

AWAITING THE REPORT

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Other doubts are aroused by the exchange of serious recriminations between the Secret Service and its now suspended agent, Abraham Bolden. The Service accuses its former employee of attempting to sell official documents to an accused counterfeiter; Mr. Bolden charges that he is being framed because he intended to disclose to the Warren Commission the Service's "laxity" in guarding the late President Kennedy.

Secret Service authorities proudly point to the fact that in 99 years there has never before been a case of one of its agents being prosecuted on criminal charges. To realists, this will merely indicate that for the sake of its public image the Secret Service preferred to deal with internal improprieties outside of public view. The question, therefore, arises why Mr. Bolden was singled out for unprecedented treatment by his employer. Is he an innocent man who is being framed lest he shed embarrassing light on the Secret Service? Or is he a guilty man in an organization which never before publicly compromised its guilty members? What, if not Mr. Bolden's own explanation, explains the Secret Service's breach with institutional tradition and its sudden readiness, even eagerness, to put a blot on its "otherwise impeccable" record? Or is it that anything will be done to suppress any doubt at all with regard to the official version of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy?

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