-rays of President Kennedy's body made at the time of the autopsy.

It has been charged that the Warren Commission did not study these X-rays. This is flatly denied by Boggs, Senator John Sherman Cooper, R-Ky., and other members. They say emphatically the commission did have the X-rays and examined them.

Under arrangements between the Kennedy family and the Justice Department, the X-rays and other photographs taken during the autopsy, for a five-year period, can only be seen by "persons authorized to act for a congressional committee or government agency vested with authority to investigate the assassination."

IN DISCUSSIONS AT the White House, the President has been urged to have Clark, a trusted personal friend, study the X-rays and advise him what should be done regarding them.

At the President's request, the attorney general also is keeping him informed on the assassination inquiry being conducted by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison.

See same column, Oakland Tribune 18apr67 with additional paragraph regarding Mexican govt's file on Oswald.
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See John J. McCloy's statement, AP A104, 953 ped - filed Garrison, 28 June, 1967.