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JOHNSON PLEDGES FACTS ON KILLINGS

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Step Intended to End Doubts in U.S. and Abroad — Texas Plans Study

By **CABELL PHILLIPS**
Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25—The Government moved tonight to give the public all the facts on President Kennedy's assassination and the slaying of the asserted killer.

The White House announced a broad inquiry into the events of the last few days. The announcement said: "The people of the nation may be sure that all of the facts will be made public."

President Johnson, the statement said, ordered the Justice Department "to conduct a prompt and thorough investigation of all the circumstances surrounding the brutal assassination of President Kennedy and the murder of his alleged assassin."

The Federal Bureau of Investigation which is the Justice Department's investigating arm, will do the field work. The statement said the President had "directed all Federal agencies to cooperate."

The move was clearly designed to end any doubts in this country or abroad about the identity of the assassin and to try to make amends for the tragic mishandling of the suspect, Lee Harvey Oswald.

There was also some feeling that President Johnson preferred to have the inquiry and public presentation of the facts handled by Federal authorities rather than state and local officials in Texas.

State Plans Inquiry

Earlier today the Texas Attorney General, Waggoner Carr, announced that the state would convene a special court of inquiry to investigate the two killings and make the results public.

The Justice Department reacted to that by saying it would cooperate with "any responsible inquiry." But a spokesman made clear at the time that the Texas inquiry could not supersede the department's own effort to get to the bottom of the tragedy.

Representative Hale Boggs of Louisiana, assistant Democratic leader in the House, suggested today that a Congressional commission make a formal inquiry into the assassination. He said this was necessary because the facts could not be brought out in the trial of Mr. Oswald's accused slayer, Jack Leon Ruby.

The preliminary opinion in the Government is that no Presidential commission or other special body is needed. But there is a determination to bring the facts out by some device whose impartiality cannot be challenged.

One problem in an inquiry's bringing out the facts is that Ruby presumably faced a trial for murder. It would be in violation of legal ethics and the minimum standards of fair procedure for any official to make public an asserted account of his activities before he is tried.

It was explained later that a court of inquiry has all the powers of a court of law to obtain evidence and command testimony, but that it has no punitive power. Its principal value is in bringing the facts in a situation to public attention. Public authorities can then bring such legal action as the disclosures warrant.

Texas last employed this device in exploring the financial manipulations of Billie Sol Estes.

The court of inquiry also has the effect of moving the President's assassination and Oswald's slaying out of the exclusive jurisdiction of Dallas authorities.

Attorney General Carr said he had spoken briefly with President Johnson today but that he had not discussed the court of inquiry with him.

Disclosure Delayed

By **FRED POWLEDGE**
Special to The New York Times.

DALLAS, Nov. 25 — Dallas authorities were willing today to make public all their physical evidence connecting Lee H. Oswald with the murder of President Kennedy, but the revelation was postponed at the suggestion of Federal officials here and in Washington.

Two local authorities involved in the case, Chief of Police Jesse Curry and the Dallas County District Attorney, Henry Wade, said they would like to place the evidence before the public. Both men added, however, that they would not do so if authorities in Washington wished otherwise.

Justice Department sources in Washington said that when they discuss a subject of such grave importance as the Oswald case they must be absolutely correct.

They said no pressure had been brought on officials here. They expressed confidence that all the evidence would eventually be made public.

The report of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on the slaying will go first to President Johnson, who requested it.

Conclusive Evidence

The Dallas police and Mr. Wade contend they have conclusive evidence that Oswald killed Mr. Kennedy and wounded Gov. John B. Conally Jr. last Friday, and that he murdered a Dallas policeman, J. D. Tippit, shortly afterward.

Chief Curry said today in a formal statement:

"When the investigation in the case of Lee Harvey Oswald is

completed insofar as the Dallas police department is concerned, we intend to make the entire file public unless Federal authorities specifically request that some part be withheld and turned over to them.

"Unless we are specifically instructed otherwise from Washington, we believe it can and should become public information. At this time, we cannot designate when the release will be made."

Mr. Wade said, in an interview:

"I feel that all the agencies [investigating the assassination] should release all their information on Oswald. I'm very agreeable to this evidence being released if no one in the Justice Department has any objection and if it's agreeable with them. I do not want to interfere in any way with any investigation that they might have going on."

Map of Kennedy's Route

The police have already released descriptions of a number of pieces of evidence. Today Mr. Wade announced that authorities had also found a marked map, showing the course of the President's motorcade, in Oswald's rented room.

"It was a map tracing the location of the parade route," the district attorney said, "and this place [the Texas School Book Depository, a warehouse from which the fatal bullets were fired] was marked with a straight line."

Mr. Wade said Oswald had marked the map at two other places, "apparently places which he considered as a possibility" for an assassination. He said he had not personally seen the map, and could not describe it further.

The district attorney said the police had traced the serial number of the murder weapon, an Italian rifle with a telescopic sight, to the Chicago mail-order house that had sold Oswald a rifle last spring.

Mr. Wade said that the Dallas police had obtained a palm print from the rifle that matched Oswald's hand.

Discounts Rumors

Previously Mr. Wade and Gordon Shanklin, F.B.I. agent-in-charge here, had revealed other evidence against Oswald.

This evidence included other palm and fingerprints, ballistics tests on the assassin's bullets and descriptions by several witnesses of Oswald's actions and whereabouts on the day of the murders.

The district attorney said today that he had no knowledge of any connection between Oswald and his assassin, Jack Ruby of Dallas.

He referred to rumors circulating here to the effect that the two men had known each other before the President's death.

Sources in the Justice Department in Washington said that they had found no evidence of a conspiracy in the Dallas slayings.

Another topic of rumor and speculation here was Chief Curry. One report was that Oswald's death yesterday, 48 hours after the President's assassination on a downtown street, had caused the city government to lose faith in its police chief.

City Manager Elgin E. Crull, the chief's superior, said today he would not accept Mr. Curry's resignation even if it were offered. Other city officials expressed their faith in the chief.