

- 11/26/63** Washington - President Johnson assured the Nation last night that the facts disclosed in the FBI investigation of the late President John F. Kennedy's assassination and the murder of his accused assassin will be made public.
- Johnson said he has directed all Federal agencies to cooperate with the FBI and the Justice Department in a "prompt an. thorough investigation of all the circumstances" surround-in the two killings.
- ... "The people of the Nation may be sure that all the facts will be made public," the President said. *San Francisco Examiner, UPI*
- 11/30/63** Washington, 11/29 - President Johnson created a special commission tonight to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy. He appointed Chief Justice Earl Warren to head the panel.
- The White House, in announcing the action ... added:
- "The President is instructing the special commission to satisfy itself that the truth is known as far as it can be discovered, and to report its findings and conclusions to him, to the American people and to the world." *New York Times*, John P. Morris
- 12/11/63** Washington, 12/0 - J. Lee Rankin, former Solicitor General of the United States, has been chosen as general counsel of the commission inquiring into President Kennedy's assassination.
- He said today that Chief Justice Warren had asked him to keep February in mind as a possible target date for a report. [For chronology of publication of "Warren Report, see that file 9/28/64]
- ... But he made clear that the commission was not putting the time ahead of the need for thoroughness in any report.
- "It world be very dangerous," Mr. Rankin said, "for the commission to come out with a report before it has all the facts." *New York Times*, Anthony Lewis
- 12/12/63** The [FBI] report contains information collected from the Dallas Police force, U.S. Secret Service, Central Intelligence Agency and the FBI itself. Each of these agencies may have reason to be circumspect about particular aspects of the case against Oswald as they relate to their own organization. ...
- If the Secret Service were lax in protecting the President, would this appear in the official report?
- If Jack Ruby ... was allowed in proximity of the accused assassin because of past services rendered, would the Dallas police reveal this to the public?

If the FBI had enlisted Oswald as an agent, would this appear in the official report?

If Oswald had been involved in espionage activities for the U.S. would the CIA allow this to become known? *National Guardian*, Jack A. Smith

1/64

p 23: ... As Scripps-Howard columnist Richard Starnes wrote in a column entitled *Truth Won't Out*, on 12/3, "realism instructs us to expect little from the special commission. ... no member of the commission has any competence as an investigator, nor does any have access to a disinterested investigative staff. The commission will be almost wholly dependent upon the facts made available to it by the Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Dallas Police Department. In a sense, of course, the special commission is investigating the role played by each of these agencies, and it is manifestly naive to expect these cops to bear witness against themselves, or, indeed, each other." *The Minority of One*, p 16-23, article by Eric Norden.

... Starnes concludes by asking: "Will the presence on the panel of Allan Dulles, erstwhile headmaster of the Central Intelligence Agency, assure us that the truth of Oswald's sojourn in the Soviet Union will ever be known? ... Can any realistic person ever believe any tentacle of the nation's elephantine espionage apparatus will own up to ever having Oswald on its payroll? How can we expect the FBI to explain why Oswald was not under close surveillance? How many would-be defectors to Russia did they have to watch that day in Dallas when the President's widely heralded visit was scheduled? It is not in the nature of bureaucracies to destroy their carefully nurtured fables of omniscience. It would be well to bear this in mind; and to remember that the findings of the Warren Commission will depend wholly on what it is told by these agencies." [*New York World-Telegram & Sun*, 12/3/63.]

1/27/64

Washington - ... Warren said the Commission now has no idea how long the investigation ... would go on before making its final report to the White House. ...

"We are concerned with developing the facts as we best can." Warren said. "When we are satisfied that we have done so, we will report.

"The timing will be governed only by whether we have ascertained all that can be learned." *AP*, 5:58 p.m., CST, Sterling F. Green

2/4/64

Washington, 2/3 - ... Chief Justice Warren, in discussing a general question on whether testimony taken by the commission would be made public, responded:

"Yes, there will come a time. But it might not be in your lifetime. I am not referring to anything especially, but there may be some things that would involve security. This would be preserved but not made public."

[See 6/26/64, Drew Pearson]

2/4/64 Washington - The secretly given testimony of Mrs. Marina Oswald on events preceding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy "may not be released in your lifetime." Chief Justice Earl Warren has disclosed [2/3]. ...

