

12/31/78

# Panel's Findings Satisfy Few

Associated Press

One of President John F. Kennedy's closest aides said he was not surprised by a House committee's conclusion that Kennedy's assassination was probably a conspiracy.

And one of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s colleagues said he was disappointed that the committee didn't go further when it determined that the slain civil rights leader also was the victim of a conspiracy.

Richard Goodwin, who served Kennedy as an assistant counsel, said Saturday that reading a book by one conspiracy theorist "destroyed my belief that the Warren Commission had laid the matter to rest."

In Atlanta, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, president emeritus of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference that King helped form, said Satur-

day the panel "did not go far enough and has not brought us very much new information."

J. Lee Rankin, general counsel for the Warren Commission, said he questioned basing a conclusion in the Kennedy case upon acoustical evidence that a fourth shot was fired. The Warren commission concluded that just three shots were fired.

Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), President Kennedy's brother, was skiing in Colorado over the weekend and said he would prefer to make no immediate comment on the findings.

Atty. Mark Lane, who has long maintained that conspiracies were behind both assassinations, said: "The US government has taken the first step in the long march to restore the soul of America."