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28 Sept. 1964
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WARREN REPORT-PRESS CRITICISM

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEWS EXECUTIVES TODAY (MONDAY) WIDELY AGREED THAT A SERIOUS PROBLEM WAS POINTED UP IN THE WARREN COMMISSION'S CRITICISM OF THE CLAMOR SURROUNDING COVERAGE OF EVENTS CONNECTED WITH PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION.

THEY ALSO SAID STUDIES WERE BEING INITIATED TO FIND MEANS OF RESOLVING THE DIFFICULTIES.

BUT THEY EMPHASIZED THAT NEWS MEDIA HAD A PRIMARY OBLIGATION TO GET INFORMATION AS FULLY AND RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE IN A CASE OF SUCH OVERRIDING PUBLIC IMPORTANCE.

SOME EXCEPTIONS ALSO WERE VOICED TO THE CRITICISMS.

SEVERAL EDITORS COMMENTED THAT IT HAD BEEN UP TO DALLAS AUTHORITIES TO LAY DOWN RULES FOR ORDERLY CONDITIONS IN POLICE PREMISES.

HOWEVER, LEADERS IN THE NEWS INDUSTRY DISCLOSED THAT VARIOUS EFFORTS WERE UNDERWAY, OR BEING LAUNCHED, TO SEEK MEANS FOR COPING WITH SUCH SITUATIONS IN THE FUTURE.

THE COMMISSION COMPLAINED THAT NEWS PERSONNEL FLOODING DALLAS AT THE TIME OF THE ASSASSINATION SHOWED A "LACK OF SELF-DISCIPLINE" AND CREATED "GENERAL DISORDER" IN DALLAS POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

NEWS MEDIA WERE URGED TO DRAW UP A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SUCH SITUATIONS.

THE REPORT SAID BOTH NEWS MEDIA AND POLICE AUTHORITIES "WHO FAILED TO IMPOSE CONDITIONS MORE IN KEEPING WITH ORDERLY PROCESSES OF JUSTICE" MUST SHARE BLAME FOR THE BREAKDOWN OF SECURITY INVOLVED IN THE SHOOTING OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD, THE ACCUSED ASSASSIN.

OSWALD WAS BEING LED THROUGH A POLICE DEPARTMENT BASEMENT, PACKED WITH NEWSMEN AND BROADCASTING CREWS, WHEN JACK RUBY, A DALLAS NIGHT CLUB OWNER, STEPPED OUT OF THE CROWD AND SHOT HIM.

THE COMMISSION ALSO SAID THE NEWS OUTPOURING OF "UNDIGESTED EVIDENCE" CONTRIBUTED TO MYTHS AND RUMORS.

MILES H. WOLFF, EXECUTIVE EDITOR OF THE GREENBORO (N.C.) DAILY NEWS AND PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS, SAID A SPECIAL STUDY COMMITTEE PLANNED CONSULTATIONS WITH RADIO-TELEVISION OFFICIALS ON THE PROBLEMS.

THE ASNE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, ALFRED FRIENDLY, MANAGING EDITOR OF THE WASHINGTON POST, SAID THE COMMISSION'S CRITICISMS "MUST OBVIOUSLY BE WEIGHTED THOUGHTFULLY BY EVERYONE CONCERNED WITH THE FUNCTIONS OF NEWS PRESENTATION IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY."

HE ADDED THAT A PRELIMINARY REPORT TO BE ISSUED SOON BY HIS COMMITTEE WOULD RECOMMEND A SYSTEM FOR "POOLING OF NEWSMEN IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES" WHERE LARGE NUMBERS OF THEM COULD CREATE CONFUSION.

AT THE SAME TIME, SAM RAGAN, PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS MANAGING EDITORS ASSOCIATION, NAMED A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF OUTSTANDING EDITORS TO STUDY THE QUESTION, AND MADE RECOMMENDATIONS.

RAGAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR OF THE NEWS AND OBSERVER, RALEIGH, N.C., AND THE RALEIGH TIMES, SAID "NEWSPAPERS OF AMERICA HAVE BEEN FOR SOME TIME DEEPLY CONSCIOUS OF THE PROBLEMS ARISING FROM MASS COVERAGE OF MAJOR NEWS EVENTS."

HE SAID THE COMMISSION'S CRITICISMS "MERIT OUR SERIOUS CONCERN AND STUDY," ADDING:

"IT IS MY OPINION, HOWEVER, THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ORDERLY COVERAGE OF SUCH EVENTS LIES WITH THE PROPER AUTHORITIES IN CHARGE AT THE TIME. SUCH AUTHORITIES, OF COURSE, MUST HAVE THE COOPERATION OF NEWS MEDIA."