The full testimony will be preserved for the public, he explained, but if it contains information affecting national security. it may be suppressed for decades - "and I say that seriously." *AP*, 1:26 a.m. EST, Sterling Green

[See 6/26/64, Drew Pearson]

2/4/64 Washington - ... questioned on his "lifetime" comment, Warren told reporters late today he had been speaking "a little facetiously," but nonetheless factually. ...

Nothing has been encountered to date which might be so withheld, he went on. But it will be up to the agency concerned - State Department, FBI, Secret Service or other - to decide whether certain disclosures in their realms of responsibility should be withheld.

He added: "I can assure you that nothing will be withheld because it might be embarrassing to the agency concerned." *AP*, 6:14 p.m. CST, Sterling F. Green

2/4/64 Washington - ... President Johnson's directive creating the high level commission ordered it to report its findings and conclusions "to the President, to the American people, and to the world." But it did not specify that the entire investigation transcript be released at the close of the inquiry. *AP*, 3:14 p.m. CST, Sterling F. Green

2/6/64 Washington, 2/5 - [Mr. Warren] said again today that, as far as he was concerned, all testimony would be made public at the time the commission made its report. However, he said than, the commission had not discussed this matter as yet.

The matter arose again today because of confusion over his remark on Monday [2/3/] to newsmen that some testimony might not be released "in our lifetime" if it involved national security. So far, he said., the commission has found nothing of a security nature. *New York Times*, William M. Blair

2/18/64 Washington -- Congress was asked today to compel public disclosure of all evidence received by the [Warren] Commission. ...

Rep. John Bell Williams, D- MS, introduced a resolution calling for full disclosure of evidence presented to the commission. ...

Bell said in a statement that "widespread public reaction has not been favorable to chairman Earl Warren's statement to newsmen that some of the evidence may not be released 'in your lifetime'."

... "Enactment of this proposed legislation would tend to dispel prevailing rumors, suspicious, charges and countercharges. I think it is necessary to the objectives of the commission to have the confidence of the public. My proposal would help in this respect.

"The bill would require disclosure at the time the commission completes its work. Therefore it will in no way hamper or hinder investigative processes." *AP*, 9:59 p.m. CST

3/2/64

... These circumstances, Mr. Chief Justice, make us wonder whether there is accord between the public conception of your task and your own conception of it. It seems probable that you intend to make only such public disclosures about the investigation as would, in your opinion, serve the public interest. We, however, believe your task to be judicial, not political. We think your primary duty to be to discover the truth, whatever it is, about a tragic national event and to tell this truth to this generation.

... In a sense, it is immaterial how accurately the conjectures in this letter assess your motives. What is important is the fact that, after several of your public comments, it is no longer possible to be sure that yours will be the final truth about the assassination of President Kennedy. The frustration of possibly not learning the truth is revived. However strong may be your noble desire to act in the public interest, it can give us a feeling of being protected by you, not a certainty of being fully and correctly informed.

Advertisement in the form of an open letter to Earl Warren, asking him to resign as Chairman of the commission. *Signed The Minority of One*. M. S. Arnoni, Editor. *New York Times*.Leport

3/29/64

Washington - The Presidential commission investigating President John F. Kennedy's assassination has found no evidence the crime was anything but the irrational act of an individual - and, the commission now feels most of the information is in.

This assessment came today from sources close to the high-level panel ...

The end is in sight so far as questioning witnesses and examining other evidence is concerned, it was reported ...

In general the commission is making of the story of Kennedy's death a model of tireless documentation - all in line with its mandate to demonstrate that nothing is covered up, no possible lead slighted. *AP*, 12:43 p.m. EST

4/17/64

Washington - The Warren Commission investigating the assassination of President Kennedy may make its report to President Johnson and the American people "some time in June," Counsel J. Lee Rankin said yesterday. *San Francisco Chronicle*, *UPI*

4/19/64

Washington - There is growing uneasiness in Washington over the timing of the Warren Commission report ...

Within the commission itself ... very earnest consideration is being given to finding some way to postpone publication until after the presidential election.

