£A134DN

GOV. CONNALLY REACTION (300)

BY JACK KEEVER

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

AUSTIN, TEX., SEPT. 28 (AP)-TEXAS GOV. JOHN CONNALLY SAYS HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY HAS MADE HIM MUCH MORE CAUTIOUS IN PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

BECAUSE OF THAT TRAGIC DAY NOV. 22, THE GOVERNOR SAID AT A PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY, HE PROBABLY WILL ASK THE NEXT LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE MORE PROTECTION FOR THE STATE'S CHIEF EXECUTIVES.

CONNALLY CAME TO THE CONFERENCE CARRYING A COPY OF THE WARREN COMMISSION REPORT GIVEN HIM AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

HE SAID HE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE COMMISSION'S FINDINGS "TO THE EXTENT I'VE HAD A CHANCE TO READ IT." HE SAID HE HAD READ ALL THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS.

HE SAID HE FELT "BEYOND ANY DOUBT" THAT LEE HARVEY OSWALD WAS THE MAN WHO SHOT HIM, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT THINK HE WAS THE INTENDED TARGET.

THE GOVERNOR WAS WOUNDED WHEN KENNEDY WAS KILLED AS THEY RODE IN A DALLAS MOTORCADE.

CONNALLY SAID THE REPORT "BRINGS INTO FOCUS ALL THE MEMORIES AND FORCES ME TO RECALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE TRAGEDY--WHICH YOU TRY TO PUT OUT OF YOUR MIND. MRS. CONNALLY AND I DON'T TALK ABOUT IT."

THE GOVERNOR SAID HE FOUND IN THE REPORT "MANY DETAILS WHICH I HAVEN'T SEEN BEFORE.

"OF COURSE, FOR TWO DAYS AFTER I WAS SHOT I WAS COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF WHAT WAS HAPPENING, " CONNALLY SAID.

THE REPORT INDICATED THE FIRST SHOT FIRED ON THE MOTORCADE WOUNDED BOTH KENNEDY AND CONNALLY.

TO THIS, THE GOVERNOR SAID:

"THE FIRST SHOT DID NOT HIT ME, THEN I WAS HIT, AND THE THIRD SHOT DID NOT HIT ME."

£A135DN

THE GOVERNOR SAID HE FEELS HE IS ABOUT 95 PER CENT RECOVERED FROM HIS WOUNDS. HE SAID, HOWEVER, IT TAKES A "GREAT EFFORT TO EXTEND HIS RIGHT ARM," BECAUSE OF THE WOUND IN HIS SIDE.

THE BULLET ENTERED HIS BACK, TORE THROUGH HIS CHEST, HIT HIS WRIST AND EMBEDDED ITSELF IN HIS RIGHT THIGH.

COMMENTING ON THE COMMISSION'S CONCLUSION THAT THE FBI SHOULD HAVE RELAYED CERTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT OSWALD TO SECRET SERVICE AGENTS,
CONNALLY SAID THERE SEEMED TO BE A "WEAKNESS IN THEIR MEANS OF COMMUNICATION."

HE SAID THE REPORT AS A WHOLE, HOWEVER, SHOULD HAVE A "SALUTARY EFFECT ON THE COUNTRY AND THE FREE WORLD . . . AND PUT TO REST MANY SPECULATIONS ABOUT THAT TRAGIC EVENT."

THE GOVERNOR AND MRS. CONNALLY APPEARED BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON APRIL 22.

JJ753ACS NM