

DA accuses CIA, right wing

Editor's note: This is the third in the series of articles on New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of the Kennedy assassination. This article deals with the Warren Commission and its report.

By ROBERT SIMON

President Johnson created the Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy on November 29, 1963, to "study and report upon all facts and circumstances" relating to the murders of the late President and his alleged assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald. Earl Warren, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, was appointed chairman of the special panel, which thereafter became known as the Warren Commission. The other members were: Richard Russell, Democratic Senator from Georgia; John Sherman Cooper, Republican Senator from Kentucky; Hale Boggs, Democratic Representative from Louisiana; Gerald

Ford, Republican Representative from Michigan; Allen Dulles, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency; and John J. McCloy, a former president of the World Bank.

September 27, 1964.

The Commission concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, was responsible for the assassination of President Kennedy and the death of Offi-

'Is Johnson so powerful that the press is afraid?'

The Commission's evidence was gathered from two basic sources. At the outset of its inquiry, the panel received thousands of reports from federal agencies, chiefly the FBI. In addition the Commissioners took the testimony either directly or through staff attorneys of 522 persons.

The bulk of the Warren Report was written during the summer of 1964 by Norman Redlich, a senior staff lawyer, and by Alfred Goldberg, a U.S. Air Force historian. The final Report of the Warren Commission was released on September 27, 1964. The Report

concluded that Oswald had fired three shots at the President's car: one struck the President in the back of his neck and then "most probably" caused all of Governor Connally's wounds; another shattered the right rear portion of the President's head; and a third missed the limousine entirely.

The American Press unquestioningly accepted the Warren Commission's conclusions and for nearly two years after the release of the Report, no doubts were voiced by the media. In 1965, however, a number of books sharply critical of the Commission's findings were published and public doubts about Oswald's sole guilt, never effectively dispelled, escalated into widespread rejection of the Commission's conclusions.

In October 1966, a public opinion poll showed that only one-third of the American people believed that the President had been killed by a lone assassin.

When the Garrison investigation became public knowledge, the press attacked him, charging that he was politically ambitious and had no case for the Warren Commission had reached unchallengeable conclusions.

Garrison doesn't agree and recently stated that "The press of America has been apathetic, the Press has been consumed with inertia since the assassination. The questions the press asks about me are a very healthy thing. If I cannot survive it then I'm in the wrong business."

"I don't care what questions they raise about the case, because I know we can win our case. That's the way it should be, and if the Press has any doubts about me, if they think I'm politically ambitious, if they really think I'd charge somebody for some kind of personal gain, then they should raise the question. That's fine, because I'll sur-

vive it and I'll answer the questions. But why don't they ask these questions that demand to be asked of the President of the United States? Have we reached a point where the President is so powerful that the Press is afraid to ask him, President Johnson, why we cannot see these hidden files? Are they so afraid of the Golden Eagle that is the Presidential emblem, so afraid of the power now massed in Washington that we have become a fascist country?"

So asks "Big Jim" Garrison.

According to Garrison, "The main function of the Warren Commission, and the reason it was appointed, was to conceal the fact that militant right wing individuals had killed the President of the United States, and also to conceal the fact that individuals connected with the Central Intelligence Agency were involved."

(To be continued)

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Carol Brock of the World Campus Afloat, a division of Chapman College in Orange, California, will be at San Francisco during Spring Vacation to talk about the study voyages.

She invited interested students to come to the Hilton Hotel, Mason and O'Farrell, on Saturday, April 13 at 6 p.m.

The World Campus Afloat travels aboard the S.S. Ryndam. While at sea, students attend classes six days a week.

Catalogs, applications, and additional information are available for Miss Brock at Chapman College, Orange, California 92666.

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