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Controversy Still Stirs Over JFK

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A new rash of commentary is beginning to hit the news and book stands on the John F. Kennedy assassination—whether it happened pretty much as the Warren Commission says it happened or whether it really was a grander conspiracy involving several persons and even foreign influences.

Some of them are so transparently sensational they ought to be dismissed for what they are, little more than cheap attempts to huckster a profit. Others are more definitive and have the face and image of studied appraisal but upon close examination reveal they are guilty of the same things they charge in the Warren report: The undocumented and reckless assumption.

A few, however, are genuinely pursuits of truth. In the case of these exceptions, all come to the same firm conclusion to which the Warren Commission came: There is no question that Lee Oswald, suffering vagrant impulses of grandeur, abuse, and consciously and subconsciously seeking a moment of supreme "glory", was the lone assassin, entered the crime with no outside conspiracy and remains the only suspect for all of the investigations of nearly three years.

There are many real parallels be-

tween the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and John F. Kennedy, and still another parallel emerges as a part of the history of each.

For all of the painful investigation and the confirmation of certain, unalterable, unchallenged truths, there is speculation in both assassinations of conspiracy beyond the actual involvement. Perhaps this is because the firm, direct, supported answer will fail to satisfy the few, regardless of the evidence. These have a sense of the conspiratorial beyond the reach of logic and evidence.

Just as historians still debate the conditions of the Lincoln assassination more than 100 years after his death, 100 years from now other historians will ponder upon the Kennedy assassination and hold likewise—that the real facts departed from the general assumption.

Meantime, the Warren Commission report, a magnificent effort at establishing truth, remains in the whole unchallenged, and the few points upon which it is obscure probably will remain obscure forever. There seems little possibility its fundamental conclusion — that the tormented Lee Oswald committed the murder without help or in consultation with anyone—will be challenged successfully ever.