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THE LONG DARK NIGHT of John Kennedy's death continues to haunt the television screen.

WNEW-TV's four hours of debate, spread over Saturday and Sunday evenings, could fairly be described as an exercise in futility. And a surely, hot-headed exercise it was, too. Saturday's panel, sitting in condemnation of the Warren Commission report, did manage to implant certain doubts as to Oswald's guilt as the sole assassin. Certainly a great many troubling questions were posed and left unanswered.

Last night's stormy session between Louis Nizer, defender of the Warren Commission, and Mark Lane, chief defender of Oswald, demonstrated that neither advocate was in the pink of courtesy, to say nothing of the cool calm of objectivity. ■■■■

A viewer's ultimate conclusion: All the people who have chosen to debate publicly the validity of the Warren Report are the sort you hope will never darken your TV screen again.