

Former JFK prober wants case reopened

United Press International

WASHINGTON — A former Warren Commission lawyer asked Congress yesterday to reopen the investigation into President Kennedy's assassination, partly because of "inexcusable dereliction of duty" by the CIA and FBI in withholding evidence from the original inquiry.

The lawyer, David Belin, said he is confident a thorough new investigation would confirm the same conclusion reached in September, 1964, by the commission headed by the late Chief Justice Earl Warren: That Lee Harvey Oswald "beyond a reasonable doubt" was Kennedy's lone killer.

But he refused to rule out the possibility that evidence of a conspiracy may surface.

Belin announced he has filed requests under the Freedom of Information Act for public release of all materials relating to the assassination held by the CIA and the National Archives, including Kennedy autopsy photographs and X-rays. He said withholding the medical reports at the request of the family was a mistake.

Although no material uncovered since 1964 "in any way disproves" the commission's conclusions about Oswald, Belin said: "To the extent that the CIA and the FBI failed to disclose all relevant evidence to the Warren Commission, there was an inexcusable dereliction of duty on the part of these governmental agencies."

Belin stressed he is certain that any new investigation would conclude Oswald killed both Kennedy and Dallas Policeman J.D. Tippit.

Belin, who also was executive director of the Rockefeller Commission that investigated CIA domestic activities for President Ford, spoke out two days after the Senate intelligence committee reported the CIA was involved in numerous assassination plots against foreign leaders.

On the basis of evidence turned up by the Senate panel headed by Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, a special subcommittee consisting of Sens. Richard Schweiker, R-Pa., and Gary Hart, D-Colo., has conducted its own inquiry into Oswald's possible connections with the U.S. intelligence community.