The feeling of some members of the commission is that, if the final report is as sternly critical of the security agencies of the government as they would like it to be, it may be misused in the campaign and its detachment marred by partisanship.

The best way for the Warren Commission to avoid getting its report entangled in the presidential campaign is to cease trying to keep it out; that is, to complete its exhaustive investigation as promptly as possible and to issue its report as soon as possible. *San Rafael Independent Journal*, Roscoe Drummond

5/29/64

Washington - The Warren Commission has begun writing its report to the nation on the slaying of President John F. Kennedy ...

The Commission has set 6/30 [See 4/17, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *UPI*] as target date for completing the report, official sources said, but meantime will call still more witnesses to round out its intensive six-month investigation.

[Story says report will show that Oswald acted alone; did not know Ruby; there is no evidence of a conspiracy.]

... The commission's greatest problem, some sources say has been to establish a negative truth - not merely to evaluate the wealth of evidence pinning guilt on Oswald, but also to establish that the crime could not or might not have been perpetrated by someone else - or by some secret group using Oswald and helping him.

Many of the myriad of conflicting reports and rumors seemed baseless or fabricated from the start, but the Commission checked out each one in the effort to erase any lingering doubt that the public knows all that can be known.

... The investigation is known to have turned up no substantiation for - or to have actually rebutted or discredited - scores of the rumors and reports which flew around the world six months ago. [Story lists some of these.] *AP*, 10:33 p.m. EDT, Advance for Sunday, 5/31

5/29/64

Washington - The Warren Commission has begun writing its report to the nation on the slaying of President John F. Kennedy ...

The nation has received Warren's personal assurance that no Federal official or agency will be spared if censure is warranted. Some testimony received may not be made public "in your lifetime" if it involves national security, the Chief Justice said, but:

"I can assure you that nothing will be withheld because it might be embarrassing to the agency concerned." *AP*, 10:33 p.m. EDT, Advance for Sunday, 5/31

- 6/64** ... By now it is quite evident that the real task of the Warren Commission was not to reveal whatever the truth about the assassination, but to cause public complacency towards it. Time was relied upon to dull the public's exceptional concern and sensitivity with regard to anything connected with the assassination. The healthy skepticism a shocked and grieved public displayed during the last week of November towards inconsistent and unconvincing official versions of events is all but gone. These same official versions if repeated now will be received by the vast majority with that typical indifference, reliance on official authority, and moral and intellectual corruptibility with which the American public has been preconditioned to play along with its government on most important issues. *The Minority of One*, p. 5, *Ripe for the Report*.
- 6/1/64** Washington, 5/31 - A special appendix to the Warren Commission's report will consider in detail the various theories circulating abroad about the assassination of President Kennedy.
- ... It is the idea that Oswald was the lone assassin that many persons abroad have apparently been unable to accept. Reports from major capitals in Europe indicate that many persons believe this view of the assassination is insufficiently logical, without ideology, senseless.
- The Warren Commission is aware of and concerned about the foreign skepticism. It considers that its job is to dispel uncertainty and suspicions about the assassination as far as possible.
- Staff members have read all the published works on the assassination [including Buchanan] ... In addition to the foreign material the staff has studied every commentary published in this country [including Lane]
- ... The Commission spokesman expressed the conviction that its report, when issued, would completely explode the theories published by such persons as Mr. Buchanan. He said not even the authors of the theories would stand by them.
- "We'll knock them out of those positions," he said. *New York Times*, Anthony Lewis
- 6/1/64** Washington, 5/31 - ... The volume of evidence to appraise for the report will be staggering. The transcript of testimony, excluding physical exhibits, now runs to 18,000 typewritten pages.
- That testimony will be printed as the proceedings of the commission. What there is so far will fill 6,000 pages, 9 x 6 inches, in 8.-point type [*New York Times* is printed in 8-point type]. It is already being set in type.
- The report itself, in which the Commission will make its findings on the evidence, will be in the form of a large book. There will be several appendices in addition to the basic narrative of events and conclusions.

