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California Educator Says Theory of Conspiracy In Kennedy Death Proven

NEW YORK (UPI) —A University of California, San Diego, educator has charged that an analysis of the entire Warren Commission Report and two new books on the Kennedy assassination provide "compelling" substantiation of the theory that Lee Harvey Oswald was part of a conspiracy.

Writing in the New York Review of Books, Prof. Richard H. Popkin contended the commissioner's conclusion that Oswald was a loner is not consistent with much of the material in its 26-volume report on the late President's assassination in Dallas, Tex., on Nov. 22, 1963. The chairman of the philosophy department at the

University of California, San Diego, demanded that the investigation be reopened. Popkin's own theory is that a man who looked like Oswald was used to create the illusion that a lonely, alienated man with pro-Castro leanings was the sole perpetrator of the crime. He also marshals evidence purporting to indicate another assassin was on the scene in Dallas plus one or two other conspirators who drove getaway cars.

The educator used a review of Edward J. Epstein's "In-quest" and Harold Weisberg's "Whitewash," both of which take issue with the Warren Report, as a forum for his own speculation, based on two voluminous readings of the report, material he says was overlooked by the commission, and what he describes as new evidence gathered by independent investigators.

"Whatever information might emerge from a renewed investigation, a reading of the 26 volumes forces one to the conclusion that the commission did a poor job," he said. "I served the American and the world public badly. . . . we cannot hide from the fact that some of our most serious and well-meaning citizens have gathered to our childish needs for security."

Americans have been lulled by the commission's confirmation that a "lonely nut" killed their President, when in fact the "official" theory was "in many ways implausible from the beginning," Popkin says. Oswald was known to be a poor shot and his rifle was inaccurate, whereas the assassin was "extraordinarily accurate" if he made three hits in a space of time that could be duplicated by FBI

Furthermore, Popkin said, commission to have concluded too many witnesses reported that all the shots came from a knoll overlooking the depository building where the assassination scene for the Oswald worked.