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AXU III
XIV

POSNER'S AND RANDOM HOUSE'S IMPOSITIONS ON TRUST

Because I had a personal relationship with two of the characters in the story told by Sylvia Odio, I think it fair that before getting into the details of that story, the reader be given an understanding of the nature of that relationship to be able to determine whether it influences what I believe or write.

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Odio was a then young Cuban refugee, from a wealthy family before Castro took over. In my first book, *Whitewash*, I brought to light the story she told about three men appearing at her Dallas apartment toward the end of September 1963, seeking her help, as Posner does not say, in their fund raising for anti-Castro activities, (Pages 152-5). They frightened her allegedly talking about killing Castro. In my second book, *Whitewash II*, I carried this account forward with FBI records that reached the Commission the evening of the night the presses were to roll on the Report, (Pages 152-60).

With two of the anti-Castro activists was said to have been a man named Leon Oswald. The Commission concluded that this man could not have been Lee Harvey Oswald because he was then enroute to Mexico City.

In those last minute reports the FBI identified the anti-Castro activists as Loren Eugene Hall, Lawrence Howard and William Seymour.

Hall was in the Veterans Hospital in Los Angeles in early 1967 when I spent three long days there with him, the tape recorder laying on his bed where he could reach it to turn it off any time he might want to. As I was leaving the last day, when he knew I would not return, he reached under his pillow and brought forth an ugly looking hand weapon. My recollection is not clear. I was a bit startled. I think it was an automatic pistol but it could have been a revolver.

"This is what I had for you if you were not for real," he said, evenly, smiling, no anger in his voice.

Because of this startling experience I was less surprised when the very same thing happened a few days later when I finished interviewing one of his side kicks on his numerous trips to Dallas as of the period of that Odio story, Lawrence Howard. Larry pulled his weapon out from underneath a rather well-stuffed armchair in his El Monte, California living room. That chair had a fringe around the bottom, hiding the hand weapon he pulled out. My recollection is that it had a longer barrel. But he was satisfied with me, too.

I had two purposes in looking Hall up soon after the appearance of my second book, which includes a lengthy passage largely about him. Chapter 7 of Whitewash II is titled, "The Hoover Diversion." Its subtitle is "On the False Oswald," (Pages 51-70). Hall figures in about 3,000 words of this chapter (pages 53-60). He had had time to read it before I looked him up.

Most of all I wanted to hear him talk about those Odio events and any opinions he had about the FBI's and the Commission's investigations. I also wanted to encourage him to use the opportunity offered him to testify under oath about those matters.

Jim Garrison wanted Hall and Howard to testify before his grand jury. His efforts to compel their attendance were frustrated by Ronald Reagan, then Governor of California. Reagan refused extradition and legally that was the end of it.

As we discussed this, Hall came to realize that there really was nothing Garrison could do to him as long as he told the truth only. He also could see that there could be an advantage to him in testifying under oath because he could thereafter say, if he was bothered by unwelcome questioning, "I have told the full story under oath, subject to the penalties of perjury if I lied, and I now have no more to say about it." He

saw also that he would still be free to say anything he wanted to say if questioned by someone to whom he felt like talking.

Three days of tapes, from breakfast to supper, turned out to be more than I was willing to take the time to transcribe, particularly when there was no pressing reason to do so. But at some point after we had spent some time together and he understood what I was suggesting, he decided to get to New Orleans voluntarily. However, he had some conditions.

"Pal, I'll go," he said, and then stated his conditions. "I want you to be with me and I want us to have connecting rooms in the hotel or motel."

I had to tell him the truth, that I might not be able to go, simply because I could not afford it. I said it would be more likely that I could not be with him but that if I then had the cash, did not have to write bad checks or spend plastic money I did not have, I'd be there. He was to let me know. He did, and I could not spare the money then. I encouraged him to look up Louis Ivon, Garrison's chief investigator as soon as he got there, then to speak to Andrew "Moo" Sciambra, an assistant DA, as soon as he could, and then to think of all his many friends and former associates he'd be able to see on what could be an expense-paid vacation.

His finances were not all that good then so he used my friend Art Kevin, then with KHJ News in Los Angeles, to call me. After Art did, "Skip," Hall's best-known nickname, took the phone.