GEORGE BEEBE, MANAGING EDITOR OF THE MIAMI HERALD, WAS NAMED TO HEAD THE STUDY COMMITTEE.

GENE ROBB, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION AND PUBLISHER OF THE ALBANY (N.Y.) TIMES-UNION AND THE KNICKERBOCKER NEWS, SAID THE ANPA ALSO HAD SIMILAR STUDIES IN PROGRESS.

"THE PARAMOUNT PUBLIC INTEREST THAT NEWSPAPERS ALWAYS MUST SERVE IS TO GET AND PRINT THE NEWS, EXACTLY WHAT THEY DID IN THE OSWALD CASE," HE SAID.

THE COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM SAID ITS VIEW WAS EXPRESSED IN A SPEECH LAST MAY BY NETWORK PRESIDENT FRANK STANTON, WHO SAID THE CHAOTIC CONDITIONS IN DALLAS "PUT THE SPOTLIGHT ON SOME PROBLEMS WITH WHICH THE MEDIUM HAS NOT YET LEARNED TO COPE."

"WHAT THE PROBLEM BOILS DOWN TO," HE SAID, "IS T EGGGGGGGGGGG

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"WHAT THE PROBLEM BOILS DOWN TO," HE SAID, "IS THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS OF ACCUSED DEFENDANTS ARE COMPROMISED BY THE RIGHTS OF THE MEDIA TO REPORT AND OF THE PUBLIC TO KNOW."

TURNER CATLEDGE, EXECUTIVE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES, SAID THE COMMISSION'S CRITICISMS ARE "FOR ALL OF US A CLEAR WARNING AND A CLEAR CALL TO TAKE A HARD LOOK AT THE SITUATION WITH A VIEW TO DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT."

HE ADDED THAT "IF WE DON'T DO IT OURSELVES, SOMEBODY IS GOING TO COME ALONG WITH ORDINANCES AND LAWS TO CRAM DOWN OUR THROATS... CERTAINLY THERE IS A TREMENDOUS PROBLEM IN REGARD TO MASS COVERAGE OF THESE MAJOR EVENTS.

A37

"THESE SPECTACLES ARE NOT DOING US ANYGOOD WHATSOEVER."
LURESS GALLAGHER, GENERAL MANAGER OF THE ASS M

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"THESE SPECTACLES ARE NOT DOING US ANYGOOD WHATSOEVER."
WES GALLAGHER, GENERAL MANAGER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, SAID THAT "UNDOUBTEDLY, THERE IS MUCH TO BE DONE IN CURBING THE EXCESSES OF MASS REPORTING." HE SAID EXPLORING THE MEANS TO ACCOMPLISH THIS CAN BE USEFUL.

"HOWEVER, TO TRY TO APPLY THE ORDINARY CRITERIA OF WHAT SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE REPORTED IN A CRIMINAL CASE TO THE ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT ONLY BE FUTILE BUT BASICALLY WRONG," HE ADDED.

"IN AN AGE WHERE MUCH LESS THAN THE ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT COULD TRIGGER AN ATOMIC WAR, TO DELAY FACTS AS TO WHO THE KILLER WAS, WHAT HIS BACKGROUND WAS AND WHETHER HE WAS A PART OF A CONSPIRACY WOULD NOT ONLY BE A DISSERVICE TO THE COUNTRY AND THE WORLD BUT HIGHLY DANGEROUS."

IN A CASE OF THIS KIND, HE SAID, THE PREDOMINANT CONSIDERATION IS THE URGENCY OF INFORMING THE PUBLIC. HE SAID THE WARREN REPORT CONFIRMS THAT THE AMERICAN PRESS DID AN "OUTSTANDING JOB" OF THAT HE ADDED:

"THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC OFFICIALS COULD NOT HAVE CONDUCTED THEMSELVES BETTER OR OBTAINED THEIR INFORMATION IN A MORE ORDERLY FASHION AT DALLAS. MASS REPORTING HAS CAUSED INCREASING PROBLEMS IN RECENT YEARS, HINDERING GETTING THE NEWS TO THE PUBLIC RATHER THAN SPEEDING IT."

EARL J. JOHNSON, VICE PRESIDENT AND EDITOR OF UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, COMMENTED:

"WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO BE REPRESENTED AT ALL NEWSWORTHY EVENTS BY REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS BECAUSE WE AND THE AP ARE PRIMARY FOR DAILY NEWSPAPERS AND BROADCASTERS.

