

# Newsman as Well as Cops Blamed in Oswald's Death

## Washington

The Warren Commission charged in its report yesterday that news media must share with the Dallas police the responsibility for the breakdown of law enforcement that occurred when Jack Ruby managed to kill Lee Harvey Oswald in the Dallas Police and Courts Building.

The President's Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy, noted that the prime responsibility was that of the police department.

But the Commission included among its major recommendations one that called for a new code of professional conduct in the collection and presentation of information to the public.

The new code of "Ethical Standards," the Commission said, was needed so that in the future "there will be no interference with pending criminal investigations, court proceedings, or the right of individuals to a fair trial."

It described the tumultuous scenes in the Dallas Police and Courts Buildings in the two days following the arrest of Oswald. It described how police catered to newsmen's requests and allowed them to overrun the building.

The report pointed out that Dallas police officials made no distinction between their customary efforts to accommodate newsmen and the special situation in which an unusually large number of zealous newsmen were permitted to make a shambles of security efforts.

As a consequence, the report said, Ruby was able to get into the basement of the building where Oswald was being escorted by police in a corridor crowded with press, radio and television men.

The Commission said that "the acceptance of inadequate press credentials posed a clear avenue for a one-man assault"; it cited the "inadequacy of coordination" among the police authorities in arranging for the planned transfer of Oswald to the county jail; and it said: "... Regardless of whether the press should have been allowed to witness the transfer, security measures in the basement for Oswald's protection could and should have been better organized and more thorough."

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