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From the January 3, 1992, issue of the
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Does it Take J.F.K. to Wake Us?

"When Everything Amounts to Nothing," your review of the film *J.F.K.*, directed by Oliver Stone (December 20), though severely critical, nonetheless states: "What the film does do effectively is to present the case for the idea that there actually was a conspiracy, rather than the lone gunman, Lee Harvey Oswald, specified by the Warren Commission report." This statement supports one of Mr. Stone's chief objectives in producing the movie.

The director's most important point is that the Warren Commission, appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson to investigate the Kennedy assassination, did a careless and incomplete job and then set a limit of seventy-five years for the public release of its materials. That imprisoned the documents until the year 2039. This was an amazing ruling and made us suspicious of the commission's analysis.

A few years later came the report by the House Select Committee on Assassinations, which accepted the conspiracy thesis. Congress took no action on this report, and its documents were imprisoned until 2029.

The movie *J.F.K.* is accomplishing its purpose in stimulating discussion and questions about President Kennedy's assassination. On this two-hundredth anniversary of our Bill of Rights, in which we celebrate freedom of speech and the press, we must remember that the underlying corollary of both of these freedoms is the people's right to know. The film strikes a strong blow for that right.

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