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Roffman, Howard. **Presumed Guilty: Lee Harvey Oswald in the assassination of President Kennedy.**

Fairleigh Dickinson Univ. Pr. 1975. 297p. illus. bibliog. index. LC 74-1119. \$12. CRIME

For those who have read Harold Weisberg's comprehensive critiques of the Warren Report, Roffman's largely recapitulative work should hold few surprises. Yet, the addition of some new findings from the National Archives, the author's clarity of style and logic of presentation, the self-imposed analytic limitations (only the Commission's evidence and its often tenuous relevance to that body's conclusions are analyzed), and a deft dissection of the Commission staff memos (to demonstrate clearly its belief in Oswald's guilt from the beginning) make Roffman's study more than a mere incremental addition to the voluminous literature. The author, a recent graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, passionately disagrees with Edward Epstein's conclusion that the pressures of time and politics engendered the Report's shortcomings. Not as compelling as George O'Toole's *The Assassination Tapes* (LJ 4/15, p. 744), Roffman's book is nevertheless readable and quite as depressing as O'Toole's work.—Isidore Silver, Dept. of History, John Jay Coll. of Criminal Justice, CUNY