Warren Commission, Report

... The commission itself is not going to undertake distribution of the report, It will provide copies for executive officials, Congress and the press. It expects the Government to order what is needed for public distribution. One preliminary estimate is at least a million copies. *New York Times*, Anthony Lewis

6/3/64 Washington - ... A Commission spokesman said yesterday the final report would dispel all speculation that the assassination might have had its roots in a political conspiracy. But today sources said there was some feeling on the seven-member commission that this had not been proven beyond all doubt, raising a possibility that the final report might not be unanimous. *San Francisco Examiner (UPI)*

6/4/64 The Warren Commission report on the assassination of President Kennedy will be published by *Doubleday & Co.* as a hardcover book one month after it is released. It is rumored that another publishing concern may issue the report, so a race may develop to put the book into the stores.

... The report will probably be published as a paperbound document by the Government Printing Office in an edition of one million copies, possibly in July or August.

Once issued, the report will be in the public domain. *Doubleday* plans a book, 6 by 9 inches, presumably more than 400 pages in length, and costing \$4. The Government Printing Office edition will probably be sold for less than half that price and will be mailed to applicants. *New York Times*

6/19/64 *AP* carried notes to editors on their wires, calling attention to stories saying the Warren Commission report "may be ready by 6/30." The notes outlined brief plans for coverage and asked editors what they wanted in addition. *AP*

6/24/64 Washington - The Commission ... described as unfounded tonight reports that it is about to publish its findings.

The Commission ... did not say when the report will be issued.

It said in a statement:

"The commission has learned of published reports to the effect that the report of the commission will be published within the next few days. The commission wishes to announce that these reports are unfounded." *AP*, 10:04 p.m. EDT

6/26/64 Here is how the Chief Justice happened to make this remark ["it might not be in your lifetime"]:

On 2/3 he told reporters that all the raw material used by the commission would be sent to the Archives Office for posterity.

However, some of this material includes reports which are classified. A newspaperman asked whether this material would be made public and Warren responded:

"Yes, there will come a time, But it might not be in :your lifetime. I am not referring to anything especially. But there "may be some things that world involve security. These would be preserved but not made public."

The Chief Justice was not referring to the facts surrounding the assassination but to documents which take some time to declassify. His remark was not published in proper context and was widely misconstrued.

"I cold have kicked myself afterward for saying that." Warren said later. *San Francisco Chronicle*, Drew Pearson

6/29/64

Washington - ... Until last week commission sources were giving 6/30 as the target date, but on Wednesday night the commission issued a one-paragraph statement saying, without explanation, that these reports were "unfounded."

Various members and other sources estimated privately it will be three to six weeks from now [7/20 to 8/10] - and some said quite possibly longer - before the document is approved and issued. The chairman, Chief Justice Earl Warren, has confirmed none of the guesses. *AP*, 11:10 a.m. EDT

7/64

One thing is certain: if the Warren Commission's report will merely be a cover-up job, it will be one prepared as competently as possible. This statement is by no means intended to prejudice anyone's reaction to the report; we merely recommend that one approach it with the always desirable grain of skepticism and also remembering that the procedure of the Warren Commission often appeared t ; be quite injudicious. With such sound reservations, one should study the report with an open mind, certainly not discounting any of the possibilities, including that the report is telling the truth. *The Minority of One*, p. 5, M. S. Arnoni

7/19/64

From transcript of President Johnson's news conference 7/18. at LBJ Ranch:

Q. Mr. President, could you give us any indication when the Warren report may be released, sir?

A. No, that's a Presidential commission. I asked the Chief Justice and other members to serve on it. They've done a very - they've been at it for a good while, and they are very insistent that they pursue every possible lead. When their report's completed, I'll assume they will submit it to the President and at that time I'll be very glad to review it carefully and make such decision as I may feel the national interest requires. *New York Times*

7/24/64

Washington - There is a sharp difference of opinion in the ... commission ... over its long-rumored report - which is still far from completed.

... Earl Warren ... is pressing vigorously for publishing findings early next month. That is also favored by Allan Dulles ... and Rep. Gerald Ford.

President ... Johnson is reportedly strongly urging the issuing of the Commission's report before the convening of the Democratic National Convention the last week in August. There is no authoritative explanation for his attitude.

But other commission members are balking. They contend there are still serious gaps in the testimony and evidence, and maintain the inquiry must be continued in an effort to obtain the missing information.