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I was not able to go and he went alone. As I knew would happen but did not tell him in advance, he in effect pulled Garrison's teeth. Garrison thereafter said nothing at all about Hall and his associates of 1963.

Then the nuts of the House Assassins Committee wanted him to testify. Not without reason, he was apprehensive about them. They were pretty wild and publicly nutty in what they said. Came another phone call from Art and soon Hall was on the phone.

"Hey, pal, these bastards in Washington have subpoenaed me. I'd like you to appear with me, sit by me when I testify."

By then it was no longer safe for me to drive to Washington. I have not done that since 1977, two years after the first venous thrombosis was diagnosed and treatment with anticoagulents began. Again I was honest with Hall. I told him that unlike with Garrison, with the nuts and all their preconceptions and TV cameras on them, he very much needed a lawyer he could trust, not a friend who knew him and the facts. I pressed him firmly on that, but I also added that if it were possible I'd be in the

audience. He listened to me and arranged for a cousin, a lawyer in Kansas, where Hall came from, to be with him.

It happend that the day of Hall's testimony I had to be in Washington for a FOIA lawsuit. The status call was for ten in the morning. I got there by early morning Grayhound. When ^{my friend and lawyer} Jim Lesar and I finished with that, he drove me to the newest of the three House office buildings, the one I had never been in and was not familiar with.

Jim took me to the closest entrance and told me how to get to the hearing room. It was full with people standing around the ^{of that hearing room} back ^{and} along the side closest to the door. 3/

The committee had not yet entered the hearing room. Hall, sitting at the witness table near the dais, turned around and saw me. U

"Hey, pal! I see you got here," he called out, walking toward me while he spoke at close to a shout for his voice to carry. He came up to me, gave me a bear hug, with the audience all looking at us in surprise, and then said, "How's about we go get a drink when this shit is over?"

Having seen George Lardner, The Washington Post's assassination expert and a friend nearby, I asked him, loud —

enough for George to hear, "Okay if I bring a reporter friend?"

"Sure, pal, if he is your friend. Your friend is my friend." For a reason I now do not remember, there was no hearing that afternoon. It had been scheduled for 1 o'clock and it was not long after that the notification of postponement ended it.

With his cousin and a young woman lawyer from that firm, Hall came up to me when they left the witness table. "We are at the Shoreham," he said. "How about meeting us at the bar there?"

Lardner phoned his desk to say he'd be delayed and we spent the entire afternoon and into the supper hour drinking and talking. Lardner taking notes, although it was off the record.

From time to time Hall got carried away telling the stories he loved to tell. When I said, "Cut the bullshit now, Skip," he'd smile and amend what he had said, or insist that it was true.

It was all very friendly. The Hall party drove me home. They went over some files, and Hall borrowed some pictures of himself in his soldier of fortune days to copy. He never returned them.

So, when Posner wanted Hall pictures, I could lend him only what remained. Of all the many photographs of all kinds that I have, Posner was not interested in any other one, as ^{his wife} Trisha's receipt states. Including about his life in a Castro jail where he benefitted from being next to or with the Florida mafia bigshot, Santos Trafficante. I remember Hall said that the Cubans permitted special food to be sent to Trafficante and Trafficante shared it with him. He was a natural raconteur and he realized it, particularly because his soldier-of-fortune experiences were not everyday events and most people liked to hear those stories.

In any event, if this makes me prejudiced, as I think it does not in any sense, unlike Posner, I have no secrets. As my bobtailed account of that long afternoon of relaxed conversation with drinking that made none of us drunk, my relations with Hall were friendly, but that did not blind me to the fact that he was sometimes prone to exaggerate and tell ¹tales. That relationship had improved from the time he said he was ready to shoot me and displayed his means of doing it right then and there.

fall

[in what was butchered out and is not necessary here]

I've already reported ¹the friendship that developed between one of Vinegar Joe Stilwell's four top assistants in Southeast Asia, Colonel L. Robert Castorr and his then wife, Trudy, and my wife and ^{me} I. We became friends despite what Bob later said was my fair and accurate reporting of FBI and Secret Service records



that were prejudiced against him.

