

U. S. Leaders Back Report

Oswald's Mother In Disagreement

By the Associated Press

American leaders and those who were involved in the events of the assassination of President Kennedy were—with few exceptions—favorably impressed by the thoroughness and conclusions of the Warren Commission report.

Notable exceptions were the mother of the accused assassin, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, who called the report "ridiculous," and attorney Mark Lane, who in lectures around the world has expressed doubt that Lee Harvey Oswald was the assassin.

Some of those involved, including Oswald's widow, Marina, and law enforcement officials in Dallas, where the President and Oswald were slain, were not available to comment on the report.

Favorable comments ranged from general praise to agreement with specific conclusions, such as the commission's recommendation of stricter security measures for the President, and its criticism of the performance of Dallas officials and news media in the period between the assassination and Oswald's death by Jack Ruby.

Robert Kennedy Satisfied

The slain President's brother, former Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, said he did not intend to read the full report, but had been briefed on it.

"I am completely satisfied," he said, "that the commission investigated every lead and examined every piece of evidence. The commission's inquiry was thorough and conscientious."

Texas Gov. John B. Connally, who was wounded when the President was killed, said the report "reflects a desire on the part of the commission to be extremely thorough and to run down every fact of the assassination of the president."

Connally said he agreed fully with the conclusion that he was not the gunman's target and also with the finding that Oswald was the killer.

Mansfield Wants Action

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana said he accepted the commission's findings that no conspiracy was involved in the President's assassination, though he expressed doubt the report would set at rest worldwide rumors of such a plot.



Robert Oswald, brother of assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, talks about the Warren Report in Denton, Tex., today.—AP Wirephoto.

Mansfield said he hoped that recommendations made to Congress by the report could "be put into effect as quickly as possible" and should be made the first order of business when Congress returns in January.

Melvin Belli, principal lawyer in Ruby's defense, described the findings as "a real great report, fulfilling the capabilities of the great Americans who were appointed to do it ..."

"I think this report should set at rest for ever the conspiracy theory and should do a lot to restore our image abroad," Belli said, adding:

"The one fault I find with the Warren report is the ascribing of the motive of Jack Ruby ... it is not thorough enough."

The report noted Ruby's statement that he had killed Oswald so Mrs. Kennedy would not have the ordeal of testifying at a trial, but the commission drew no conclusion on his motive.

Attorney Lane, whose lectures have bolstered the belief of many Europeans that the assassination was a right-wing conspiracy, said the report "raises more questions than it answers."

Charging the report's purpose was to have a "tranquilizing effect upon America," he said it would "rank in history with the finding that Dreyfus was guilty of treason and with the trial of the Trotskyists in the Soviet Union."

Mother to Press On

Oswald's mother, slamming her fist down on a bound copy of the report, commented:

"I can break this whole thing apart. I'm going to make fools of them ... I have facts in my possession that make me believe in my son's innocence. Therefore, this will compel me to continue my investigation with renewed vigor."

Still living in her small, Fort Worth apartment, she is not regularly employed. She says she devotes her life to "learning the truth about the assassination." She recently sold some of her son's letters to a national magazine and has made a recording concerning the assassination.

She reacted vigorously to what she called a commission inference that "Lee was an assassin because of his environment."

"I am indignant," she said. "None of Lee Harvey Oswald's early history would indicate that he would ever become an assassin, a killer."

At Irving, Tex., Mrs. Ruth Paine, who was sharing her home with Oswald's wife and children at the time of the assassination, said she thought the commission had done "a marvelous job of reporting ... everything I read of the report was extremely accurate."

Oswald's brother, Robert, said in Dallas that the Warren report had removed his past doubts that his brother was the assassin.

"I am quite satisfied," he said, "that it has been covered entirely and leaves no doubt in my mind that Lee actually did assassinate the President of the United States and did kill Officer Tippit."

To Appear in U.S.

In Baltimore, Thomas G. Buchanan, whose book "Who Killed Kennedy" stirred doubts in Europe, said he remains unconvinced by the report that Oswald acted alone.

"The report furnished added details which tend to confirm in general ... my position that Oswald is neither wholly innocent nor wholly guilty," Buchanan said in an interview in Baltimore, where he is visiting an aunt.

He returned to the United States from Paris, where he has been living, to cover the Warren Commission report for foreign newspapers and to rework his book for its first American publication, due Nov. 23.

Buchanan feels the Warren Commission, "under pressure to get this report out," made it "more a matter of public relations than a matter of investigation."

Buchanan, who was fired by the Washington Evening Star in 1948 for being a Communist, tends to view the Kennedy assassination as a right-wing plot of which Oswald was only a part. Buchanan said he quit the party about 15 years ago.

Another critic was former Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker, who called the report a "white-wash" handed down to conceal "some sort of conspiracy."

Walker, who the commission concluded also was the target of an assassination attempt by Oswald, rejected the report's verdict that Oswald acted alone in killing Mr. Kennedy.

In Dallas, civic leaders hailed the report as a verdict of innocent—an exoneration of charges that the city was to blame for the assassination.

The report said an "atmosphere of extreme opposition to President Kennedy" existed "in some parts of the Dallas community" before his assassination. But the commission said it found no evidence that this anti-Kennedy feeling influenced Oswald in his decision to kill the Chief Executive.

"The commission," the report said, "has found no evidence that the extreme views expressed toward President Kennedy by some right-wing groups centered in Dallas or any other general atmosphere of hate or right-wing extremism which may have existed in Dallas had any connection with Oswald's actions."