## Warren Commission was wrong-- Prof. Cohen

valuable attributes of a scholar. An open mind, perhaps, is one of the most

American studies Ask Jacob Cohen, associate professor of

Branders community that Jerry Cohen (as he's

" s t---n a well-known fact in and around the

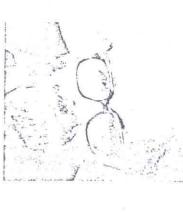
rown to students and faculty alike) has enter-

ned a fascination for the mysteries that even

5hr F. Kennedy. "ay enshroud the assassination of President

any notion of a conspiracy in the 1963 murder of The president Warren Commission's findings that discounted and certainly most zealous—advocates of the and he has been one of the more prominent re-examined every nook and cranny of the case. For the past 16 years, he has examined and

ful as any good scholar knows, new facts



assassination will strengthen Jerry Cohen: Scholarly concern over the

and new evidence can drastically alter one's Column's 16-year-old conviction that there was o conspiracy had lost its strength Drownitter on new evidence in the case—Jerry we final awaring of the House Assassinations clusions. On Dec. 29 of this year-following

E'T' THOOLY wire the newspaper an extensive article explain-". " Jan. 9, Prof. Cohen published in a Boston ount of what the new evidence had done to ary on the assassination with a detailed 'HE and the Warren Commission's previous

"anded that three shots were fired that fateful is simple terms, Prof. Cohen previously con-"hillas - una that hit both then-Gov. John

> contended that the evidence showed the shots been perched at a sixth-floor window of the were fired by Lee Harvey Oswald alone, who had President, and a third shot that missed. He second shot that probably fatally wounded the Texas School Book Depository

event, the acoustical evidence it provides skeptic to proffer an apologia in favor of a new pointing to a fourth bullet fired from the famous held so long, no one seems to know. In any been uncovered. How and why it has been withmotorcade the day of the assassination, has officer who had accompanied the Presidential A tape, allegedly from the belt of a Dallas police "phantom gunman" theory. "grassy knoll," has forced Brandeis' unrelenting Suddenly, however, new evidence appeared

and no one." tional sniper who fired a shot that hit nothing wasn't a large-scale conspiracy, just one addision were right on target. I still uphold that it the facts where they led. Up until this most recent development, I and the Warren Commisdiscredited. I honestly believe that I followed Says Prot. Cohen, however: "I don't feel at all

shortly. "I have no qualms about it coming out," entitled Conspiracy Fever, which will be in print and they haven't changed hysteria and fantasy surrounding conspiracy, somewhat, the book still involves the notions of he states, "for although I've revised my opinions Jerry Cohen has written a book on the subject

and you can bet I'll be right there in the forefront of this newest evidence, and the unanswered now," notes Prof. Cohen, "over the authenticity Kennedy assassination is starting all over, this time. The scholarly concern about the John questions as to why it has been concealed all "There is a great deal of discussion going on

of Conspiracy in American Culture. ever—including his popular course on "The Idea and enjoying his teaching at Brandeis more than tenor in his off hours, is writing, and thinking, In the meantime, Prof. Cohen, a talented

opinions on any and all aspects of American life. dynamic lecturing and to debate his hardnosed semester after semester, eager to sample his 1960, students have poured into his classes Ever since his arrival at Brandeis in the fall of

Prof. Cohen's introductory American studies course, "Problems in American Civilization, One Brandels senior, currently enrolled in

His classes are alive, as if you can feel learning now that I've taken it, I understand why. something I had to do. Everyone said so. And eventually take a course with Jerry. It's just "I've known since freshman year that I would says of the witty and controversial professor: "It's Jerry Cohen's style that's so appealing

courses, including "Violence in American Life"

He also teaches a number of other topical

and one offered for the first time this semester

"The Sixties: Continuity and Change in

agree with him he welcomes your rebuttal."

want to listen; and if you should happen not to happen. He says what he thinks, he makes you

American Culture,"

of their own experiences.

"But it's just not so. It's a better time on

empliness, today, as if students have no feeling living in the shadow of the sixties. There is an think that the students of the seventies are still

part of the college scene. But it distresses me to

"and admittedly it was an exciting time to be a

"I taught in the sixties," says Prof. Cohen,

got crazy." beginning to feel like the early sixties again," he adds, "the way they were before things really generation of college students. "Things are the time. work and less obsessed with the distractions of He smiles earnestly as he praises the current

going on. Students are more serious about their campus these days, and there's better learning

like energy and divestment are beginning to surcivil rights movement, and substantive issues election years. I hear whispers of the revival of a hard-line, anti-Communist stance growing War seems to be heating up again, and there's a Prof. Cohen conjectures that the eighties will see the dawn of a "sensible sixties." "The Cold that's reminiscent of the Kennedy-Nixon

simple idealism, they have something to teach often, in their naivete, and in their pure and American people if Jerry Cohen is correct. "I'm not a worshipper of students," he claims, "but I don't hate them, either, and I honestly feel that Students will play a major role in rousing the

of a man who loves what he's doing and is pro-He has found his calling and reflects the image epitome of the idea of the American "myth" that he discusses in his American Studies courses Jerry Cohen is, at least by appearance, the

-Pisa Janoff 'BC

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