Why I Wrote 'Whitewash'

By HAROLD WEISBERG

The President of the United States is more than the embodiment of the might and majesty of this great land; more than the possessor of history's most awesome power; much more than the dispenser of the most cherished favors.

The President is the repository of the national honor and integrity, the symbol of us all. Truly, nothing can in today's world happen to him or to the institution of the Presidency that does not in some degree affect everyone in the entire world. But how much does it relate to each and every individual American, to the integrity of the institutions of our society, when anything happens to any President—especially assassination!

Surely there must never come a time when an American President can be assassinated and consigned to history with the dubious epitaph of an uncertain inquest. Surely there may not now or ever in the future be a time when responsible questions cannot — indeed, must not — be asked; or a time when these questions can be without satisfactory answer.

With the assassination of President John F. Kennedy there was nothing but questions. With the supposed investigation of it there is anything but answers. There is no major conclusion of the Report, save the unhappy one of the President's murder—which required no Commission for its authentication. There is not a single major conclusion that is proved beyond a reasonable doubt and few proved at all.

This is what WHITEWASH: THE REPORT ON THE WARREN REPORT—the first book on the subject and still the only definitive book—proves. And much, much more, exclusively with the testimony and exhibits of the Commission itself.

Books 8/66 (WHITEWASH is available for \$4.95 from Mr. Weisberg, Hyattstown, Md. 20734) _