My file reflects what I had forgotten, that I undertook to share the information they had about the situation in Dallas at the time of the assassination. This included their close friendships in the police department and the business and industrial community there and with refugee Cubans some of whom they knew very well both socially and through personal involvement, mostly Trudy's, with Catholic Cuban Relief.

At that time LIFE Magazine had considerable interest in the Odio story and in Hall in particular. ^{One of its editors,} Richard Billings, when he was unable to get to California himself, sent a Cuban photographer, Miguel Ococa to meet with a source I then had. Ococa went off on his own instead of doing what had been arranged. That resulted in a situation that cost my source his job. But that did not deter my inviting Billings, with the Castorrs' assent to share in the interview we had planned to tape. My file reflects two sets of tapes that Billings had transcribed at LIFE. Each, single-spaced, is about a half-inch thick. That represents long sessions and much information most of which it is not now necessary to repeat. But it does reflect that, unlike Posner, who knew what he wanted to say before he began what, for lack of a better word I'll call what it was not in any sense, his "investigation" that was predetermined to undermine and demean Odio.

Knowing as he did that I am the one who brought the Odio story to light and at the same time did the same thing with Hall and his then associates, Posner had no interest in what information I had because he had no interest in impartiality. I conducted quite a few interviews seeking the truth. Those I interviewed ranged from Odio's relatives to a priest who knew her well, and wealthy Dallasites who befriended her when she was in need of help after surgery, a matter of consequence Posner did not see fit to report. He preferred his own preconceived prejudices, prejudices indispensable to his pat formula that Oswald was entirely alone and was the only assassin.

Posner's preconception, vital to the false case he was shysterizing up, required blatant dishonesty but that was no problem at all to Posner. He was up to that, dishonest in a manner that cannot be detected in his writing without exceptional knowledge of the actualities that few people have. There was nothing too minor for him not too corrupt in making the predetermined case that is so indispensable to his formula book, designed for a market enlarged enormously by the Oliver Stone movie, the market for which Posner and Random House aimed, on the opposite side of the controversy. It meant as close to total support of the government's basic conclusion as any shyster could contrive but a more adept and less principled shyster, which Posner makes without question he is, could do it. He did, as we shall see.



These may seem like strong charges. They are, and they are intended to be. But they are not all.

Another form of dishonesty for a writer is to take the work of another and present it as his own; plagerizing. So there can be no doubt at all about what I mean by this. I use the definition of Posner's own publisher, Random House. This is how, in its unabridged dictionary, it defines the noun "plagiarism" and the verb "plagiarize":

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of the* PLAGIARISM: n. 1, the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work. 2. something appropriated and presented in this manner.

PLAGIARIZE; 1. to appropriate by plagiarism....

Before getting into the story Odio told and Posner's treatment of it and of the existing evidence relating to it, because I also used this dictionary to be certain of the precise meaning of a word Posner used prejudicially, here is what that word means and then is the prejudicial if not dishonest use Posner made of it:

*milent
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of the* FRACTIOUS: ..Peevish...Quarrelsome: an incorrigibly fractious young man...unruly...SYN.: testy, captious, petulent, snappish, waspish, touchy. 2. stubborn, difficult...

In poisoning the well of opinion of his readers against Odio (on page 178), in his account of her troubled marriage and of her known illnesses that Posner does not report, he writes: "By the time of her Oswald story, she had a history of emotional problems. In Puerto Rico, where she had lived before moving to Dallas in March 1963, she had seen a psychiatrist over her fractious marriage."

This is about as imaginative a description of a marriage in which the husband abandons a wife with four small children as can be contrived.

Posner does not say that the Herraras had a "fractious" marriage, only that Sylvia did, or she was the cause.

In his next paragraph Posner makes his first mention of the psychiatrist Odio had been seeing in Dallas for seven months before the assassination, Dr. Burton C. Einspruch. Posner's end note on this highlights the prejudicial note of his lie on the very next page when he refers to Einspruch's again. There, selectively, Posner selects what he can misuse to misrepresent Einspruch's professional opinion of Odio. There also Posner has his big lie about Einspruch; "He was not questioned until 1978," when he was deposed by the House Assassins Committee.

