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Writer Suggests Moves To Back Warren Report On JFK

NEW YORK — A proposal that X-rays and photographs of President John F. Kennedy's body be examined by a committee of scholars and doctors was made public today as a way to back up the Warren Commission's report that Lee Harvey Oswald alone killed the president.

The proposal contained in the current issue of *The Nation* was made by Jacob Cohen, who is described as completing a book to defend the conclusion made by the Warren Commission. Cohen, a 32-year-old free-lance writer from Montclair, N.J., is teaching disadvantaged children in Boston this summer. He is a former member of the Phi-Kappa-Sigma chapter at Yale and formerly was on the history faculties of Yale and Brandeis Universities.

Cohen wrote that 25 to 32 X-rays and at least 15 to 20 photographs had been taken of Kennedy's body after the assassination. He argued that the wound in the president's back had been high enough to sustain the theory of a single bullet wounding both Kennedy and Gov. John B. Connally Jr. of Texas. They could also, he contended, refute suggestions the president might have been shot from the front or side, a theory requiring a second assassin.

It is unclear, he wrote, whether the Warren Commission "ever requested and received the X-rays." He reported several commission lawyers had told him the X-rays had been withheld from publication at the request of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, the late president's brother.

This might have been "for reasons of taste," Cohen wrote. "Another innocent explanation," he said, was "to avert speculation that Kennedy was a dying man when he was shot" because of possible indications of the president's known adrenal insufficiency.

Arten Specter, who was a key commission lawyer and is now the district attorney of Philadelphia, said today he personally had not seen the photographs or X-rays but "the commission decided it was not necessary to review them."