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(ADVANCE FOR AMS FRIDAY, APRIL 15--NOTEDATE
ASSASSINATION SITE
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(ADVANCE--DALLAS, TEX., APRIL 14 (AP)-A HOT CIVIC ARGUMENT HAS BOILED UP OVER THE INSCRIPTION ON A MARKER FOR THE SITE OF JOHN F. KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION.

THE CITY COUNCIL HAS APPROVED A VERSION WHICH WOULD FILL TWO BRONZE PANELS WITH A TUMBNAIL HISTORY OF DALLAS, FOLLOWED BY A PANEL GIVING A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE PRESIDENT'S DEATH.

MRS. MARTINA LANGLEY, SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE FOR A KENNEDY ASSASSINATION SITE MEMORAIL (CAPS C, K, G, S, M) DECLARED VISITORS WOULD BE "STUNNED AND INDIGNANT" AT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT.

THE DALLAS TIMES-HERALD ASSERTED EDITORIALY THAT IT "WILL APPEAR TO MANY AS AN ATTEMPT TO EVADE THE STARK FACT THAT A PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES WAS ASSASSINATED HERE, OR AT BEST AN ATTEMPT TO PASS THE EVENT OFF AS ONE OF MINOR CONSEQUENCE."

SOME DALLAS RESIDENTS SAY THE \$8,429 MARKER PROJECT SHOULD BE ABANDONED, ARGUING THAT IT IS A NEEDLESS REMINDER OF THE SADDEST CHAPTER IN CITY ANNALS.

THE CHOSEN MARKER SITE IS DEALEY PLAZA, A CITY PARK NAMED FOR THE LATE G.B.DEALEY, PUBLISHER OF THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS. IT IS ACROSS ELM STREET FROM THE TEXAS SCHOOLBOOK DEPOSITORY BUILDING FROM WHICH LEE HARVEY OSWALD SHOT THE PRESIDENT.

TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PERSONS ANNUALLY VISIT DEALEY PLAZA TO LOOK AT THE SCENE OF THE ASSASSINATION.

THE COMMITTEE FOR A KENNEDY ASSASSINATION SITE MEMORIAL URGED THE CITY TO PLACE A MARKER AT THE SPOT TO HELP EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED THERE.

THE PARK BOARD AGREE LAST MONTH TO ERECT SUCH A MARKER AND SUBMITTED ITS PLANS TO THE CITY COUNCIL, WHICH APPROVED THEM.

THESE TWO BODIES DECIDED THE MARKER WOULD BE A SERIES OF FOUR BRONZE PANELS. THE FIRST TWO WOULD OUTLINE THE IISTORY OF DALLAS STARTING WITH THE BUILDING OF JOHN-NEELY BRIAN'S LOG CABIN IN 1841 NEAR WHAT IS NOW DEALEY PLAZA, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GROWING COMMUNITY AS A COUNTY SEAT IN 1846, THE START OF NAVIGATION OF THE TRINITY RIVER AND THE COMING OF THE RAILROADS.

THE THIRD PANEL WOULD DESCRIBE THE ASSASSINATION, SAYING:

"WITH A BACKGROUND AS THE CENTER OF CONSTRUCTIVE GROWTH, THIS SITE UNFORTUNATELY BECAME THE SCENE OF A TRAGEDY WHICH PLUNGED THE WORLD INTO A STATE OF SHOCK.

"ON NOVEMBER 22, 1963, JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, THIRTY-FIFTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, VISITED DALLAS. A PRESIDENTIAL PARADE TRAVELED WEST ON MAIN STREET TO HOUSTON STREET, NORTH ON HOUSTON TO ELM STREET, AND WEST OF ELM STREET. AS THE PARADE CONTINUED ON ELM STREET AT 12:35 P.M., RIFLE SHOTS TOOK THE LIFE OF THE PRESIDENT AND WOUNDED TEXAS GOVERNOR JOHN CONNALLY.