Posner's footnote 45, page 534 of his Notes reads:"45. Burt

Griffin memo to W. David Slawson, May 16, 1964, House Select Committee on Assassinations (JFK Document 002969); deposition of Dr. Burton C. Einspruch, July 11, 1978, House Select Committee on Assassinations. p. 5 (JFK Document 010069).¹

The first part of this note makes an unusual citation to a document to which he had access here, my xerox of that memo from the Commission's files. The second part of the note cites Einspruch's deposition testimony before the House Assassins Committee. Posner cites no volume of those hearings so the reader wanting to know all that Einspruch said can find it. The twelve volumes of that committee's printed records takes up fifteen inches of shelf space. Quite a search to make without knowing the volume Posner just manages to fail to cite. Not citing it is a departure from accepted practise. And there certainly can be a reason for this. ^{Both memos} The subject and ^{this not} without ^{are} telling the reader where to find it is what makes a liar out of Posner in saying that Einspruch had not been questioned before his 1978 House Committee testimony. That subject from the first page of the actual memo is: "Interview with Dr. Burton C. Einspruch, Dallas, Texas, (3:00 to 4:00 P.M. Monday, April 13, 1964)."

Einspruch had been questioned by the Warren Commission, Posner knew it and knowing it, lied about it after giving it an incomprehensible citation.

Separate from this, and we certainly will get to it, is the fact that in his partial quotation of Dr. Einspruch's deposition, Posner succeeds in saying the opposite of what that psychiatrist actually told the Commission. My point here is to leave the reader without any question about my use of words.

It is beyond question and to Posner's certain knowledge, the psychiatrist was questioned for an entire hour by the Commission and in writing that he "was not questioned until 1978" Posner lied and knew he lied. This means his lie is deliberate. When we come to what Einspruch said when questioned by the Commission, Posner's purpose in lying will be apparent.

Unlike Posner, who, as we have seen, practises trickery with his end notes, and contrary to the preference of professional scholars, who just love those end notes and are rarely in a position to evaluate them, I prefer that my readers know when reading what I write what my source is. This is often so inconspicuous the large number of citations in parenthesis in my books is not apparent to most readers. Unlike Posner, virtually all my sources have been official. I engage in no mind reading as he does, no theorizing, as he does extensively and basically in the book in which he pretends he does none of this.

My reference above to Herrera abandoning Odio Posner knew

about because it is on page 55 of *Whitewash II* and the internal evidence of his book is that he used that extensively without once mentioning it. Before going into what I there state at greater length, I here cite the source, the report of an FBI agent whose name I gave along with the identification of two different FBI files in which it is filed and the date on which he filed it. I wanted the reader to be able to evaluate what I wrote and so the first thing I did, unlike Posner, is inform the reader fully in the text, eliminating the sometimes unwanted need to turn to the back of the book. While I intend this as a means by which Posner's writing can be evaluated, I suggest it is also a means of comparing his writing and mine when, as we soon do, we get into the Odio story; and whether or not he gives conclusory statements of his own rather than the actual content of what he says he is citing and the extent to which I go to give the readers what my source is, in this case, the FBI, actually said.

While more of these actualities of which Posner knew and which he suppressed from his book to be able to fabricate a phony case against Odio will interest us later, I here cite what supports my statement that Herrera abandoned Odio and their children, the oldest of the four of whom was only six when he abandoned them:

Sylvia Odio, and her former husband, Guillermo Herrera, fled to Puerto Rico where he was employed as a chemical engineer. When

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his company sent him to German, in 1962, he abandoned his wife with four very small children, the oldest of whom was six years old. She had "no means of support." Because of these problems, her concern for her imprisoned parents and about her ability to care for her children and herself, Mrs. Odio did have psychiatric problems. A [Castro had his parents in prison on the Isle of Pines @ counterrevolutionaries. They had been wealthy.]

None of this is in Posner's book. Instead he pretends falsely that Odio was unfit, incompetent, and irrational. For a young woman exiled from a life of wealth, all alone in a foreign land with four such young children to care for because she was abandoned by her husband, not to react, not to have emotional problems, that would be the abnormality. Reacting to these serious problems and as Posner also does not state, overcoming them, is her actual record.

My major purpose in this chapter is to enable the reader to make independent judgements about Posner and me and about our writing. What follows, the Odio story itself, is a matter of controversy. Controversies are not resolved by overt, deliberate lies. I have said that Posner is a liar and I begin by giving the reader proof of it. There will be more. But because it is far from normal to characterize as I have, and I have done that because there should be a record of it and because the reader should be informed directly and openly, with no quibbles, I admit to unorthodoxy.

