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Page 1 FEB 27 1964

Date:

## Press Should Share Blame In Oswald Death, Says Editor

Evansville, Ill., Feb. 26 (AP)—Alert B. McCormick, Charlestown, Dallas newspaper editor said today the press should accept part of the blame for the death of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy.

Felix R. McKnight declared pressure by newsmen, some of whom "implied that the police were physically beating a confession out of Lee Oswald" forced the Dallas police chief to "use play the promoter."

Oswald was slain by Jack Ruby in view of TV and still cameras as police were transferring Oswald to another jail.

The press corps, McKnight added, again is swearing on Dallas "in the same disorderly array" for Ruby's trial on a charge of murdering Oswald.

Addressed students McKnight, executive editor and vice president of the Dallas Times-Herald addressed the students of Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. He is one of ten news executives appearing in a series of lectures sponsored by the Hub-

Commission Exhibit No. 2185

Alert B. McCormick, Charlestown, Dallas newspaper editor said today the press should accept part of the blame for the death of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy.

The editor criticized segments of the press for blaming Dallas for the slaying of President Kennedy.

"The sling of slanted reporting still is felt in Dallas," he said. "The Dallas resident wonders about the integrity of the entire communications field."

"The rape of Dallas has come from a backdrop supplied by national news. Dallas, a city of 1,000,000, is the reluctant, exposed a typical minority of news producers the excess of sensationalism and political hatred."

Extremist Leadership Board. He denied that extremists are in positions of leadership in Dallas.

He added that the charges against Dallas are getting fewer life from the news media, which quote Ruby's lawyer, Melvin Bell, whom McKnight termed "a courtroom exhibitionist." Bell contended Ruby cannot get a fair trial in Dallas.

McKnight described Dallas as a city of extreme tolerance and every fact of its life without a single incident or arrest."

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

August 26, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
The President's Commission  
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to your letters dated July 7 and July 8, 1964, dealing with Joe R. Molina, formerly an employee of the Texas School Book Depository, Dallas, Texas.

In response to the requests in letters of reference there are enclosed two copies each of a report concerning Joe Rodriguez Molina dated August 20, 1964, at Dallas, Texas, and a memorandum of evaluation of same date relating to the sources concealed in the report. There are also enclosed two copies of a memorandum captioned "American GI Forum" dated August 25, 1964.

With specific reference to question number one in your July 7, 1964, letter, we have been advised by the Department of Justice that a review of the files of that Department has disclosed no information concerning Joe Rodriguez Molina. In addition, we have been advised by Mr. Sidney B. Rawitz, Deputy Associate Commissioner for Security, Immigration and Naturalization Service, that a search of the records at the Central Office, Immigration and Naturalization Service, failed to disclose any information in the files of that agency identifiable with Joe Rodriguez Molina. We would further advise that Joe Rodriguez Molina was never the subject of an investigation by this Bureau prior to November 22, 1953, and that at no time has this Bureau furnished any information to the Dallas Police Department concerning any alleged subversive activities by Molina.

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