

# Three Postscripts - Two From Norman MacKen

The ~~third~~ <sup>first</sup> postscript is provide by American Heritage magazine.

The lead article <sup>in</sup> its November, 1995 ~~article~~ issue to which almost the entire cover is devoted <sup>is</sup> Max Holland's The Kennedy Assassination: Why the Warren Report Was Wrong - and Right. In the table of contents this appears: The Key to the Warren Report, the <sup>beginning</sup> page given as 50. Then there is this summary: "Seen in proper historical context, the investigation into Kennedy's assassination looks more impressive and its shortcomings much more understandable. Max Holland." On page 50 there is no title. At the top it says, "<sup>Seen</sup> Seen in its proper historical context - amid the height of the Cold War - the investigation into Kennedy's assassination looks much more impressive and its shortcomings much more understandable." After the opening ~~two~~ paragraphs alluding to what was called the crash of a space ship, "flying saucer-a saucer buffs," and "<sup>bodies</sup> bodies of ~~our~~ extraterrestrial beings" Holland quotes Historian Richard Hofstadter's "classic 1963 lecture, <sup>the</sup> The Paranoid Style in American Politics" with what reflects Holland's purpose in this article, to put down all criticisms of the Warren Report, "Heated exaggeration, "suspiciousness and conspiratorial ~~fancy~~ fantasy" characterizes all of it. *It or, all others are nuts.*

Holland's <sup>article</sup> article itself, real faire's-and-needles stuff, consists in saying that the Warren Report is right because it says it is ~~right~~ and all who do agree are paranoidal nuts.

Consistent <sup>Consistent</sup> with all he has written about the JFK assassination, Holland never <sup>hints his writing with</sup> gets into the evidence itself. He is a thinker. This is a think piece. Why contaminate it with evidence? The evidence that <sup>would</sup> make it impossible to write what Holland begins wanting to say?

Before getting to the end fifteen pages later, aside from rewriting all the actualities of that investigation in which all agencies of the government were involved, Holland, deep-thinker and scholar that he is, at least in his own concept, manages to rewrite our <sup>system</sup> system into a "national security" state in which there is not a thing as important as keeping secret what the spooks want to be secret <sup>no matter</sup> no matter

*to the KLB and to others*  
how unsecret it is ~~and~~ what Holland presents as "national security" secrets were *what he says relates to*  
*not* ~~at~~ in a single instance at all secret ~~including telling the people the truth about~~  
the JFK assassination.

He is unstinting in his rewriting <sup>of</sup> both the history of that assassination and ~~the~~ *history* of that Commission.

All from the political right, all with the ~~pretense~~ *false* ~~is~~ *is* only the left that does not agree with that report. Before coming to its end he blames Robert Kennedy for the assassination. To do this he- and use of the word is actually praise of Holland in this ~~or~~ pontificated scribbling -lies.

All in all it is a display of <sup>of the crime</sup> ignorance that could be acceptable only to those who cling to the same ignorance because they also cling to the same preconceptions with which Holland, as did the Warren Commission itself, began.

I go into this in detail in other writing. Here I add only that he is so intendedly ignorant, after all the years of his interest in and writing on this subject, that he refers to as "new" information (a ~~word~~ *word* hardly appropriate to it) from Mexico City that was included in the Commission's work thirty years earlier.

This is a fair sample, indeed one of the less/unkind samples, of Holland's scholarship in which he represents that only one Kennedy was assassinated, <sup>at</sup> ~~as~~ *as* quoted above.

For all that has been <sup>written</sup> ~~writing~~, meaning all that Holland ignores having no choice if he was to do this article and the more to which we come, he refers to as "the most trenchant criticism of the Warren Report ever to appear" Dwight Macdonald's 1965 Esquire article in which "he accepted the Commission's conclusions!!!!"

Holland exposes more than his unscholarly scholarship in this work of sheer propaganda pretend<sup>ed</sup> to be of serious and mature thinking. As he nears his end, beginning with the ludicrous, he actually ~~says~~ *says* refers to "the accuracy of the Report's essential finding [undefined], holding up after three decades, is testimony to the <sup>Comm</sup> ~~Comm~~ *Comm* mission's basic integrity." He follows this, nothing omitted in quoting ~~from~~ *from* the ~~last~~ *last* column

on the last page:

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single space*

Indeed, as a British reviewer once put it, the best tribute to the solidity of the report is the deviousness of its critics."

Of this he says no more. He does not give that "reviewers" name or where what he quotes was published.

This is not because Holland does not know.

