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Computer expert charges conspiracy

The Boston Globe Friday, May 1, 1970 15

in JFK assassination

The Warren Commission findings on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy are condemned as false in the May issue of a trade journal published in Newton.

"Computers and Automation," oldest magazine in the field of computers and data processing, charges the commission was wrong in concluding Lee Harvey Oswald was the sole assassin.

In a 32-page article — Richard E. Sprague, a computer expert, says that:

• The killing was accomplished by at least four gunmen, firing from different locations, and that Oswald was not one of them.

• The assassination was the product of a conspiracy involving more than 50 persons, including members of the Dallas Police Department and the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

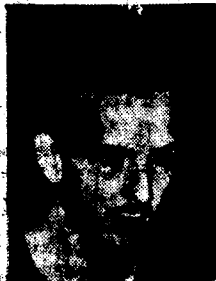
Sprague, president of Personal Data Services, Hartsdale, N.Y., has for six years made an avocation of studying old and new evidence bearing on the assassination.

His charges follow the disclosure that former President Lyndon B. Johnson has long held doubts that Oswald, the accused assassin, acted alone.

Johnson expressed these doubts during a 11-hour interview with Walter Cronkite for a CBS television special, the third and final installment of which will be shown tomorrow night.

The former President apparently had second thoughts about making his doubts public, however, and insisted that CBS delete all references to them from the television tape.

The deletions demanded by Johnson were described by CBS officials as in line with an agreement permitting the former President to review and cut "comments involving national security."



LEE HARVEY OSWALD not alone?

Informed sources said the deleted passage said in effect that Johnson had always left open in his mind the possibility of an international conspiracy, and that he doubted Oswald's sole involvement.

The Sprague article is entitled, "The Assassination of President Kennedy: The Application of Computers to the Photographic Evidence."

The case for the con-

spiracy and other conclusions reached by Sprague, is not represented as structured by computers, however.

Sprague has only recently begun work toward a computerized analysis of more than 300 still photos and 25,000 frames of movie sequences on the assassination.

The evidence developed by Sprague up to now is the result of work involving more than 400 of the 500 or so photographs of the Kennedy killing in Dallas.

Sprague says that, though the Kennedy assassination was the most photographed murder in history, the Warren Commission examined only 26 of the photos.

The Sprague article includes 11 important photographs, plus a tabulation around Dealey Plaza during and after the assassination.

The article also includes a spatial chart and a timing chart of the event as

preserved by photos.

The magazine in which the Sprague story appears was founded in 1951 and is devoted to material on computers and data processing, their applications and implications.

Edmund C. Berkeley, a pioneer in the computer field who has lectured throughout the world, is editor of the journal, which claims an estimated readership of 120,000.

The magazine has in the past published articles by such writers as C. P. Snow, John Kenneth Galbraith and Thomas J. Watson.

Sprague, the new critic of the Warren Report, plans a press conference at 11 this morning in New York. Robert Finsterwald, head of the National Committee to Investigate Assassinations, will appear with the author.