

## Connally Calls Fuss 'Political'

New York Times

Austin, Texas

Texas Governor John B. Connally Jr. said yesterday that many criticisms of the Warren Commission may have "political overtones."

He said he was shocked "that in the backlash of tragedy, journalistic scavengers such as Mark Lane attempt to impugn the motives" of commission members.

The commission's findings on the assassination of President Kennedy should be accepted as final unless there is compelling new evidence brought forth, Connally said. He added that a new investigation is "neither warranted, justified or desirable."

Connally was wounded in the attack on Mr. Kennedy as he rode in the President's car in the Dallas motorcade.

Connally would not elaborate on the "political" implications of recent criticisms of the commission's findings. "I am going to let it rest right there," he said.

The governor said he had  
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not read any of the books critical of the commission's findings, including Lane's "Rush to Judgment." Lane is a New York lawyer.

Connally said he had read reports and book reviews of the books he was talking about and said that he always accepts as accurate whatever he reads in newspapers.

### ARTICLE

Connally made his remarks at a news conference after a Life magazine article in which the governor said he disagreed with the Warren Commission's finding that both he and Mr. Kennedy were hit by one of three shots fired by Lee Harvey Oswald, named as the assassin by the commission.

The governor said his sole disagreement with the commission's findings centered around which bullet had struck him.

"I am convinced, beyond any doubt, that I was not struck by the first bullet. I know that I heard the first shot, and I turned to see what happened, and that I was struck by a second shot. The third shot struck the President and not me," Connally said.

The Warren Commission report said that there were three shots and that one of them went through Mr. Kennedy's neck and into Connally's body, that another shot hit the President in the head, and that one shot probably missed both men.

Connally said the shot which hit him did not hit Mr. Kennedy.

The Governor confirmed that he still has a fragment of the assassin's bullet in his leg. He said it causes no discomfort. Doctors told him three years ago the fragment was imbedded so deep it would be best not to remove it, he said.

The governor said he had no intention of adding fuel to the flames of dissention when he agreed to review a motion picture of the assassination for Life magazine and to point out just when he was struck.

"They asked me to do it and I agreed," he said.

### VALIDITY

The Life article was not one of those with "political overtones," the governor said.

Connally said he did not consider his views as to which shot wounded him as casting any doubt on the validity of the commission's findings.

"There are certain facts about this assassination which may never be known," he said, adding that he did not consider his memory or his judgment to be infallible.

He said he did not even hear the shot which wounded him in the chest, although his wife, Ida Nell, said she had heard all three shots.

"I want to make it very clear . . . that simply because I disagree with the Warren Commission on this one detail does not mean that I disagree with the substance of their over-all findings," Connally said.