It bears the name of John Sparrow. It first appeared in the Literary Supplement of The Times of London on Thursday, December 14, 1967. It then <sup>was</sup> as great, even before it appeared as well as <sup>did</sup> later it, with high <sup>prize</sup> and at length by the New York Times in articles written by Earl Warren's friend and biographer, Anthony Lewis. It got extensive attention elsewhere <sup>in all the media</sup> when it appeared. It then, of all things was reprinted in the United State <sup>in a</sup> as a <sup>virtual</sup> ~~thimble-sized~~ book by a publisher owned by a major war contractor. <sup>This splash in support of the official assassination my biography included</sup> ~~That was accompanied by his appearance~~ <sup>on</sup> the Today show <sup>on</sup> the TV network that then was owned by the same defense and ~~war~~ war contractor, RCA.

The publisher of my then current Oswald in New Orleans then telegraphed the Today show asking for time for me to appear "in response to the slanders and misinformation voiced by John Sparrow." There was no response.

*Remember, Sparrow used the word "integrity" as quoted above. How about his integrity?*

He killed publication of my first book on the JFK assassination in 1965.

It had been approved, pending reading by a professional historian, by a then major British publisher, Collins.

I wrote Sparrow about that <sup>Literary Supplement</sup> after his piece appeared. He did not deny it.

He merely said that he had no recollection of doing that, to which he added that he did not like Whitewash: The Report on the Warren Report. *Not that he even attributed a single factual error to it.*

He said he needed more information, <sup>although he had read it only</sup> that having been two years earlier and <sup>that information, which alleged he had intelligence connections,</sup> it was the first book on the subject, I provided ~~it~~, and he never responded again.

When my friend the late Steve Barber, then chief Washington correspondent for the conservative London Telegraph became aware of this he told me that Sparrow was a long-time asset of British intelligence specializing in recruiting for it from



4  
Oxford's student, Sparrow was the ward of all souls <sup>part</sup> of Oxford.

*Integrity and Sparrow  
Integrity and Holland*

Although they <sup>never</sup> qualified for withholding under the Freedom of Information Act and I should have gotten copies of what <sup>that is</sup> next refer to in two different FOIA lawsuits, <sup>however, them</sup> the FBI did keep secret until compelled to disclose them under the 1992 act requiring full disclosure of all all assassination information. In the FBI Headquarters main ~~JFK~~ JFK assassination file, <sup>62-109060</sup> and in the London FBI Legat's 62-358 file is a series of documents reflecting <sup>and with what Holland refers to, too</sup> that Sappo Sparrow also worked for our spooks.

These were sent me by Tony Frewin, one of my English friends I've never met. They even report that our London embassy told Sparrow when to appear on a <sup>not to work</sup> TV debate and when not to. *and he did as told.*

~~This~~ This ought be enough on Sparrow and on Holland's personal and professional integrity.

There is, however, another observation I believe is not inappropriate.

Years ago, when Holland <sup>N</sup> was more or less Liberal and had a column jointly in The Nation with Kai Bird, they planned a joint book on John J. McCloy, <sup>he was</sup> a member of the Warren Commission <sup>he had been</sup> and a long time wheeler and dealer and government trouble-shooter. Victor Navasky, then The Nation's editor, wrote and asked me if I would help them and would make my files available to them. I agreed. By then I had obtained by a ~~number~~ number of Freedom of Information lawsuits about a quarter of a million pages of once-withheld government <sup>JFK</sup> assassination records. Most were from the FBI.

~~Holland~~ Holland alone came. I took him to the basement, showed him where the files in which he might be interested were and out copier, and he copied whatever he wanted.

The files of most interest to him were what I refer to as my "subject" files. They are duplicate copies I made of the records I preserved exactly as I received them. All the folders are identified by name and by subject and they do hold the factual nitty-gritty of the information collected about the crime itself.

For all his writing and talking about the assassination, all from the political right, Holland, knowing what I have and the magnitude of it, never returned and never asked for copies of any of it. *Like Mailer, who also declined access to them.*

I do not fault his decision. If he had returned he could never have written what he has <sup>or</sup> ~~and~~ what he has contracted. But I do note that he knew where the largest single collection of assassination records in private hands was <sup>that they were freely accessible</sup> and he had no interest in them.

What he had contracted is an italicized sentence at the end of his <sup>article:</sup> story:

widest single source

"Max Holland is writing a history of the Warren Commission to be published next year by Basic Books.

for one example

That history, if history it will be, will not include what Holland would have seen if he had looked at my file, "Russell, Richard B." That file contains the proof that Russell was tricked into signing the Report when he absolutely refused to agree to its single-bullet theory that Holland <sup>is the master</sup> still defends.

