

# Commission on Violence to Differ From Warren Probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — The only member of President Johnson's commission on violence who also served on the Warren Commission says the new investigation will be

PG-A—W-Assass—Calif history wholly different in scope and method from the probe into President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

Rep. Hale Boggs, D-La., said:

"The mandate is certainly broader" for the probe of violence, which was launched after Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was shot in Los Angeles Wednesday.

Boggs is one of 10 on the new commission, headed by Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower. He outlined his views on the new probe but said there has been no discussions yet of organization or procedure.

U.S. District Judge A. Leon Higginbotham of Philadelphia, another of the commission appointees, said Thursday the nation "must not assume a posture of hopelessness" about violence.

In an interview, Higginbotham offered some thoughts on where the root causes of violence may be found.

"We have long-term, hard-core problems of poverty and discrimination, which breeds lawlessness," he said. "And this is not a problem that was just discovered.

"It has been like an iceberg and now is surfacing and causing trouble that is visible in America."

Across the country another member of the panel, Eric Hoffer, met with newsmen

and cautioned the nation against wallowing in self-condemnation.

"We are not violent!" the San Francisco longshoreman-philosopher insisted.

"I have spent my life with people considered the most violent on earth — skid row bums, migrant workers, longshoremen," he said. "But I have never, never in my life seen a fight.

"These people — and Americans generally, are gentle and orderly and kind."

Boggs said one major difference in the two probes is that the Eisenhower Commission undoubtedly will hold open hearings. The Warren Commission did not.

The Warren Commission's job essentially was to conduct a criminal investigation after Lee Harvey Oswald, arrested for the assassination of President Kennedy, was killed.

The over-all question Johnson asked when he announced

establishment of the new commission was:

"What in the nature of our people and the environment of our society makes possible such murder and such violence?"

Boggs said he thinks a highly professional staff, including sociologists, criminologists and psychologists will be needed even to plan an inquiry of such scope.

"As I read this mandate," he added, "it simply couldn't be broader."

The potential range of witnesses for the commission's hearings, Boggs said, is almost unlimited.

He said the inquiry should go into questions of violence in the mass media, not only television and motion pictures but "violence for violence's sake" in newspapers and other publications as well.

The effects of education, housing and other social conditions also should be explored, he added.

"We have somehow built a very permissive society," he said. "We must do something to re-emphasize responsibility."

He said he expects some time will be required to organize the commission and agree on guidelines "and in the meantime I can only think aloud."