[Sen. John Sherman] Cooper wants , Mrs. Marina Oswald ... to be recalled [the third time] for additional questioning.

... He is frankly unsatisfied wit what she has told the probers.

... Another witness Cooper is insisting should be brought before the commission is Llewellyn Thompson, ambassador to Russia during the three years Oswald lived there ... Now special Soviet bloc consultant to the White house and Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Thompson, for some unexplained reason, has avoided testifying. ... Members of the commission have been told Thompson knows nothing about Oswald.

That doesn't satisfy Cooper and [Sen. Richard] Russell. Cooper wants to know particularly why State Department authorities ruled Oswald had not renounced his citizenship after he had gone to the Moscow Embassy and formally disavowed it. There has been no explanation from the department on this.

The official who made the ruling is no longer in the department. *San Rafael Independent Journal*, Allen and Paul Scott

7/25/64

Dallas - *The Dallas Times Herald* ... tonight ... under a Washington dateline from the newspaper's Washington Bureau, quoted an "authoritative source" and said the long-awaited report would not be forthcoming before 9/1 at the earliest.

The *Times Herald* story continued:

"The authoritative source who made this disclosure Saturday said the delay is being caused by concern on the part of commission members that they are producing a document of major historical importance.

"Thus there is considerably more than an ordinary interest in the choice of words in virtually every paragraph before each member places his signature on the report.

"The draft of the final report prepared by the commission staff was completed almost three weeks ago, but each commission

member is said to have a keen interest in almost every word. And it is a very long report." *AP*, 10:09 p.m. CST

7/28/64

Washington - Indications are that the commission ... will not make its report before sometime in September.

The commission ... has accumulated a mass of evidence that some of the members want to review further before a report is issued.

With Congress driving for adjournment before the Democratic national convention starts 8/24, Senate and House members on the commission are limited in the time they can give to the commission's work.

... [Sen. John Sherman] Cooper told a reporter he would not be surprised if the commission takes additional testimony before making its report.

... Sources close to the commission said that the time required for final revision of the draft of the proposed ... report and for all members of the commission to read it and make suggestions, are the only factors responsible for the delay. They said there is no disagreement on the substance of the report, with its finding that the killing was the sole work of Lee Harvey Oswald and that no plot was involved.

At one time publication of the report had been predicted for duly. But one source well informed on the commission's activities said today there is no chance it will be ready for distribution before Labor Day.

"The second week of September would be a good guess," he said. *AP*, 12:41 p.m. EDT

8/3/64

Evening Star says Warren Commission will devote much of its report to rebutting speculation that the assassination resulted from either a domestic or international conspiracy.

Says report now runs 660 pages, plus 18 volumes of testimony and depositions. *AP* Washington

8/11-12/64

Warren Commission spokesman says Warren Commission considering releasing report by contract with information media with proviso entire report be published without breaking release time. When asked whether a matter of such "grave national import" could be involved in negotiations with private concerns, J. Lee Rankin deferred to White House, where Press Secretary George Reedy said no decision been reached how to release.

AP president Paid, Miller and *ASNE* president Miles H. Wolff said they opposed anything but simultaneous release to all. *AP* Washington

9/13/64

San Francisco Chronicle -- prints *UPI* account of Bertrand Russell's doubts about the Warren Commission in his list of 16

Warren Commission, Report

questions about the assassination printed in a pamphlet issued by the *Citizens Committee of Inquiry*.

Russell says Warren Commission not representative of the people, and its members, because of their government connections, would not have been allowed to sit on a jury trying Oswald. Attacks lack of cross-examination and the naming of Walter J. Craig one of the supporters of the Goldwater movement in Arizona," to represent Oswald. *San Francisco Chronicle*

