

Dallas Hails the Report

DALLAS — (AP) — Dallas leaders hailed the Warren Commission report today as a verdict of innocent — an exoneration of charges that the city was to blame for President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

"I hope we have dispelled the myth that there's an unfavorable climate in Dallas that engenders an assassination," Mayor Erik Jonsson said after reading a summary of the report.

The President was slain in downtown Dallas last Nov. 22 by a sniper the commission said Sunday

was Lee Harvey Oswald.

IT SAID HE had no conspirators, foreign or domestic, leftwing or right.

Dallas had been criticized from many quarters as a haven of "hate groups," particularly extremist right wing elements.

John Stemmons, president of the Dallas Citizens Council, called the Warren report a "complete vindication of such malicious and impulsive charges."

"The report," he said, "is conclusive proof this was an act of a madman, not that of some government

opposing our government, or a group opposed to our way of life."

THE DALLAS Citizens Council, composed of 250 business executives, has guided the city to most of its business and cultural achievements since 1936, including integration gains.

U. S. Attorney Barefoot Sanders said he considered it a "fine thing" that the commission cleared the city of charges that it has a "hate atmosphere."

The Rev. William A. Holmes, the Methodist minister who had reported

that some schoolchildren cheered upon learning of the assassination, said he has noted "signs of moderation" in Dallas.

Multi-millionaire oilman H. L. Hunt, major advertising supporter of the conservative-oriented "Life Line" radio program, called the report "a very honest finding."

THE REPORT said poor security arrangements for Oswald contributed to his slaying by Dallas nightclub operator Jack Ruby. And it said the release of information by police to newsmen "provided much of the basis for the myths and rumors that came into being soon after the president's death."

Mayor Jonsson, however, said "wonderful police work" led to Oswald's arrest within two hours of the President's death.

Earle Cabell, mayor at the time of the assassination, said this:

"Our police department was confronted with a situation such as has never been duplicated in the world's history.

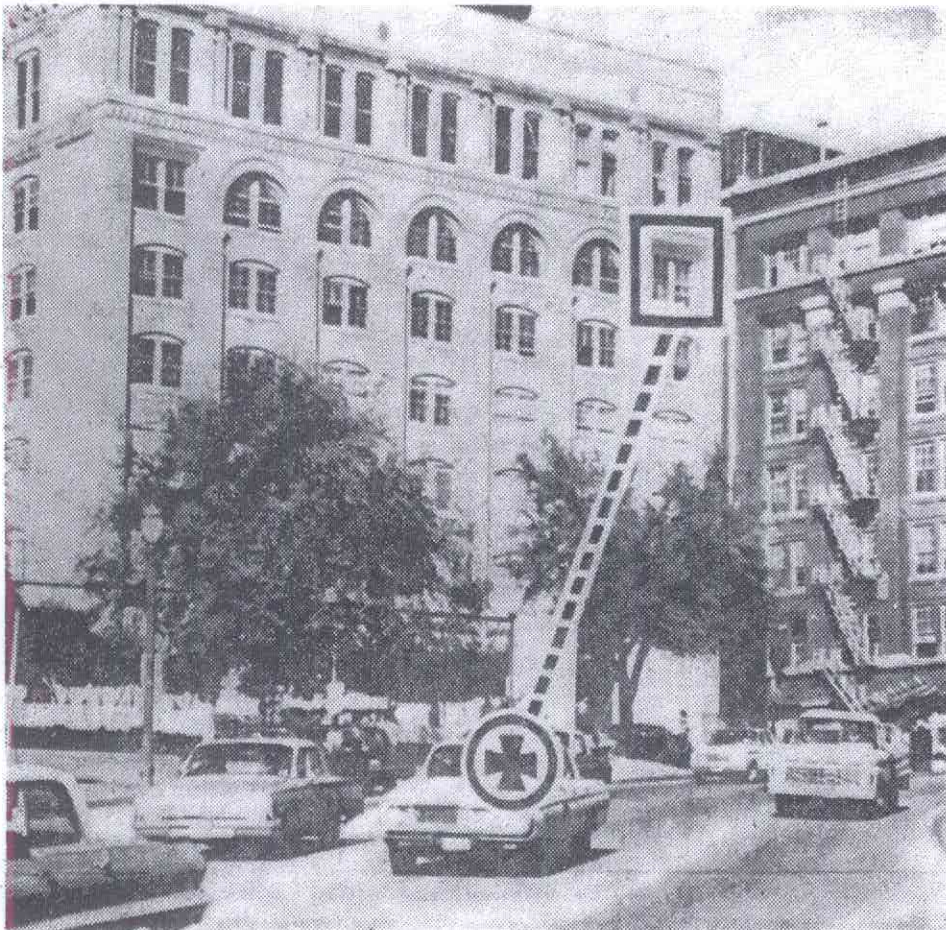
"MY OPINION is that the Warren report members . . . would have been more critical of Chief of Police Jesse Curry had he in any way attempted to enforce a blackout of news to the world public."

Curry did say in a TV show made before the report was released that if he had it to do over, "I wouldn't let them (newsmen) inside city hall," where Oswald was shot during a jail transfer.

District Attorney Henry Wade and lawyers Joe Tonahill said they agreed with the commission's observation that a fair trial for Os-

wald would have been difficult to obtain in Dallas.

Wade prosecuted the Ruby case, drawing a death sentence for the night club operator. Tonahill helped defend Ruby.



Police theorized that Oswald fired from window indicated by outlined square