This is not a matter of little consequence. This is as serious a matter as there can be in our country and our kind of society. Nothing gets closer to the basic integrity of our society than the nullification of our system of self-government than the assassination of a president. Writing about that is not a matter of fun and games, or of misusing the means provided by a major publisher willing to spend the money to make a fantastic international sensation of a deliberately false, deceptive and misleading account of that most subversive of crimes and of the official investigations in its wake.

Before proceeding there is another means by which the reader can evaluate Posner's writing, his book, and his intent.

Earlier when we discussed the absolute basis for his claim to have personally discovered what he was, was previously entirely unknown, that there was an earlier shot than the Commission acknowledged and his theory -- yes, it is only a theory -- that the earlier shot is the one that missed, and we saw that he cribbed that from a youth of(NOTE; INSERT ORIGINAL TYPED PAGE "342" -- missing).

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[I then reported that Posner had cribbed from the theory of a ^{David Lui, whose story} boy that was syndicated by The Los Angeles Times, Posner's basis for claiming that a shot was fired in the assassination before the Warren Commission said. Lui ^{in writing from him} was wrong and Posner makes the same mistake. Lui said he saw what he said he saw in a poor copy of the ~~an~~ amateur film of the assassination taken by Abraham Zapruder. Posner says that what he observed became visible by enhancement of that film. Lui ^{said he} saw it in his poor, bootleg copy with his unaided eye. Posner used this fiction to pretend that because this alleged first ^a and earlier shot missed, the single-bullet theory that is the basis of the Warren Report, was possible.]

[Also omitted at this point is my noting the exceptional and exceptionally-successful efforts Random House made in selling the ancillary rights to Posner's book throughout the world.]

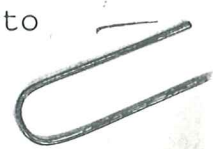
(extra space for insert here):

(Continue from typed original page 343):.....of those in the media who just swooned in ecstasy over Posner's book were in position to make the evaluation, far from a complete case, in this chapter? How many even knew, if any had wanted to, where such an evaluation might be obtained?

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Could any of the unimaginably large number of publications internationally be in a position to make any independent evaluation of Posner's book when they contacted the ancillary rights to it? Beginning with *U.S. News and World Report*, which made a supersensation of its length, excerpting in an issue largely devoted to it and extending to as far away as we can get, to the Queensland, Australia *Courier-Mail*, a full-size newspaper that devoted the entire front page of an inside section of its weekend edition of Saturday, September 4^[1993] and two inside pages to purchased ancillary rights to Posner's book?

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There is no way anyone outside of Random House can know how extensive this use of Posner's untested and untestable word was spread throughout the entire world.

All of the publications that bought the rights to their uses of Posner's book and all those who reported on it and reviewed it did so on faith. Faith in particular in Random House's reputation.

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As we have seen and as we will see again, ^{the} Random House ^{empire} ~~empire~~ made an extraordinary effort to publicize, to attract attention to Mailer's book. Random House is an exceptionally wealthy empire within another ^{much, much} ~~empire~~ ^{er} of great wealth, power and influence, that of the Newhouses. It did this with ~~Mailer's~~ Mailer's disgustingly bad book - but a book that supports the official assassination mythology. Two years earlier it made a similar and very costly effort to attract attention to and to sell Posner's book of the most deliberate dishonesty, and that costly, hard-sell had the same effect, of supporting that same official assassination mythology. These unusual empires' efforts in support of errant government could be expected to be well-received by that errant government of which, who knows, the empires might in the future might want favors or special consideration.

This is, of course, conjecture. But it is not unreasonable conjecture and it is not conjecture without precedent.

What is not conjecture, however, is that Random House did contract two very bad, two evil books, published them without the traditional peer review that neither could survive, ^{and} made ~~these~~ extraordinary and costly efforts to sell those books, which really also means to propagandize the government's official assassination mythology.

Let us ^{not} ~~forget~~ that another part of that empire published still another thoroughly ^{meretricious} ~~meretricious~~ book, Knopf's 1994 publication of Mark Riebling's Wedge, ^{a book} that had the same effect.

