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to business interests, somewhat more conservative, and more willing to compromise domestic issues than his predecessor.

A widespread attitude of wait-and-see does not imply criticism. There is some uneasiness among sophisticated observers who are aware of the complexities and difficulties the President faces with Congress. However, this is balanced by the Johnson reputation for accomplishment.

Allies in Western Europe are beginning to speculate that they will have an enlarged role in the Western coalition. In Britain, the assassination brought into sharp focus the degree to which the British had come to depend upon the President for leadership in world affairs. In France there is a disposition to see de Gaulle as the "Last Great Captain" of the West and to say that he has new opportunities and responsibilities to assert his leadership. But most Frenchmen feel de Gaulle has shown his solidarity with the President. A meeting between them is taken for granted although the question of when and where is subject to debate.

Moscow has joined in encouraging the President to continue Kennedy policies. Only after several days did the Soviets hedge softly by stating that some points of the Kennedy program "were never approved by us." However, the Soviets considered the "dominant line" in Kennedy's foreign policy was "concern for averting a world thermonuclear war." This seems to be a Soviet effort to make U.S. policy conform to what the Kremlin says it is.

The most damaging aspect of world reaction is to the image of the United States as a nation of laws and morality. The murder of Oswald before television cameras was incredible to foreign observers. There has been wild speculation in both the Free World and the Communist world about elaborate plots. The confusion of events was made to order for the Communist propagandists. The alleged plots now are seen everywhere as racist and rightist.

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