

His First Public Comment

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San Francisco Chronicle

Bobby Says Oswald Acted Alone

Associated Press

Krakow, Poland

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy said last night, "There is no question" that Lee Harvey Oswald killed President Kennedy and "did it on his own and by himself."

Kennedy spoke publicly on the assassination of his brother in reply to a question from a Pole during his second day of tumultuous welcomes from street crowds.

Hieronym Kubiak, 25-year-old head of the Polish student union in Krakow, said "We always greatly respected President Kennedy and we are very interested in your version of his death. We hope you will forgive us for asking such a direct question but we really would like your view."

'MISFIT'

Kennedy replied, "It is a proper question which deserves an answer."

He called Oswald a "misfit in society" and said it was not Oswald's professed belief in communism that prompted him to murder the President.

"Ideology in my opinion did not motivate his act," Kennedy said. "It was the single act of an individual protesting against society."

Aides said it was the first time that the head of the U. S. Department of Justice had spoken publicly about his brother's assassin. Oswald was shot by Jack Ruby, Dallas cafe owner, before he could be brought to trial.

There have been suggestions, especially in Communist countries such as Poland, that the slayings of Kennedy and Oswald were part of the same conspiracy.

CHEERED

Tightly packed throngs totaling more than 15,000 cheered, serenaded and pelted Kennedy with flowers during a series of appearances in the central market square and lane-like streets among the 400-year-old buildings of Krakow.

At one point the Kennedy party climbed on to the roof of a Soviet-built Zis limousine and serenaded cheering Poles in this old university city by singing a chorus from "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling," but changing the word to "Polish." This was done in response to a series of resounding "Sto lat," a Polish phrase that means "May you live 100 years."

His wife, Ethel, his daughter, Kathleen, and sons Joseph and Bobbie climbed onto the car, the steel roof sagged.

"Tell them we will pay for it," a Kennedy aide cried out.

"The people of my country have the deepest affection for the people of Poland," Kennedy said. "When you're an Irish-American you have the greatest respect for the courage of the Poles. It is so strong that you almost wish you were Polish yourself."