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a rich man's son who "did not give a damn about people," while President Johnson would work with the people. In any case, the Cuban stated that President Johnson would not stand in their way.

A few days later the American was informed by the Cuban and another unknown Cuban that he was a member of a group of six persons and that they had one "banker". Two of the members of this group owned a small screw machine factory. (It should be noted at this point that automatic weapons can readily be obtained as souvenirs if the barrels have been plugged, and it is the practice of gun runners to obtain these plugged weapons, take them to an unscrupulous screw machine operator and have the barrels reamed out since the plugging is mainly lead.) The American informed the two Cubans that since the assassination of President Kennedy a great deal of "heat" had been created and that his party was willing to provide the guns to the Cubans for a nominal downpayment if the Cuban group could provide them with the responsible party in the Chicago area who would vouch that the remainder of the money would be paid to them after the deal had been consummated. The American informed the Cubans that his group was saving six guns, and should they be double-crossed they intended to take retribution.

The investigation continued some time, with the Cuban and the American meeting regularly and discussing the possible purchase of guns and ammunition for the Cuban. At no time did any of the conversation between the American and the Cuban reflect that the activities in which the Cubans were engaged in any way had any connection with the assassination of President Kennedy. None of the persons involved in this investigation had any connection with the assassination, nor was there any indication that any of the persons involved had any information concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. The investigation is continuing along lines other than that involved in the assassination.

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2959—Continued

Gov. Connally talks with reporters Friday at White House after chat with President.

# Connally Tells JFK Texas for Democrats

By ROBERT E. BASKIN  
Washington Bureau of The News  
WASHINGTON—Gov. John B. Connally of Texas Friday advised President Kennedy that the "general political atmosphere" of his state is favorable to the Democratic party as 1964 approaches.

At the same time, Connally acknowledged to reporters after talking to the President for about 45 minutes, that Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., has "considerable strength" in Texas.

He said he told Kennedy that the 1964 campaign will be a hard one, but that he is confident Democratic nominees would win.

Connally cited a recent Golden Pull which showed Kennedy leading Goldwater by 8 percentage points in the state. Projecting this, Connally said, Kennedy's edge over Goldwater in a contest held today would be 26,000 votes if 3 million voters turn out.

(IN 1962, Kennedy defeated Richard M. Nixon by only 46,000 votes in Texas.)

Connally said the President asked a number of questions about his gubernatorial administration and the recent of the state Legislature. There has been

little criticism over the state of either, Connally reported.

Kennedy remarked that he had heard very little about civil rights problems in Texas, Connally said.

"I told him everybody had worked at it, at the state, county and city levels," the governor said, "and that remarkable progress had been made."

CONNALLY said he did not view civil rights as the paramount issue in next year's presidential election in Texas. After the nominations have been made and the platforms drawn, he declared. "There won't be much to choose between the two parties" on civil rights.

He said he wouldn't undertake to define what the major issue is likely to be in 1964 "because I don't know."

Connally told reporters that Goldwater is being acclaimed as a conservative by many people "who really don't know him."

"His image may fade when they find out about him," Connally said.

Connally said he had been asked to make recommendations on plans for the President's Nov. 21-22 visit to Texas and that he expected to be able

to present something to the White House in about a week.

HE DECLINED to discuss details at the present time.

"Many places in the state want him to come," Connally said.

Among them, he said, are Corpus Christi and San Angelo, plus the four big Texas cities: Dallas, Houston, Fort Worth and San Antonio. In addition, he reported, two colleges have made serious bids for the President to appear on their campuses. He declined to name the colleges.

Asked about reported plans for the President to attend a dinner in Houston honoring Congressman Albert Thomas on the night of Nov. 21, Connally said the White House would have to answer that question.

He said he would characterize the President's Texas trip "as such."

"It's not my place to determine that, however," he added.

WHITE HOUSE sources last week frankly stated that the visit would be a political one.

Earlier Friday the governor called on Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman to urge inclusion of funds in the next budget to keep screwworms, which infest cattle, out of Texas, which has largely eliminated them.

He also discussed with Freeman the Toledo Bend Dam on the Sabine River, a project in which Texas, Louisiana and the federal government will cooperate.

Connally also visited the Pentagon, where he met with Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara and Deputy Secretary Roswell L. Gilpatrick. The governor carried with him data showing a decline in prime military contracts in Texas from 1958 to 1962.

Friday night he attended a reception given by touring East Texas Chamber of Commerce members in honor of the Texas congressional delegation, after which he was scheduled to fly back to Texas.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2960