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**Editorials**

**The Kennedy  
 Murder Game**

THE TWO ARTICLES by Joel Pimsleur which The Chronicle's "This World" has published dealing with the "Who Killed Kennedy?" game have put in useful perspective the motives of some of the authors playing the game.

That their motives are open to question would perhaps be irrelevant if these critics of the Warren Commission's report on the assassination had brought out evidence of any probative weight pointing to the participation of others than Lee Harvey Oswald in a murder conspiracy. The lack of such evidence from the critics makes a convincing case, we feel, for taking the Warren report as having settled the issue.

Governor John Connally of Texas, who rode with President Kennedy at Dallas on November 22, 1963, does not believe the conclusion of the Warren report that the bullet which wounded him was

the first bullet fired. But he does not proceed from this disagreement to doubt the report's basic substance in its overall findings or to call for re-opening the case. "Would that serve any purpose at all?" Connally was asked last week at a press conference.

"NONE WHATEVER," he replied, "unless and until there is some new evidence or significant fact... I don't see any new evidence available, and I think it does no one any good, serves no useful purpose, to keep bandying these things around..."

The same point is made by J. Edgar Hoover: "Not one shred of evidence has been developed to link any other person in a conspiracy with Oswald to assassinate President Kennedy."

The game of "Who Killed Kennedy?" to which Pimsleur has addressed his attention has sold a lot of books critical of the Warren commission, intrigued many book reviewers, and fortified the doubts of many disbelievers. Pimsleur's conclusion, after very thorough probing, is that the real phenomenon to which these reactions to the assassination give rise is the nature of belief and disbelief. That is profoundly true; and it is not a new phenomenon, for in the aftermath of Lincoln's assassination the same obsession with the idea of a widespread, hushed-up conspiracy took possession of people's minds.

THE WRITERS ATTACKING the Warren report use as their weapons distortion, strained inference and virulent innuendo, along with emphasis on the actual discrepancies which exist in the testimony of witnesses. Governor Connally, who as a victim, certainly has much at stake in the discovery of the whole truth, finds it shocking that the commission's members, as well as their findings, are so ruthlessly impugned. And he suspects what we suspect, that a searching investigation of the credentials of the "self-appointed experts" will divulge that their motives have political or commercial overtones and that their views have been given prominence out of proportion to their value.