

Warren Report Testimony Given By 325 Dallasites

WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON—More than 325 Dallasites testified before the Warren Commission or made sworn depositions during the 10-month investigation of President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

The list of Dallasites quizzed by the commission or its investigators comprised more than half the total interviewed both in the United States and abroad.

Dallas police officers by the dozen gave testimony along with witnesses at the scene of the assassination, witnesses to the murder of patrolman J. D. Tippit and those who witnessed the subsequent murder of Oswald at the hands of Jack Ruby.

Commission investigators also delved into acquaintances of both Oswald and Ruby, Oswald's employers, co-workers, landlords and friends, Texas Employment Commission personnel who had dealt with Oswald, rifle range patrons who may have seen him practicing his rifle, and virtually everyone else who had known contact with the assassin.

OFFICIALS ON LIST

The lengthy list of Dallasites also included city and county officials, newsmen, auto salesmen, parking lot attendants, Parkland Hospital doctors and nurses, Western Union employees, sheriff's deputies, janitors, porters, a cab driver, a bus driver and others—including strip tease artists employed by Ruby.

Dallas, the scene of the assassination, was the focal point of the investigation that ranged far and wide—even to the point of roping in passengers on the steamship that carried Oswald to France when he was defecting to the Soviet Union, American tourists who ran across Oswald when he was living in Minsk and fellow passengers on the bus that he took to Mexico City when he was attempting to gain entry into Cuba.

It was from the testimony of the more than 500 witnesses plus records, documents and other data that the commission pieced together the complex picture pre-

sented in its historic 816-word report.

In the report itself, the commission included only bits and pieces of pertinent testimony applicable to the point under discussion.

The decision to withhold all testimony until completion of the report was made at the outset.

"The commission recognized that testimony would be presented before it which would be inadmissible in judicial proceedings and might prejudice innocent parties if made public out of context," the commission said.

"Since this testimony . . . could not always be taken in logical sequence, the commission concluded that partial publication of testimony as the investigation progressed was impractical and could be misleading."

Originals of the commission's report, the full transcripts of testimony, documentary exhibits, materials and all "working papers" are being turned over to the national archives for permanent preservation.