

Johnson Gets Assassination Report



United Press International Telephoto

Chief Justice Earl Warren presents report to President

By CHARLES MOHR

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 24—President Johnson received from the hands of Chief Justice Earl Warren today a presentation copy of the Warren Commission's report on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. In a letter of thanks released later the President told the Chief Justice: "The commission, I know, has been guided throughout by a determination to find and tell the whole truth of these terrible events. This is our obligation to the good name of the United States of America and to all men everywhere who respect our nation—and above all to the memory of President Kennedy." Those words reflected one major hope—that the Warren Commission report would minimize, if not end, the belief that is widespread in foreign countries, that the full truth of the assassination has been withheld.

The report will be made public in Monday morning's newspapers.

The New York Times plans to print the text of the report in Monday's issue.

papers. Since it is for automatic release at 6:30 P.M. Sunday, reports on it will be heard on television and radio that night.

The President will probably dip deeply into the report at the LBJ Ranch at Johnson City, Tex., over the weekend.

Tomorrow he travels to El Paso, Tex., for a joint appearance with President Lopez Mateos of Mexico at ceremonies marking the transfer of the once-disputed Chamizal zone to Mexico.

Mr. Johnson will then fly to dedication ceremonies for the Eufaula Dam near Muskogee, Okla., and to the Oklahoma State Fair at Oklahoma City for a speech. From there he will go to Texarkana to dedicate the "John F. Kennedy" Square on the Texas-Arkansas border. He will spend Friday and Saturday nights at his ranch.

The seven-man Warren Commission, and its counsel, J. Lee Rankin, brought the report to Mr. Johnson in the Cabinet room.

"It's pretty heavy," said Mr. Johnson as the boxed, Navy blue, four-inch-thick volume—about the size of "Who's Who"—was handed to him by Mr. Warren. Those were the only clear words reporters could overhear.

The report is expected to find that Lee Harvey Oswald was the lone assassin of Mr. Kennedy and that Jack Ruby was acting alone when he murdered Oswald.

One victim of the assassin's rifle was in the White House today as Mr. Johnson's guest. He was Gov. John S. Connally Jr. of Texas, who arrived this week to talk politics with his old friend.

This afternoon Governor Connally, who was wounded in the chest, wrist and leg by one of the assassin's bullets last Nov. 22, spoke to reporters in the White House lobby, and the

subject of the report came up. Mr. Connally had not seen it, but said, "I don't think there will be any surprises."

"It's a hard question to answer," he added. "I don't know what you expect; there may be some surprises—we'll have to wait and see."

The tall, gray Governor said he was pretty much recovered from his wounds and felt "wonderful," although his wrist was still a bit stiff and there was "a little deadness there, still."

Question on Bullet

One question about the assassination is whether Governor Connally, who was riding with Mr. Kennedy, was hit by a second bullet or the first one that struck the President.

"I have some pretty strong feelings on that subject and I testified about them to the Warren Commission," the Governor said when asked about this. "I have always felt that there was a second shot that hit me."

Only one word was said by members of the Warren Commission to the press. When the Chief Justice was asked if today's presentation ended the commission's job, he answered with an emphatic "yes."

The atmosphere on the occasion was businesslike, but not grim.

A little later music from the Air Force Band was filling the Rose Garden and the President was in smiling good spirits as he presented the nation's top aviation award, the Collier trophy, to Clarence L. Johnson, who designed the U-2 reconnaissance plane and the new A-11 interceptor.

He is vice president of the Advance Projects Department of the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, and his highly classified workshop has a distinctive name to which the President referred with a grin.

He called Mr. Johnson "the most distinguished citizen of that most unique and distinguished corner of our land, the 'skunk works.'"

The President said he could give a testimonial to Mr. Johnson at a "satisfied customer" because he was so fond of the "Jetstar" executive aircraft, which Mr. Johnson designed and which, the President noted, the "newspapermen call 'Air Force one-half.'"

The President also signed a bill today authorizing the appropriation of \$5 million to investigate a site for construction of a sea level canal connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, as a possible supplement to the Panama Canal.