"I WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO SAY HOW MANY SPECIALS SHOULD BE ON THE SCENE OF A BIG STORY. THAT IS FOR THEIR EDITORS TO DECIDE. THE AUTHORITIES CAN ALWAYS LIMIT THE NUMBER TO SUIT SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

"IT WAS NOT THE NUMBER OF REPORTERS PRESENT WHICH PERMITTED RUBY TO SHOOT OSWALD IN DALLAS."

WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST JR., EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF HEARST PUBLICATIONS, SAID IT HAS "BECOME CLEAR THAT WE HAVE A PROBLEM WHEN REPORTERS DESCEND ON ONE SPOT ENMASSE." THE TROUBLE, HE SAID, IS THAT THERE IS SCANT OPPORTUNITY FOR "SETTING UP ORDERLY INFORMATION PROCEDURES IN THESE EMERGENCIES."

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UNDATED--FIRST ADD WARREN REPORT-PRESS CRITICISM REACTION (A85-87)
X X X THESE EMERGENCIES."

PAUL MILLER, PRESIDENT-PUBLISHER OF THE ROCHESTER (N.Y.) DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE AND TIMES-UNION AND ALSO PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, SAID:

"REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LAW, LAW-ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATIONS AND NEWS MEDIA HAVE DISCUSSED MUTUAL PROBLEMS IN THE PAST, AND THERE IS NO REASON WHY SUCH DISCUSSIONS SHOULD NOT CONTINUE. WHETHER THEY SHOULD TRY TO WORK OUT A CODE IS SOMETHING ELSE AGAIN. BUT THERE IS NO REASON WHY IT SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED ALONG WITH ANY OTHER MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND CONCERN."

HERBERT BRUCKER, EDITOR OF THE HARTFORD (CONN.) COURANT AND PAST PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS, SAID THAT "WHILE WE CAN'T LIMIT A FREE PRESS," THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS AND TRAVEL OF NEWS STAFFERS AND THE BULKY EQUIPMENT OF TELEVISION CREWS RAISED A PROBLEM.

"MY HOPE IS THAT THE NEWSPAPERS THEMSELVES AND BROADCASTERS WILL TAKE CARE OF IT BECAUSE WE CAN DO IT BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE," HE SAID. "NOT BY LAW BUT BY USING OUR HEADS."

GEORGE W. HEALY, EXECUTIVE EDITOR OF THE NEW ORLEANS TIMES-PICAYUNE AND THE STATES-ITEM, SAID THAT IF THE SO-CALLED "PRESS CONFERENCES" IN DALLAS "WERE CONVERTED INTO CIRCUSES--AS THEY WERE-- PRIMARY BLAME SHOULD BE PLACED ON DALLAS OFFICIALS WHO LET THE CONFERENCES GET OUT OF HAND."

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UNDATED--2ND ADD WARREN REPORT--

PRESS CRITICISM (A109)

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BERT HOLMES, MANAGING EDITOR OF THE DALLAS TIMES HERALD, CALLED THE CRITICISMS "WELL TAKEN," ADDING:

"IT IS A CONTINUING PROBLEM IN ANY MAJOR NEWS EVENT AS TO HOW TO MAINTAIN OUR TREASURED FREEDOM OF THE PRESS BUT MANAGE TO KEEP THE PRESS FROM BECOMING PART OF THE STORY...WE ARE GOING TO BE FACED WITH NEED FOR GREATER SECURITY AND PROPER CREDENTIALS FOR NEWSGATHERING PEOPLE IN MORE SITUATIONS."

MIKE SHAPIRO, GENERAL MANAGER OF DALLAS RADIO AND TELEVISION STATION WFAA, SAID "IT WAS A CASE OF OFFICIALS TRYING TO COOPERATE WITH THE PRESS AND THE PRESS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THEM.

"I THINK WE LEARNED A GOOD LESSON."

EUGENE PATTERSON, EDITOR OF THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION, SAID "THERE OUGHT TO BE A CALM EXPLORATION OF THIS WHOLE FIELD, AS THE WARREN COMMISSION RECOMMENDS...BUT WE OUGHT NOT TO LOSE SIGHT OF ANOTHER THING. THE U.S. PRESS, FOR ALL ITS FLAWS AND IMPERFECTIONS, IS THE FINEST INSTRUMENT FOR TRUSTWORTHY NEWSGATHERING THAT THAT THE HUMAN RACE HAS EVER DEvised.

