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LONDON, MARCH 16 (AP)-BRITISH CRITICS DIVIDED TODAY OVER THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION'S DRAMATIZED DOCUMENTARY "LEE OSWALD -- ASSASSIN." REVIEWS RANGED FROM ADMIRING TO ACID.

IT WAS THE BIGGEST PRODUCTION YET SCREENED IN THE BBC'S "PLAY OF THE MONTH" SERIES, LASTING 100 MINUTES AND USING A CAST OF MORE THAN 250.

RUDOLPH CARTIER AND REED DE ROUEN MADE THE TELEVISION VERSION FROM THE PLAY "DALLAS -- 22 NOVEMBER" BY THE GERMAN WRITER FELIX LUTZKENDORF. AMERICAN ACTOR TONY BILL PLAYED ISWALD.

"IT WAS DRAMATIZED DOCUMENTARY RATHER THAN DRAMA PROPER," THE GUARDIAN'S MARY CROZIER WROTE. "IT WAS BASED ON THE WARREN REPORT AND WAS AUTHENTIC IN EVERY DETAIL."

PETER BLACK OF THE DAILY MAIL, SAID: "IT ADDED NOTHING TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF OSWALD OR HIS AMERICA."

JAMES THOMAS, DAILY EXPRESS: "THE PLAY WAS A FIRST CLASS PIECE OF DRAMATIZATION." ONE OF THE MOST CAPABLE DRAMATIC DOCUMENTARIES THE BBC HAS SHOWN."

SYLVIA CLAYTON, DAILY TELEGRAPH: "THIS STAGY, TEDIOUS BIOGRAPHY OF A PARANOIAC KILLER WAS ON THE LEVEL OF INTELLIGENCE OF A CHEAP GANGSTER FILM."

THE TIMES: "AMBITIOUS THOUGH IT WAS, THE PROGRAM DID NOT SATISFY EITHER AS A PORTRAYAL OF AN ASSASSIN OR AS A RECORD OF EVENTS..."

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