

Calls latest assassination probe fraud

A University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point historian is giving a flunking grade to the House Assassinations Committee for its recent probe of how President John Kennedy's killing was originally investigated.

Professor David Wrone says responsible critics now should begin a national investigation of the Select Committee and the news media should cooperate so the American public can learn how and why the congressional inquiry failed. Wrone has, for years, claimed that federal agencies were involved in a massive coverup of evidence and information about the November 1963 slaying in Dallas.

That coverup is continuing, Wrone says, because the House Committee exonerated the Warren Commission staff, FBI and CIA for their roles in the original investigation.

And it is continuing, he contends, despite the fact that information has been secured through Freedom of Information Act court cases that he feels contradicts many of the conclusions of the Warren Commission published nearly 15 years ago.

Wrone believes the House Committee should have "first investigated the original investigation and then studied the assassination itself. "We should know why the Justice Department and the FBI faked documents, committed forgeries, lied, suborned perjury and covered up Kennedy's assassination."

Wrone said members of the House Committee had stated that they were interested in changing the minds of the large segment of the American population that didn't believe the conclusions of the Warren Commission report. In effect, that report stated that there was no conspiracy in the assassination and that Lee Harvey Oswald was solely responsible.

Wrone has called the committee's work "a fraud." He said it performed "worse than that of the Warren Commission both in its approach and what it has come up with...The logical way to investigate is to go with the fact and then support theories. What the House Committee and Warren Commission have done is to state the theory and then try to fit facts to it."

After studying both old and new evidence, committee members suggested there may have been a conspiracy in the assassination; that there could have been more than one gunman and that more than three shots may have been fired at Kennedy — all contrary to the Warren Commission report and in step with Wrone's long-held beliefs based on information he has found.

The professor said he suspects more information "escaped into the public domain" than was originally expected because "so many people are becoming involved in the study of the assassination and there are so many leaks that they (federal officials) can't keep all of the holes plugged."