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(c) 1996 Dispatch Printing Co. All rts. reserv.08762030 PANEL KEEPS PROBING JFK ASSASSINATION Columbus Dispatch (CD) - Wednesday, September 18, 1996 By: Dean Narciso Dispatch Staff Reporter Edition: Home Final Section: NEWS LOCAL & NATIONAL Page: 05D Word Count: 360TEXT: A "pretty intense day" of testimony, evidence collection and debate uncovered no "smoking guns" but will add to a growing pool of public information about the Kennedy assassination, said Kermit Hall. Hall is dean of the Ohio State University College of Humanities and one of five members of the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Review Board that met in Los Angeles yesterday. Begun in 1994, the mission of the independent board is to find and make public a variety of information about the 1963 shooting death of President Kennedy in Dallas. He said a wealth of donated evidence covered a "full spectrum of views" and will contribute to "the spirit of trying to bring some greater understanding in what happened in the assassination." Among the eight witnesses to testify before the committee were: David Belin, a counsel to the Warren Commission, appointed in 1963 to investigate Kennedy's death. Belin gave "very direct, well-informed testimony. He thought there was no doubt (Lee Harvey) Oswald acted alone," Hall said. James Rankin, son of J. Lee Rankin, general counsel to the commission. Rankin donated 35 boxes of his father's working papers, notes and calendars, which indicate there was "great internal conflict" within the commission, disproving those who claim the commission members did not perform the investigation with enough diligence. David Lifton, an author who donated interview tapes of about 40 people who guarded Kennedy's body after the shooting death. Lifton also donated an enhanced, 35mm version of the famous 8mm Zapruder tape of the assassination. Hall said the new version is "probably the highest quality reproduction of the film made available to the public." Eric Hamburg, a representative of filmmaker Oliver Stone. "He (Hamburg) has been to Cuba and says he's seen documents related to the assassination in Cuba," Hall said. The committee was told by Hamburg that the Cuban government would like the review board to come and look at the evidence. "That's something we're going to follow up and explore," Hall said. He said the board is planning a trip to Russia and Belarus in about five weeks to investigate evidence there and is planning to establish contacts with Cuba. Copyright (c) 1996, The Dispatch Printing Co.DEScriptors: US; PRESIDENT; MURDER; INVESTIGATION; ORGANIZATION; HISTORY

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