"THE COVERAGE OF THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION IS A STORY OF THE BEST, AS WELL AS THE WORST, ASPECTS OF A FREE PRESS."

JACK WILLIAMS, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS: "RESPECT FOR NEWS REPORTING AND GREATER FREEDOM FOR THE NEWS PROFESSION WILL NOT COME FROM SHOVING AND SHOUTING. FREEDOM OF THE PRESS CARRIES A BURDEN OF RESPONSIBILITY TO BE CONSIDERATE OF THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS AND NOT HINDER CONDUCT OF POLICE WORK OR THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE."

FRANK DANIELS, PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF THE RALEIGH (N.C.) NEWS AND OBSERVER, SAID HE SAW "NO NECESSITY FOR MOB COVERAGE OF NEWS. IF THE POLICE DIDN'T RESTRAIN THE NEWS MEDIA, THE NEWS MEDIA SHOULD HAVE RESTRAINED ITSELF."

SEVERAL EDITORS EXPRESSED DISAGREEMENT WITH SOME OF THE REPORT'S CONCLUSIONS.

CHARLES E. MOSS EXECUTIVE EDITOR OF THE NASHVILLE (TENN.) BANNER, SAID "IT IS DIFFICULT TO...TO SEE HOW A GENERAL INDICTMENT CAN BE DRAW AGAINST NEWSPAPERS FOR PICTURING THE BUNGLING AND IRRESPONSIBILITY WHICH THEY WERE DUTY-BOUND TO PUBLICIZE.

"EVEN AN UNETHICAL PRESS HARDLY COULD HAVE MORE TO TAKE BACK THAN CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN WHO, IMMEDIATELY AFTER IT HAPPENED, WAS QUOTED AS BLAMING THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION ON SOUTHERN RIGHTISTS."

NICK B. WILLIAMS, EDITOR OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, SAID: "I SIMPLY DO NOT AGREE WITH THE TENDENCY TO BLAME COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA ANYTIME THERE IS A LAPSE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT."

RICHARD D. PETERS, EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM AND SUN, SAID NEWSPAPERS HAVE THE DUTY TO SEEK OUT EVERY SIGNIFICANT FACT, AND THAT IT'S UP TO PUBLIC OFFICIALS TO MAINTAIN "INTELLIGENT CONTROL OF CROWDS", INCLUDING NEWSMEN AND BROADCASTING CREWS.

THE WARREN COMMISSION, HE ADDED, SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO MAINTAIN ITS OWN RULES OF THE SECRECY IN ITS DELIBERATIONS, SINCE THERE WERE "UNDISCIPLINED LEAKS" THAT MADE CONTENTS OF THE REPORT KNOWN HERE AND ABROAD BEFORE ITS RELEASE.

THOMAS VAIL, PUBLISHER AND EDITOR OF THE CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER, SAID "THE PROBLEM WAS WITH SECURITY AND NOT WITH THE NEWS MEDIA. REPORTERS ARE TRAINED TO GO OUT AND GET ALL THE NEWS THEY CAN AND THAT IS WHAT THEY WERE TRYING TO DO."

PERRY MORGAN, MANAGING EDITOR OF THE CHARLOTTE (N.C.) NEWS, SAID "THE FIRST FAILURE FALLS ON DALLAS AUTHORITIES FOR NOT RESTRAINING THE PRESS. THE DALLAS AUTHORITIES SEEMED TO SUCCUMB TO THE ATTRACTION OF SEEING THEMSELVES ON TV."

MRS. DOROTHY SCHIFF, PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER OF THE NEW YORK POST, SAID NEWS PERSONNEL OBVIOUSLY CREATED "MOB SCENES" AND "SCREAMING AND SHOUTING" THAT WERE NOT CONDUCTIVE TO GOOD REPORTING.

BUT SHE ADDED THAT IT WAS POLICE RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE PROVISIONS FOR SECURITY OF A PRISONER. "YOU CAN'T BLAME REPORTERS FOR GOING WHEREVER THEY CAN TO GET INFORMATION," SHE SAID.

LIKE MANY OTHERS, HOWEVER, SHE SAID THE PROBLEM DESERVED STUDY.

