

ASSASSINATION REPORT
BY STERLING F. GREEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON, SEPT. 12 (AP)—CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN SAID TODAY IT IS "A GOOD BET" THAT HIS INVESTIGATING COMMISSION WILL SEND TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON NEXT WEEK ITS 700-PAGE REPORT ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

OTHER SOURCES ESTIMATED THE WHITE HOUSE MAY ISSUE THE FINDINGS ON THE SEPT. 27 WEEKEND, BUT SOME PREDICTED THE TASKS OF FINAL EDITING, PRINTING AND BINDING COULD TAKE A LITTLE LONGER.

WARREN TOLD REPORTERS, AFTER A WEEK OF NIGHT-AND-DAY LABOR BY THE SEVEN INVESTIGATORS, THAT THE COMPLETION OF EDITING AND REVISING IS NOW "A MATTER OF DAYS" BUT THAT PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION IS UP TO THE WHITE HOUSE. "I HOPE IT WILL BE VERY SOON," WARREN SAID. "WE'RE JUST DRIVING TO GET IT ALL DONE...OUR JOB IS COMPLETED THEN WE REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT."

PERSONS HAVING BUSINESS IN THE WELL GUARDED HEADQUARTERS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ARE BEING HANDED A HARD-BOUND BLUE VOLUME, NEARLY ONE AND THREE-QUARTERS INCHES THICK, BEARING THE PRESIDENTIAL SEAL IN GOLD AND THE TITLE:

"THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY --REPORT."

BUT IT IS JUST A PRINTER'S DUMMY. ALL THE PAGES ARE BLANK. WHEN THEY ARE FILLED IN, THIS SUREST OF BEST-SELLERS WILL DISCLOSE "SOME SURPRISES", ACCORDING TO WELL-POSTED SOURCES, BUT NO SUBSTANTIAN EVIDENCE TO DISPUTE THE EARLIEST FINDINGS OF FEDERAL AGENTS--THAT:

--LEE HARVEY OSWALD, UNSTABLE MARXIST AND STEADY MARKSMAN, SHOT JOHN F. KENNEDY DEAD IN DALLAS LAST NOV. 22 WITHOUT CO-CONSPIRATORS OR HELPERS, HERE OR OVERSEAS.

A32WX

--JACK RUBY, CONVICTED MURDERER OF OSWALD, ACTED IN OUTRAGED GRIEF AS WHAT HE CONCEIVED TO BE AN AGENT OF RETRIBUTION, AND THUS UN-THINKINGLY KILLED ALL HOPE OF AN OSWALD CONFESSION.

THE COMMISSIONERS ARE DESCRIBED AS DEEPLY CONSCIOUS OF THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND INTERNATIONAL IMPACT OF THEIR FINDINGS. THEY HAVE WRITTEN AN EXHAUSTIVE ANALYSIS, IT WAS REPORTED, OF SPECULATION AND RUMORS ABOUT A RIGHT-WING PLOT IN THE UNITED STATES OR A COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY ABROAD.

MUCH OF THE DELAY IN COMPLETION OF THE REPORT SINCE THE ORIGINAL TARGET DATE--JUNE 30--IS SAID TO HAVE RESULTED FROM PAINSTAKING EFFORTS TO MAKE SURE THAT EACH SUCH REPORT IS TRACED DOWN AND THE REBUTTALS AMPLY DOCUMENTED.

WARREN TOLD REPORTERS THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE WORKED DAILY AS LATE AS MIDNIGHT DURING THE PAST WEEK, AND MANY STAFF MEMBERS HAVE BEEN LABORING UNTIL 3 OR 4 A.M.

THE TASK NOW IS PRIMARILY EDITING PROOFS FROM THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, WARREN SAID, INCLUDING THE CHECKING OF "THOUSANDS OF FOOTNOTES, REFERENCES TO THE APPENDICES."

BUT ANOTHER COMMISSION MEMBER HINTED THAT THE WORD "EDITING" COULD BE BROADLY INTERPRETED. "WE'RE STILL WRITING," HE SAID.

THE REPORT WILL INCLUDE, EARLY IN THE TEXT, A SUMMARY OF THE COMMISSION'S FINDINGS, PERHAPS 20 TO 25 PAGES LONG; THEN HUNDREDS OF PAGES OF NARRATIVE AND ANALYTICAL TEXT, WITH SOME ILLUSTRATIONS; AND FINALLY, SOME CONDENSED APPENDICES.

IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE 20 OR MORE VOLUMES--EACH ONE ONLY SLIGHTLY THINNER THAN THE REPORT ITSELF--CONTAINING THE TRANSCRIPTS OF TESTIMONY OF HUNDREDS OF WITNESSES QUESTIONED IN CLOSED HEARINGS, AS WELL AS DEPOSITIONS, INVESTIGATION REPORTS, AND EXHIBITS.

VAST QUANTITIES OF TYPE ALREADY HAVE BEEN SET, AND PRINTER'S PROOFS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED ON THE BULK OF THE REPORT. COMMISSION SOURCES SAID THAT WHEN THE EDITING IS FINALLY FINISHED, THE ACTUAL PRINTING MAY REQUIRE ONLY A DAY AND A HALF, BUT THE ENTIRE PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING FINISHED BOOKS IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY MIGHT TAKE A WEEK.

COPIES OF THE REPORT WILL BE BOUND IN PAPER AS WELL AS HARD COVERS, AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC SALE BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICES. COMMISSION AIDES SAID THEY DO NOT YET KNOW THE PRICE.

PE119PED NM