- 9/13/64** List of 25 questions which Warren Commission may be expected to answer in Warren Report, compiled from questions posed by critics on both sides. Questions are compound and represent far more than 25 individual questions. *New York Herald Tribune - Will Warren Report Answer These Unanswered Questions?*
- 9/21/64** Undated note to managing editors. Announcing plans to publish Warren Report in had back to be sold by members to public at \$1.50 each. Cost to member \$1.00 each. *AP*
- 9/22/64** The Warren Commission's report on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy will be unfolded to the world next weekend. *AP Washington*
- 9/22/64** Release plans for Warren Report.
- See also confidential wire note to editors regarding wire movement of texts and pictures. *AP Washington*
- 9/23/64** Further confidential wire notes to editors regarding wire movement and sales of *AP* version of the report.
- 9/23/64** Clipped: sale of the warren Report in its various versions (and supplements). Sales records, methods, etc.
- 9/24/64** The seven members of the Warren Commission present to President Johnson today the completed report on their investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. *AP Washington*
- 9/26/64** Attorney General Waggoner Carr has said that he will release next week a "texas report" on the assassination of President Kennedy. *Dallas Morning News, Austin*
- [Also see *Texas Court of Inquiry*, Warren Commission, 11/26/63]
- 9/27/64** *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, Richard Dudman, Washington - *Warren Report Not Expected to Dispose of Conspiracy Theories*.
- ... Officials whose chi reputation of the United States blame the circumstances of the killing, distorted and sensational accounts by Communists and others, the long delay in presenting the official story, news leaks about the Commission's work, and to some

extent the Commission itself.

The killing, one official pointed out, followed the classic pattern of conspiratorial political assassination in which the killed is silenced by being killed himself. The pattern is common in much of the world, although not in the United States. ...

- 9/27/64** Excellent summary of unanswered questions about the assassination, its aftermath and investigation by the Warren Commission. *Kansas City Star, Chicago Daily News Service, Raymond J. Coffey – Doubts Haunts JFK Probe. Strange Gaps in Story. By Some Warren Report Is Considered Part of a Cover-Up*
- 9/28/64** No cards as such on the issuance today of the Warren Report, or the various news treatments of its many sections. In the Warren Report folder will be found many news clippings from New York, San Francisco, Washington and other newspapers. Most of these indicate unquestioning acceptance of the Report but with minor reservations here and there about certain aspects of its conclusions.
- For chronology of publication of Warren Report – going back to possible target date first mentioned by J. Lee Rankin, 2/64 – See 9/28/64.
- 9/28/64** ... But no prosecutor ever assembled a more detailed indictment than that released today by the ... commission ... *AP Washington, Sid Moody, The Evidence*
- 9/28/64** All the working papers, reports, hearing transcripts and exhibits of the Warren Commission will be preserved in the National Archives. ... *AP Washington*
- San Francisco Call Bulletin, same date.*
- 10/2/64** *The Warren Commission Report. Account of the findings. Time, p. 45*
- 10/5/64** p. 32, *The Warren Commission Report*
- p. 34, *My God, they are going to kill us all*
- p. 45, *Lee Harvey Oswald was the assassin*
- p. 49, *The very fact that he defected ...*
- p. 63, *The Commission has concluded ...*

Warren Commission, Report

- 10/5/64** *Unraveling the Mystery of the Assassination of John F. Kennedy. The Official Story. U.S. News & World Report, p. 35*
- 10/12/64** . New little noticed chapters of the Kennedy assassination are opened up in the report on the official investigation. ... *U.S. News & World Report, p. 59, The Untold Stories - Aftermath of the Assassination*
- 11/7/64** An account of the various private and public publishing efforts in connection with the Warren Report. *Saturday Review, Warren Report in Mass Production, p. 25*
- 12/17/64** Evidence and records compiled by the Warren Commission ... have been deposited with the U.S Archives, an official said tonight.

[He explained that records now secret because not yet classified, but that making them public to scholars is matter of getting permission from originating agency, in which case national archives will make them available. Otherwise, if classified, they remain, so for 75 Years.] *AP Washington*
- 1/16/65** Quotes *New York Herald Tribune* as saying "much of what was said off the record by some 552 witnesses during the [WC] investigation" has been stored in a vault in the National Archives Building.

