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Inside Washington

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CIA Withheld Vital Intelligence From Warren Commission

By ROBERT S. ALLEN And PAUL SCOTT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—The Central Intelligence Agency withheld vital intelligence information from the Warren Commission during its investigation of President Kennedy.

Despite the commission's written request for all documents that might shed light on the assassination, CIA authorities failed to turn over a national intelligence estimate warning that it is Kremlin policy to remove from public office by assassination Western officials who actively oppose Soviet policies.

Titled "Soviet Strategic Executive Action," the suppressed CIA document went into the shock details of how agents of KGB, the Soviet secret police, are trained to do away with Western leaders, including officials in the U.S., and to make their deaths appear due to natural causes. One of the KGB's newly devised assassination weapons is a pneumatically operated poison ice atomizer, which leaves no wound or other evidence of the cause of death. While this deadly weapon has yet to be used against any high Western official, hundreds of KGB agents covertly operating outside of Russia have been supplied with this pocket-size gun, awaiting only orders from Moscow to use it. The Murder Weapons HIGHLIGHTS of the suppressed intelligence estimate, which is locked in a security area within the tightly-guarded CIA, are as follows: "It has been reported that the KGB endeavors to remove the threat to Soviet interests posed by certain members of Western governments; some times arranging for the

dismissal of such persons from public office, at other times even having them 'eliminated' physically. "Such activities are known to be undertaken against other types of persons in the West, notably defectors from the U.S.S.R. and from other countries of the Soviet bloc. "One recently reported assassination technique is to electrocute an individual by luring him to use a telephone, connected to a high-voltage wire, during a thunderstorm. "Another involves the use of a pistol which projects a poison gas in

liquid or compressed form. The gas is fatal within seconds and an autopsy would not reveal its use. Non-traceable poisons have been reported which do not take effect until several hours after being administered, thus allowing an assassin to be far from the scene when his victim dies. "A knowledgeable source has described a pneumatically operated poison ice atomizer which leaves no wound or other evidence of the cause of death." Congressional investigators, who have asked that the name of their committee be withheld

for security reasons report that CIA Director John McCone made no mention of this explosive document in his secret testimony before the Warren Commission. While McCone furnished the commission with the CIA's secret surveillance reports on Lee Harvey Oswald's eight days in Mexico City before the assassination, including details of Oswald's contact with the head KGB agent in the Soviet Embassy there, the CIA chief gave no hint of the Kremlin's assassination policy.

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Who talked to these guys?

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Other Suppressed Documents

OTHER U.S. intelligence experts, very dubious of Russia's co-existence line, stress that the Warren Commission's findings might have been different if this CIA estimate and other documents suppressed by the State Department had been available for study.

They point out that the State Department suppressed evidence linking Oswald with one of its employees, who according to security files,

the CIA's assassination shown by administration officials to Speaker John McCormack (Mass.), next in line to succeed President Johnson.

While FBI officials warned Speaker McCormack, a dedicated anti-Communist, that he is on the list of Western officials feared by the Kremlin, no CIA authority has shown the No. 2 man in government the CIA report listing these secret Soviet assassination methods.

Instead, McCormack learned about the report only recently from con-

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