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HARRY MONTGOMERY, ASSISTANT PUBLISHER OF THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC AND PHOENIX GAZETTE AND PRESIDENT OF THE ARIZONA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION, SAID:

"IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE PRESS MANAGE SOMEHOW NOT TO CREATE A CIRCUS ATMOSPHERE IN COVERING MAJOR CRIMES. BUT DON'T ASK ME HOW COVERAGE IS TO BE POLICED.....I DO HOPE REGULATION ISN'T LEFT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES."

OTHER COMMENT INCLUDED:

SCOTT NEWHALL, EXECUTIVE EDITOR, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE:

"I THINK IT IS QUITE PROPER THAT THE PRESS JOIN TOGETHER WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BAR AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATIONS OF THE HIGHEST LEVEL IN ORDER TO DISCOVER WHAT LESSONS CAN BE LEARNED FROM THE TRAGIC EPISODE OF LAST NOV. 22.

"BUT ALL PARTIES TO SUCH A STUDY MUST BE MOST SENSITIVE TO THE FACT THAT THERE ARE TWO EXTREMELY PRECIOUS FREEDOMS INVOLVED --FREEDOM OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO A FAIR TRIAL AND FREEDOM OF THE PRESS TO SERVE AS EYES, THE EARS AND THE VOICE OF ALL THE PEOPLE."

ALFRED H. KIRCHOFER, EDITOR OF THE BUFFALO (N.Y.) EVENING NEWS:"
"THERE WAS EXCESSIVE SENSATIONALISM IN REPORTING THE DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND THE PRESS AS A WHOLE ALONG WITH THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA ACTED MOST RESPONSIBLY..."

CHARLES HENRY HAMILTON, MANAGING EDITOR OF THE RICHMOND NEWS LEADER: "FREEDOM OF THE PRESS DOES NOT MEAN FREEDOM TO RUN WILD AND IT DOES NOT MEAN FREEDOM FROM REASONABLE RESTRAINT. IT WAS A BLACK DAY FOR THE PRESS, BUT A BLACKER ONE FOR THOSE WHO SHOULD HAVE EXERCISED AUTHORITY."

JOHN LEARD, MANAGING EDITOR, THE RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH:
"...THE SHEER NUMBERS (OF REPORTERS) INVOLVED INDICATE THAT IN MASS REPORTING SITUATIONS, ORDERLY METHODS SUCH AS POOLS OR PRESS CONFERENCES MUST BE ARRANGED."

ELMO ELLIS, GENERAL MANAGER, RADIO STATION WSB, ATLANTA: "WHILE THERE NO DOUBT WERE INSTANCES OF ABUSE OF REPORTORIAL PRIVILEGES, THE NEWS MEDIA IN GENERAL DID A SUPERB JOB OF KEEPING THE AMERICAN PUBLIC INFORMED..."

FRED HEABERLIN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR, ST. LOUIS DISPATCH: "MUCH AS THE MOB COVERAGE OF THE DALLAS EVENT IS TO BE DEPLORED, THIS CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR OSWALD'S MURDER." HE ADDED THAT THE KILLER, JACK RUBY, APPARENTLY HAD THE RUN OF THE DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND THAT IF HE HAD MADE UP HIS MIND TO KILL OSWALD, HE COULD HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF NEWSMEN.

B52

JOHN SEIGENTHALER, EDITOR, NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN:

"...THE CRITICISMS...WITH REGARD TO THE OVER-ZEALOUS ATTITUDES OF THE PRESS ARE NOT UNEXPECTED AND ARE JUSTIFIED. HOWEVER, IN THE LIGHT OF THE STORY WHICH REPORTERS WERE COVERING, THE EAGERNESS OF MANY OF THE NEWSMEN ON THE SCENE IS NOT SURPRISING....

A CODE OF ETHICS WHICH ESTABLISHES BROAD GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED IN CRIMINAL CASES COULD MAKE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO A SOCIETY WHICH MUST HAVE LAW AND ORDER, AND WHICH ALSO MUST HAVE INFORMATION."

THOMAS MURPHY, MANAGING EDITOR OF THE WALTHAM (MASS.)

TRIBUNE: "THERE WAS A LACK OF POLICE CONTROL AND IT REFLECTED ON THE OTHERS: NEWS MEDIA...SHOWED A LACK OF RESTRAINT. IT WAS A CHAOTIC SITUATION..."

BRODIE GRIFFITH, EDITOR, CHARLOTTE (N.C.) NEWS: "THE CRITICISM WAS WELL TAKEN, ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS THAT ELECTRONIC MEDIA WERE MORE GUILTY OF CREATING A PROBLEM THAN WERE NEWSPAPERS."