... This was the first disclosure that the 26 volumes of testimony and the one volume Warren Report did not include all the evidence. The National Archives retain secret documents for 75 years because this is considered the life span of an individual, the *Herald Tribune* said. *National Guardian*
- 3/28/65** The government has allocated to date \$1 million for the investigation and report on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. *AP Washington*
- 4/5/65** After months of semi--secret preparation, the U.S. government has scrapped plans for mass distribution in the Soviet Union of a Russian translation of the Warren Commission report. ... *San Francisco Chronicle UPI Washington*
- 8/31/66** The Soviet government has stopped distribution by the U.S. Embassy of a Russian language text of the *Warren Commission Report* ... an embassy spokesman said today.

The foreign ministry called the report "slanderous to the Soviet people" and its distribution "improper and impermissible," the spokesman said.

There was speculation in Moscow that distribution ... was stopped because it contradicts the Soviet version of the Kennedy assassination as a right-wing conspiracy of "Texas oil barons." ... *AP Moscow*

The Soviet labor newspaper *Trud* ran a reprint last Thursday of an article in the Czech news-paper *Rude Pravo* which charged that the *Warren Commission Report* falsified and concealed facts. This version also had the assassination being the work of a right wing conspiracy. ... *NL*

9/1/66 The Soviet government has ordered the United States embassy to halt the distribution of a Russian language edition of *the Warren Commission Report*, saying it slandered the Soviet people.

... The Soviet action, together with recent hints, suggested that the Kremlin was mounting a campaign to challenge the report's veracity and, by innuendo, to implicate President Johnson in the assassination of President Kennedy.

... On 8/17 ... *Izvestia* printed a long article describing the theories of Joachim Joesten in which President Johnson is accused of having seized power and having maneuvered to cover up the "ultra-rightwing plot" to kill President Kennedy.

On 8/25, the trade union paper *Trud* printed a further article on Mr. Joesten making the accusation against President Johnson more forceful. ... *New York Times*, Peter Grose, Moscow

9/1/66 Tongue-clucking editorial about the Soviet Union's ban on distribution of the Russian language version of the Warren report. *New York Times*, *Slander in Moscow*

9/11/66 The U.S. government is wondering what to do with several thousand copies of a Russian translation of *the Warren Commission Report* on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. ...

... Additionally, U.S. officials believe the Soviet press has gone out of its way since last fall to cast doubt on the *Warren Report*. It has picked up in considerable detail books and articles challenging the commission's findings, including Joachim Joesten's conclusion that the assassination was a right-wing plot to put President Johnson in office. In the eyes of U.S. officials, this has taken on proportions of a "campaign" against Johnson as part of Russia's overall condemnation of the U.S. role in the Vietnam war. ... *San Francisco Examiner UPI* Washington

9/25/66 Books criticizing; the Warren Report ... still roll off the presses -- but the report itself appeared today to have petered out as a best seller.

... Despite the continuing controversy, sales of the report have dwindled to a trickle. The *Doubleday* and *Associated Press* hardbacks are out of print. The Government Printing Office sold on any 249 cloth and paperback copies during August. ... *AP* Washington

11/3/69 The National Violence Commission [originally named The National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence] is established by President Johnson 6/5/68, [Unrelated story, *New York Times*, 12/4/69, says Commission was established by President Johnson, 6/10/68.] the day Robert Kennedy was shot and before he died 6/6/68.

The report of the Commission is issued in sections, that dealing with assassinations being made public 11/2/69. This section emphasizes that recent assassinations in the United States were non-conspiratorial, and says that historically "the evidence ... is overwhelming" that no Presidential assassination - with the exception of the abortive attempt on the life of President Truman - has been demonstrated to be the result of a conspiracy.

The Commission says that before Robert Kennedy was killed, "it might have been hypothesized in 1968 that the next assassin to strike at a President - or presidential candidate, as it turned out - would have most of the following attributes ... " With a few minor exceptions, the attributes listed conform to the official description of Oswald.

Material on The National Violence Commission is filed Robert Kennedy [b], 6/6/68 et seq., and 11/3/69, which includes excerpts from the Commission's report on assassinations.

11/6/66 Danger grows for Johnson, survey shows. Discussion of security problems of protecting the President. Mention of Robert Webster, an expert marksman from Ohio, who defected to Russia at about the same time as Lee Harvey Oswald [and whose whereabouts unknown].

Webster is mentioned several times in the 26 volumes of evidence published by the Warren Commission. *San Francisco Sunday Examiner Chronicle*