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**PRESUMED GUILTY:**  
**Lee Harvey Oswald in the Assassination of President Kennedy**  
by Howard Roffman

If Howard Roffman is right, and his careful documentation argues that he is, Lee Harvey Oswald could not have been the assassin of President John F. Kennedy. He could not have been the gunman in the sixth-floor window of the Texas School Book Depository building, as is shown by close analysis of both the circumstantial evidence and the ballistics of the case, which demonstrate that the bullets that inflicted the wounds of both the President and Governor John Connally could not have been fired from Oswald's rifle.

The implications are serious indeed, and Howard Roffman's Introduction deals with these extensively, citing other critical appraisals of the Warren Report as well as his own analysis based on thorough systematic examination of the evidence. The documentation he presents, extracted from the once-secret working papers of the Warren Commission, demonstrates that the Commission itself prejudged Oswald guilty and made use of the only circumstantial evidence to bolster its assumption, while suppressing information that tended to undermine it. Roffman states the charge explicitly:

When the Commissioners decided in advance that the wrong man was the lone assassin, whatever their intentions, they protected the real assassins. Through their staff, they misinformed the American public and falsified history. . . . The evidence demonstrates beyond a reasonable doubt that Oswald was not the man who killed President Kennedy and wounded Governor Connally. Cover-up and deception within the executive branch of the government is not something that began with Watergate.

The author has analyzed the 1964 *Report of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy* (the Warren Report) and exposes its faulty logic and false assumptions and deductions. He has also studied (and owns) the twenty-six volumes of hearings and exhibits later published by the Warren Commission as the basis of its report. Citations from both justify his conclusions. He has examined portions of the unpublished files of the Commission now stored in the National Archives, insofar as they are available to researchers. (Several of the key once-secret documents are reprinted in the appendixes.) The author has interviewed and corresponded extensively with people connected with the Warren Commission, including former staff lawyer Arlen Specter; has seen and studied hundreds of photographs of the assassination, including the famous color movie film made by amateur cameraman Abraham Zapruder; and has consulted with ballistics experts from the Frankford Arsenal and with medical examiners from three cities. He has also read the vast body of published literature on the assassination as well as a number of unpublished scholarly works.

Effectively organized into three parts, *Presumed Guilty: Lee Harvey Oswald in the Assassination of President Kennedy* is an objective, factual presentation of what was concluded in the Warren Report as opposed to what should have been concluded.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

Howard Roffman was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pa., where he attended public school. He completed his undergraduate studies as a History major at the University of Pennsylvania and graduated with honors in 1974. He is particularly interested in post-World War II American history, and plans to pursue a legal career. He has just completed a book on the origins of the Cold War.

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Appendixes

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