

House Votes to Revive The JFK-King Probe

Washington

The House voted last night to restore its investigation into the assassinations of President Kennedy and civil rights leader, Martin Luther King Jr., but put the probe on two months' probation.

Revival of the inquiry, approved 237 to 164, gives the House Select Committee on Assassinations until March 31 to work out an acceptable budget and to adopt rules that will safeguard the rights of witnesses and others who might become targets of the inquiry.

Representative Henry B. Gonzalez (Dem.-Tex.) who was immediately named the committee's new chairman, said he hopes to hold a meeting today in an effort to get moving again although only "a minimum of investigative work" will be possible in the next few weeks.

Under the bill adopted last night, the committee will have to confine its spending to \$84,000 a month — the amount it incurred in December before it went out of business under criticism over its proposed budget and investigating techniques.

Republicans, led by Representative James H. Quillen of Tennessee, favored killing the investigation by a margin of more than 2 to 1, but the temporary revival was fashioned as a compromise measure and had the support of the House Democratic leadership. The Democratic majority voted for the inquiry by a margin of nearly 3 to 1.

Leading off the opposition, Quillen cited a news report yesterday saying that a 148-page Justice Department study undertaken last year had concluded that James Earl Ray was King's lone assassin.

The study, ordered last year after Senate disclosures that the FBI had conducted a long undercover campaign to discredit King, has yet to be made public.