This is to say that whether or not by intent or design, Random House ^{did} ~~had~~ wage a costly campaign to make what cannot and should not be believed believed by all the many millions of people it could expect to and ^{did} reach. Mailer's is the third of these efforts of the three years of that effort. What is said about Random House and Posner's book is pertinent to Mailer and his book. This should be kept in mind as we continue.

Once tours and other promotions are announced if such possible sales indicators as
~~to chain and individual store~~ ^{trains and promotional} ~~advance sales~~ are not encouraging, cancelling them ^{discourages} ~~invited~~ ^{discouraging} ~~advance~~
~~sale and book-store sales.~~

As it turned out, Mailer's stinker of a book ~~is~~ sold like the stinker it is -
 very poorly. ~~But~~ This did increase the Random House losses on it by quite a bit. And
 all the reports I got reflected that nowhere did it sell other than poorly.

sales even more. It is interpreted as reflecting the publisher's lack of confidence
 in his book and the cancellations are taken to mean the publisher, facing a loss, ~~is~~ is
 reducing his losses by reducing his expenditures to promote the book.

Full-page ads in newspaper book-review sections, large ads in the news sections, both coast-to-coast, other advertising, and send ^{into} authors barnstorming, again coast-to-coast, with all those costs for transportation, accommodations, food and entertaining, accumulate ^{into} tidy sums. It takes ^(the sale of many) many books to recoup ^{these} added costs. ~~just to prevent these costs~~ There is always the possibility that these not inconsiderable ^{added} costs mean added losses. ~~And they can accumulate into considerable losses once the tours are announced and they dare not be cancelled.~~

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Take as an illustration Mailer's barnstorming amidst all the attention his book was ^{or} getting, thanks to Random House, its money and the Newhouse ownership of The New Yorker and ^{to} so much else.

Herb Caen, veteran and respected columnist of the San Francisco Chronicle, had this little item in ^{his} the May 12, 1995 column:

"The celebrated Norman Mailer was at Borders [book store] on Monday from noon to 2 p.m. to sign his new one, "Oswald," and sold - 18 copies. In these sensitive times Norman ~~shouldn't~~ shouldn't be walking around with a bomb like that.

How incredibly bad a performance that is becomes apparent by comparison with my appearance at the ^{Paul} Elder bookstore in San Francisco in mid-December, 1966. My Whitewash II had just appeared. Elder had ordered two hundred copies. I was carrying fifty copies to use to give to the media. In three hours that afternoon all Elder's copies had been sold and he had ^{got them and} also sold those press copies I had with me. I had not a penny for any advertising and promotions, either,

But for that "bomb" Random House spent a young fortune in advertising and promotions, and Mailer is a real personality with quite a following from his earlier books and those Pulitzers. I was an unknown. My friend Hal Verb had arranged a single ~~early~~ early morning TV appearance and ^{my} had been on a few radio talks shows.

Elder ran out of ^{my} books, three hundred of them, in three hours. Mailer sold for Borders a total of eighteen in two hours.

On that ~~one~~ stop in the one city on his coast-to-coast trip with an abundance of TV nationally and wherever he went, and all the ~~except~~ ^{attention} attention he ~~got~~ got in the media with this as an evidence of it, Mailer's tour was another and a serious ^{loss} for Random House.

mailing single copies

[After I published Whitewash and at my suggestion, Richard Sprague, then a vice president of the prestigious Touche, Bailey accounting firm, started searching for the photographs the official investigators avoided, got a strip of contact prints of a roll of 35mm. film taken by Gene Danish, photographer working for the Black Star photo agency. The legend identifies those pictures as taken the day of the assassination. Some of them that were used by the media were used the day of the assassination, so it does appear they were taken that day. In that roll of film there are six ^{pictures} showing ~~the~~ curtains and curtainrods being placed over the venetian blinds in the room that Oswald rented. This, of course, is absolute proof that his room did need curtains. That the owners of that house ~~was~~ ^{the} rather chinchy is reflected by the fact that these ^{to get two rooms to rent out of one} pictures make it clear that they had divided a room and that the room Oswald had was only half of the ^{original} room. It had a single-size bed up against the wall that was mostly of windows, and after being divided there was barely ^{space} room for a small chest of drawers in it, it was that narrow. In order to get any air Oswald had to keep the venetian blinds open. When they were open, without curtains, he was exposed. He could not dress or undress without closing those blinds. He ~~ce~~ His room certainly did need curtains and that they were then being put in place is established both by these pictures showing that being done, with the man doing it and his tool ^{b, b} box ^{on} the bed.]

