



On The Air

By BOB WILLIAMS

In the windup of its painstaking four-part inquiry into the Warren Report on the Kennedy assassination, CBS News conceded doubt last night whether Lee Harvey Oswald had some relationship with the FBI or the CIA.

The idea, said narrator Walter Cronkite, is "not frivolous." He noted that the two agencies "are silent" and added: "Although the Warren Commission had full power to conduct its own independent investigation, it permitted the FBI and the CIA to investigate themselves—and so cast a permanent shadow on the answers."

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Summing up the CBS inquiry, which decided that Oswald was the sole assassin, Cronkite found it a "strange kind of tribute to the Warren Report that every objection that can be raised against it is to be found in the report itself." CBS News thinker Eric Sevareid remembered that "deranged little men killed Lincoln, Garfield, McKinley, tried to kill Presidents Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt."

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The CBS News inquiry into the Kennedy assassination set new standards for TV documentaries, heretofore limited almost entirely to one-hour programs. The sponsor-commercials were fortunately there, certainly. The subjects for similarly intensive inquiry are obvious. First and foremost is the penetration of organized crime into supposedly legitimate business.

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