

vacation. ...ptions. ...co-  
homic patterns in the meantime.

S.F. EXAMINER DEC. 22, 1991

## 'JFK' and the possibilities

**F**IRST CONSIDER whether you believe the Warren Report. If you don't, consider seeing Oliver Stone's new movie "JFK," which depicts the assassination of President Kennedy as a *coup d'etat* staged by a vast conspiracy. But if you do believe the Warren Report, there may be even more reason to see the movie — to challenge your assumptions about Nov. 22, 1963, and after.

As a docudrama, "JFK" is troubling because the genre makes it impossible to separate the "docu" from the "drama." But facts be damned. This is a work of art. Like any art, "JFK" stands or falls on its power to disturb viewers, to make them think and rethink. It bothers us before we see it.

Writer-producer Stone's theories (lion-

izing former New Orleans prosecutor Jim Garrison, fingering businessman Clay Shaw as a conspirator) may or may not hold water. But they make us consider the possibilities. If not Stone's conspiracy theory, how about this one: Jonathan Kwitny, a much-respected investigative reporter, writes in the Wall Street Journal that Carlos Marcello, then the Mafia boss of the South, might have called the shots. Both Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby had worked for him, and Kennedy's death saved Marcello's empire from ruin.

There's plenty of evidence the Warren Commission's lone-gunman theory doesn't solve the case. If there isn't a national soul-searching over what really happened, why isn't there? We should want the truth.

S.F. EXAMINER (EDITORIAL SECTION)