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Mailer had no basis for any "tiff" with his publisher if it was ^{he} Mailer who pooped out. If he could have survived the life he had in bitter-cold Minsk a normal barnstarming tour was no big deal. If it had been a ^{little} ~~little~~ too much, then a stop or two eliminated would have solved that problem.

Random House not Mailer

It was Random House that was cutting its losses. ~~They~~ pooped out and that is what had Mailer riled. It meant to him that few book as were being sold, with the end of the tour ^{with} fewer would be sold (7)

Mailers' was the third Random House empire book promoting the official assassination mythology in those three years. What it said about Posner and his book is pertinent to Mailer and his book - in spades. This should be kept in mind in ~~what~~ mind as we continue.

It is not only a fact that the Random House empire published and pushed three ~~books~~ books promoting the official assassination^{ism} mythology for each of three years, ~~it is~~^{also} a fact, too, that they all share quite a few legitimate criticisms. The criticisms I made of Posner's book in Case Open are applicable to Mailer's Oswald's Tales. This will be ~~very~~ apparent in the chapters ^{that follow.} ~~that follow follow~~. It reeks from the next chapter as in varying degrees it does from all the following chapters that were eliminated from Case Open as published. It includes

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In the chapter that follows that was eliminated from Case Open when it was published there is some of the publicly available information that both Mailer and Posner ignored although it was available to both of them. In fact, Mailer ^{also} quotes from Posner what is most prejudicial to the Cuban refugee, Sylvia Odio. Aside from treating Odio much as Mailer treated Marina Oswald, Posner added his personal venom. Of which his supply is endless when he needed it to support the official assassination mythology, the formula with which he began and which is obvious in any reading of his book.

Mailer devotes two full chapters to his treatment of Odio in his Book Two. In his Part V they are chapters 3 and 4 (pages 623-32). Although Mailer begins his use of Posner with criticism of his approach, a criticism that also applies to what Mailer wrote, Mailer nonetheless uses without question Posner's deliberate misrepresentation of truth and reality beginning on page 628.

First Mailer write that "Posner's book is so concerted a validation of FBI work that it could not have served the Bureau's need to dispose of conspiracy theories more if a committee of skilled FBI men had written it for him."

Then in his unquestioning use of what Posner wrote Mailed ~~g~~ refers to Odio's ~~the~~ "history of emotional problems." Also without any question Mailed quotes Posner's as saying that "she was emotionally unstable and unable mentally or physically to care for her children" and that "A doctor who was called to treat her once for an 'attack of nerves' discovered she had made it up [what she testified to before the Warren commission] to get the attention of her neighbors" and more of ^{such} this defamation.

In another and equally uncritical quotation of Posner (pages 629-30) Mailer accepts and presents as genuine Posner's quotation of the most dubious of sources, the Cuban refugee Carlos Bringuier ^{he} of all the nuttier theories ^{he is} the man known to his fellow Cuban refugees in New Orleans as "The Stupidity," quoting Bringuier "suspicion of her story. It doesn't sound right..." Conjectures being the stock in trade of both Posner and Mailer, Bringuier's is what they both like, "Maybe with all the news after the assassination she became confused." ^{That} (which is Bringuier's normal state.)

Of the last use ^{Ma}Mailer makes of Posner on Odio, the ^{Ma}use he makes instead of ~~the~~ going himself to the ^{to} what the Commission published that Posner misused, what a woman who was jealous of Odio and became her enemy allegedly said, Mailer says it "is wholly damaging to Odio" (page 630).

^{Bwt}By ~~as we see~~ the reader sees with this ~~ad~~ added opportunity to make an independent judgement on whether it was normal publishing consideration that led to the gutting of Case Open, or whether what follows should or should not have been used in that book, it is, actually "wholly damaging" ^{those birds of a feather,} to both Posner and Mailer.