FRANK HAWKINS, ASSOCIATE EDITOR, PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE:

"WE SHARE THE COMMISSION'S APPARENT BELIEF THAT THE PRESSURE BROUGHT BY A HIGHLY COMPETITIVE AND INSATIABLE PRESS UPON THE DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT CONTRIBUTED TO OSWALD'S INADEQUATE PROTECTION FROM JACK RUBY."

JOHN CORPORON, NEWS DIRECTOR, WDSU-TV, NEW ORLEANS: "REPORTERS PUSHED TOO HARD BECAUSE OF THE COMPETITIVE PRESSURE. DALLAS POLICE SHOULD HAVE CONTROLLED THE SITUATION BUT DID NOT..."

WILLIAM HILL, MANAGING EDITOR, THE WASHINGTON EVENING STAR:

"THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE NEWS MEDIA MUST BEAR SOME BLAME IN THE DALLAS TRAGEDY."

RICHARD HOLLANDER, MANAGING EDITOR, THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS: "...THE PRESS COULD HAVE ACTED BETTER...THE TELEVISION PEOPLE WERE MOSTLY AT FAULT BECAUSE OF THE PROBLEMS OF THEIR MEDIA."

MARCUS GEORGE, CITY EDITOR, ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, LITTLE ROCK: "IT'S MY POSITION THAT THE PRESS HAS A RIGHT TO REQUEST AND AUTHORITIES HAVE THE RIGHT TO DENY."

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RANDY TARDY, NEWS DIRECTOR, KTHV-TV, LITTLE ROCK: "...SINCE THE NUMBER OF NEWSMEN IS GETTING BIGGER, I THINK MORE ATTENTION MIGHT BE GIVEN TO POOL ARRANGEMENTS."

ART SCHREIBER, NEWS DIRECTOR, KYW RADIO STATION, CLEVELAND: NEWSMEN "WERE ONLY DOING THEIR JOB."

JIM BORMAN, NEWS DIRECTOR, RADIO STATION WCCO, MINNEAPOLIS: "IT CERTAINLY INDICATES A NEED FOR SELF DISCIPLINE IF THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED."

JAMES STEWART, GENERAL MANAGER, RADIO STATION WHEP, FOLEY, ALA., PRESIDENT OF THE ALABAMA BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION:

"...BY AND LARGE, IN MY OPINION, THE COVERAGE WAS SENSITIVE, COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE:

BEN DAVIS, EXECUTIVE MANAGING EDITOR, THE MONTGOMERY (ALA.) ADVERTISER AND ALABAMA JOURNAL: "THE CRUSH OF NEWS MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES CERTAINLY CONTRIBUTED TO FACTORS LEADING TO THE SLAYING OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD IN DALLAS. BUT THE DIRECT BLAME SHOULD BE PLACED ON THE OFFICIALS OF THE DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT."

STUART OWEN, MANAGING EDITOR, THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE: "...I'D RATHER GO ON IN A HAPHAZARD WAY AND TAKE A CHANCE OF HARMING THE DEFENDANT THAN MANAGE NEWS OR LOSE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS."

EMMETT DEDMON, EXECUTIVE EDITOR, CHICAGO SUN TIMES: "IT IS INEVITABLE THAT SOME KIND OF POOL ARRANGEMENT WILL HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT IN INSTANCES SUCH AS THIS, PARTICULARLY FOR RADIO AND TV."

LARRY FANNING, EXECUTIVE EDITOR, CHICAGO DAILY NEWS:... "..."MOST OF THE EXCESSES...MUST BE LAID AT THE DOOR OF ELECTRONICS REPORTERS." IN SUCH A CONFUSED SITUATION, "I AM SURE SOME OF OUR OWN PEOPLE WERE GUILTY BUT IT WAS THE EXCEPTION RATHER THAN THE RULE."

ROY HEATLEY, KNXT NEWS DIRECTOR, LOS ANGELES: "IT IS WRONG TO SADDLE THE NEWS MEDIA WITH THE BLAME WHEN IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT WAS POORLY PREPARED."

BILL REED, NEWS DIRECTOR, WWL-TV, NEW ORLEANS: "THE CRITICISM WAS JUSTIFIED TO A CERTAIN EXTENT. BUT I DON'T SEE HOW YOU CAN AVOID SUCH ACTIVITY IN AN EVENT OF THIS MAGNITUDE... YOU CAN'T BLAME NEWS PEOPLE FOR GETTING THE NEWS. THAT'S THEIR JOB."

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