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EA(450) BOGGS-ASSASSINATION CONTROVERSY

WASHINGTON, NOV. 27 (AP)-REP. HALE BOGGS, WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE WARREN COMMISSION THAT INVESTIGATED THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, SAID TODAY HE DOUBTS THE INVESTIGATION SHOULD BE REOPENED IN THE ABSENCE OF NEW EVIDENCE.

BOGGS, WHO IS HOUSE DEMOCRATIC WHIP, EMPHASIZED THAT "IF NEW EVIDENCE CAN BE PRESENTED, IT SHOULD BE LOOKED AT OBJECTIVELY."

THE LOUISIANA CONGRESSMAN WAS INTERVIEWED ON THE CBS TELEVISION-RADIO PROGRAM "FACE THE NATION."

IN ALL THE ARTICLES, BOOKS AND OTHER STATEMENTS THAT HAVE APPEARED SINCE THE COMMISSION, HEADED BY CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN, PRESENTED ITS REPORT, BOGGS SAID HE HAS FOUND NO QUESTION THAT HAD NOT ALREADY BEEN RAISED BY THE COMMISSION.

HE REFERRED TO CRITICISM BASED ON THE FACT THAT THE COMMISSION HAD NOT VIEWED X-RAYS OF KENNEDY'S BODY MADE DURING THE AUTOPSY AND SAID THAT HE WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO HAVING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL APPOINT A "TOTALLY OBJECTIVE" GROUP OF DOCTORS TO EXAMINE THE X-RAYS AND SUBMIT A REPORT.

AS FOR THE FAILURE OF THE COMMISSION TO EXAMINE THE X-RAYS, BOGGS SAID THE DOCTORS WHO PERFORMED THE AUTOPSY APPEARED BEFORE THE COMMISSION AND WERE QUESTIONED EXHAUSTIVELY. HE ADDED THAT EVEN IF HE HAD LOOKED AT THE X-RAYS, HE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN TRAINED TO READ THEM.

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AS FOR EXPRESSED DOUBTS THAT ONE OF THE BULLETS FIRED STRUCK BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND GOV. JOHN CONNALLY OF TEXAS, BOGGS SAID THE COMMISSION REPORT STATES ONLY THAT THE EVIDENCE "IS VERY PERSUASIVE" THAT A SINGLE BULLET STRUCK BOTH MEN.

HE ADDED THAT "THE IDEA THAT YOU COULD PROVE A CASE BEYOND ANY SHADOW OF A QUESTION IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE."

ALL THE EVIDENCE DID SHOW, BOGGS SAID, THAT ALL THE SHOTS FIRED CAME FROM THE REAR.

ASKED IF HE HAD ANY DOUBT THAT LEE HARVEY OSWALD, ACTING ALONE, ASSASSINATED KENNEDY, BOGGS REPLIED: "NONE WHATSOEVER. I'M TOTALLY CONVINCED OF IT."

HE SAID THAT THE COMMISSION "ESTABLISHED AS BEST THAT COMPETENT MEN CAN ESTABLISH THAT OSWALD ASSASSINATED PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND ALSO SHOT GOV. CONNALLY."

BOGGS DISPUTED CLAIMS THAT IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN AN EXPERT MARKSMAN TO HAVE DONE THE SHOOTING.

HE SAID HE HAD STOOD AT THE WINDOW OF THE BUILDING IN DALLAS FROM WHICH THE SHOTS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN FIRED AND HAD LOOKED THROUGH THE TELESCOPIC SIGHT OF THE RIFLE CITED AS THE MURDER WEAPON AND HAD CONCLUDED "ALMOST ANY MARKSMAN USING A TELESCOPIC SIGHT COULD HAVE PERFORMED THAT DASTARDLY DEED."

BOGGS ALSO SAID "THE IDEA THAT THE COMMISSION DIDN'T MAKE A THOROUGH, EXHAUSTIVE EXAMINATION IS ONE I REJECT. . . I SPENT MORE TIME WORKING ON THIS COMMISSION THAN ANYTHING I'VE WORKED ON IN MY LIFE. . . I READ EVERY WORD OF THAT TESTIMONY AND I THINK EVERY MEMBER OF THAT COMMISSION DID."

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