"FINDINGS OF THE WARREN COMMISSION INDICATED THAT THE RIFLE SHOTS WERE FIRED FROM A SIXTH FLOOR WINDOW NEAR THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY BUILDING."

THE FOURTH BRONZE PANEL WOULD CARRY A MAP OF THE VICINITY, WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL PARADE ROUTE MARKED ON IT.

MRS. LANGLEY AND THE COMMITTEE IMMEDIATELY PROTESTED. MRS. LANGLEY TOLD THE CITY COUNCIL THE INSCRIPTION SHOULD BE CONFINED TO FACTS ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION. SHE SAID THE OTHER HISTORICAL DATA COULD BE "MORE PROPERLY HOUSED IN THE PRESERVED COUNTY COURTHOUSE ACROSS THE STREET."

THE COUNCIL TOLD THE PARK BOARD TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK.

LAST WEEK THE PARK BOARD ANNOUNCED IT HAD MADE SOME CHANGES IN THE INSCRIPTION; IT HAD ADDED MORE DETAILS OF OLD DALLAS HISTORY AND SHORTENED THE PART ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION BY ELIMINATING ANY MENTION OF OSWALD. THE PRELIMINARY HISTORY WOULD RUN ABOUT 200 WORDS AND THE ASSASSINATION SECTION ABOUT 115.

THE COUNCIL APPROVED THIS REVISION.

CITY PARKS DIRECTOR L.B. HOUSTON SAID THE INSCRIPTION HAD BEEN "PAINSTAKINGLY DEVELOPED OVER A LONG PERIOD" AND THAT THE HISTORICAL DATA WAS DESIRABLE FOR THE INFORMATION OF TOURISTS.

MRS. LANGLEY SAID SHE WAS SHOCKED.

THE DALLAS TIMES-HERALD AND STATION KRLD-TV CONDUCTED INFORMAL POLLS. MOST OF THOSE INTERVIEWED SAID THE INSCRIPTION SHOULD BE LIMITED TO THE ASSASSINATION.

MANY, INCLUDING CITY COUNCILMAN JOE MOODY, WHO WAS DEFEATED 7-1 IN THE COUNCIL'S VOTE, SAID THAT IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR THE ASSASSINATION THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO THOUGHT OF A MARKER IN THE PLAZA--AND NO REASON TO PUT ONE THERE.

SOME PEOPLE APPROVED THE PARK BOARD'S WORDING. THEY TOOK THE VIEW THAT IT PUT THE ASSASSINATION IN "PROPER PERSPECTIVE" AND WOULD "HELP PLAY DOWN" THE UNHAPPY EVENT.

A FEW FELT THE MARKER SHOULD NOT BE BUILT AT ALL.

"WE DON'T NEED TO BE REMINDED," ONE SAID.

MRS. LANGLEY SAID DALLAS CANNOT IGNORE THE ASSASSINATION SITE.

"WE ARE THE CARETAKERS, NOT THE DECISION-MAKERS," SHE SAID.

"WE IN DALLAS MUST BE MINDFUL THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING THE HISTORIC SPOT IS OURS--TO RETAIN AND COMMEMORATE IT IN A FITTING MANNER."

SINCE LAST JUNE, MRS. LANGLEY'S COMMITTEE HAS BEEN OBTAINING SIGNATURES ON A PETITION DISPLAYED AT DEALEY PLAZA, ASKING PRESIDENT JOHNSON TO PRESERVE THE SITE IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE FORD THEATER IN WASHINGTON, WHERE ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS SHOT.

SHE SAID THAT SO FAR THE PETITION HAS BEEN SIGNED BY MORE THAN 18,000 PERSONS, REPRESENTING ALL 50 STATES AND 61 FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

THE TIMES HERALD SAYS IT HAS LEARNED THAT BECAUSE OF THE PROTESTS THE PARK BOARD WILL TAKE A THIRD LOOK AT THE MARKER INSCRIPTION NEXT MONDAY.

END ADVANCE FOR AMS FRIDAY, APRIL 15--SENT APRIL 13.

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