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Can Warren Report End Suspicion?

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—It will be a near-miracle if world suspicions about the circumstances of President Kennedy's assassination are all set to rest by the forthcoming Warren Commission report.

The Commission's extensive report will be made public tomorrow.

The Commission was created primarily to resolve suspicions, particularly abroad, that the assassination was the result of a conspiracy, and to head off competing or conflicting congressional investigations.

ASSORTED 'PLOTS'

Suspicions about national or international conspiracies especially political conspiracies, are not readily dispelled. They are doubly durable when they are nourished, as in this instance, by a combination of seeming plausibility plus propaganda.

Irritating or improbable as it may seem to Americans, much of the world has believed, or has been led to believe, that the shots that felled the President, and then silenced his accused assassin, were, variously, the result of a plot by:

Extreme right-wing or Fascist conspirators; racists determined to quench the cause of equality for Negroes in the United States; Communists of the Soviet, Chinese, or Trotskyite brand; American Zionists; gunmen hired by Cuban Premier Fidel Castro; an American crime syndicate; opposition politicians in the United States, and finally, "unknown conspirators."

AIM AT FACTS

For 10 months these differing, and contradictory, suspicions, have been circulating.

They have been fertilized by self-serving propaganda that feeds national political passions in Europe, in Asia, in Africa, and in Latin America.

What the report can do, however, and what its authors obviously hope that it will do, is eliminate, or virtually eliminate, the doubts that exist

among those people in the world who are genuinely interested in ascertaining the discernible facts about the circumstances of the President's assassination.

VITAL TO ALLIES

This would be most important in those nations that are allies of the United States, and in other non-Communist areas of the world.

Fortunately for the sake of the United States position in international relations, even without the Warren report the best argument against the various conspiracy theories is that these suspicions have not been borne out by subsequent events.

That is, there has not been any radical change in American foreign or domestic policy, veering to the left or to the right.

To a degree that caused general world surprise, the transition from the Kennedy administration to the Johnson administration has been remarkably smooth.

The United States has demonstrated that it is not in the grip of extremists. In East-West relations, the search continues for agreements to reduce tensions of the Cold War.

The United States has not abandoned the road to domestic racial equality; if anything, the quest has intensified, with passage of the civil rights bill.

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