

COMMUNISM CITED IN KENNEDY DEATH

House Panel Calls Agitation Cause of Assassination

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 (AP)—The House Committee on Un-American Activities said today that propaganda and agitation by the Communist party led to the assassination of President Kennedy.

At the same time, the committee, in its annual report, said it took no position on the question of "whether the assassination of President Kennedy was an individual act or the work of a conspiracy."

The widely accepted theory in Washington is that the accused assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, although a self-proclaimed Marxist, was a lone figure who acted out of his own aberrations when he fired the bullets that killed President Kennedy in Dallas last Nov. 22.

A Presidential commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren is expected to announce that conclusion next month in its report on the assassination. Oswald was shot to death by Jack L. Ruby two days after President Kennedy was slain.

The House committee constantly emphasized Oswald's Communist background as it discussed the murder and demanded that Congress pass a law making the assassination of a President or Vice President a Federal crime.

'Constant Barrage'

In a preface to the report Representative Edwin E. Willis, chairman of the committee, said "the Communists' constant 'Hate

America' barrage" resulted in "certain of our citizens defying our laws, stealing our secrets and engaging in other traitorous activities."

"Because of 'Hate the U.S.' propaganda and agitation campaigns, the Louisiana Democrat went on, "attempts have been made on the lives of two recent Presidents of the United States."

He listed one as the attempt by Puerto Rican nationalists to kill President Truman in 1950. He said these nationalists had "for years been defended and aided by the U. S. Communist party."

Mr. Willis said President Kennedy had been slain by a man "whose life and conduct—by his own admissions and actions—was shaped largely by Communist propaganda."

The chairman said that perhaps the Kennedy assassination "would not have happened if, during past years, the American people, as a whole, had worked harder to disclose the lies and half-truths in domestic Communist propaganda so that our youth would not be misled by it."