

Moscow Bans the Warren Report as 'a Slander'

Moscow

The Soviet government has forbidden the distribution here of the Warren Commission report on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the United States Embassy reported yesterday.

An Embassy spokesman said that the Soviet Foreign Ministry described the Warren report as "slanderous to the Soviet people." The ministry itself maintained silence.

There was speculation that the ban was imposed because the Warren commission's version of the assassination conflicts with a version often presented in the Soviet press — that the President was killed by a right-wing conspiracy of "Texas oil barons."

It was also understood that the Soviet Government objected to the inclusion in the Warren report of comments by Lee Harvey Oswald on his life in the Soviet Union. Oswald had returned to the U.S., saying he was disillusioned with Soviet Communism. He returned with a Russian wife.

U.S. Minister-Counsellor John C. Guthrie was called to the foreign ministry last Wednesday and informed of the ban on the Warren Report, translated into Russian. He said that the U.S. government had been distributing it so the Soviet people here could form an accurate opinion of the circumstances of the assassination in Dallas. Some 650 copies have been circulated here.

Washington sent Guthrie back to the foreign ministry Tuesday to express regret on the ban. He argued that the U.S. government has permitted circulation in the United States of Soviet publications and asked for consideration of the ban.

But an embassy spokesman said there seemed little chance of this.

During his second appearance at the foreign ministry Guthrie also protested a new article in the Soviet press claiming that Mr. Kennedy was killed in a conspiracy.

The Soviet labor newspaper *Trud* ran a reprint last Thursday of an article in the Czech newspaper *Rude Pravo* which charged that the Warren Commission report falsified and concealed facts. This version also termed the assassination the work of a right-wing conspiracy.

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