And if he had asked me after he was here I could have given him the remarks Russell prepared for the executive session of the Commission he <sup>forced</sup> ~~was~~ to record his ~~diminishment~~ refusal to agree with that absolute basis of the Report. He believed there would be that record for history because the Commission had agreed to have its court report <sup>or</sup> prepare verbatim transcript of what they said for the record for history. Only the man who ran the Commission, its general counsel, J. Lee Rankin, formerly the Solicitor General of the United States - the man who represents the Department of Justice before the Supreme Court - <sup>unknown to Russell</sup> saw to it that the court reporter was not there. Instead he had a secretary <sup>Holland</sup> (seeming to take it all down).

After ~~he~~ <sup>Holland</sup> was here I also obtained an oral history prepared for the Russell archive at the University of Georgia <sup>in it his former fellow Senator and Commission Member JOHN J. HERMAN</sup> archive he left in which Cooper is pointedly

specific in stating that they both absolutely refused to agree to that most basic single-bullet theory. Along with private letters saying the same thing that Cooper wrote after his Senate career ended.

Above I quote Holland's "testimony to the commission's basic integrity."

This is one reflection of it he cannot have <sup>this article or</sup> and still have that book.

He opted the article and the book.

~~Basic books~~ Basic Books is another Random House subsidiary. So the history of the Newhouse empire's Random House empire will be that for the

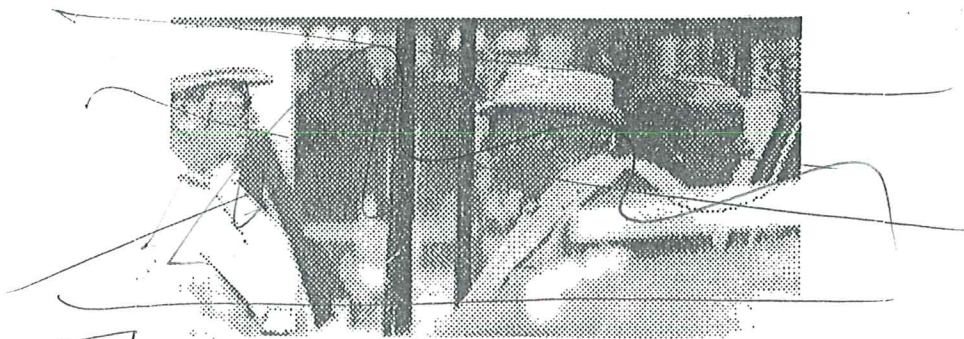


fourth consecutive year it will publish a book in support of the official <sup>assassination</sup> mythology, and with it a mail's book.

Despite their cost and dismal sales records.

And, coincidence of remarkable, to say nothing of timely coincidences, in the same mail with Holland's hoking up a dike for the <sup>already</sup> drowned Warren Report there was for me a set of summaries of the papers presented at that year's convention of the Coalition on Political Assassinations. One of those papers was illuminated with six captioned newspaper pictures. Four of them were on Roy Cohn, lord high executioner for Joe McCarthy decades earlier. After McCarthy died, with his spirit marching on, alas, Cohn went into private practise. His record with McCarthy did not deter rich and powerful clients who apparently believed his past was not as important as his talents and connections.

One of those newspaper pictures has this caption under it:



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single  
space

An embarrassing story in the Cleveland Plain Dealer threatened to block Jackie Presser's assent to the Teamster Union presidency in 1984. Cleveland mobster Moishe Rockman (above left) met with Cohn (above right) and Genovese crime family boss Tony Salerno (center). At their behest, Cohn client S.I. Newhouse, Jr. forced the newspaper to print a retraction. The Newhouse family is not only the owner of the Plain-Dealer, but also the New Orleans Times Picayune and Random House, publisher of Case Closed.

So, the emperor himself, client of the lord high executioner, "forced the newspaper" he owns "to print a retractions" of "an embarrassing story <sup>in</sup> the Cleveland Plain Dealer" because it "threatened to block")

reputed mob-connected "Jackie Pressler's assent to the Teamster Union presidency in 1994." "Tough Tony" Salerno, mob boss, is laughing in this picture. Cohn is grim-faced. <sup>o</sup> Mishe is ~~is~~ just looking at Tough Tony.

The friendship of Si Newhouse and Roy Cohn goes back to their high-school days, according to the November, 1995 issue of Open Secrets. It is published by the Coalition on Political Assassinations. It also reports, quoting "<sup>Thomas</sup> ~~Dean~~ Maier, ~~also~~ author of a Newhouse biography," that ~~it was~~ "Roy Cohn who ~~introduced~~ [Norman] Mailer to Newhouse and Random House."

• However, this

7

This does not, of course, connect Holland to the mob. Or even to its lawyer, who was also the emperor's lawyer. <sup>A hue & cry</sup> But it does tell us a little more about the emperor himself, with his favors ranging from the mob to defending the Warren Report. With this determined subject-matter ignorance <sup>must</sup> pretending that fact of the crime has no relevance, Max Holland, <sup>s</sup> at the fourth in four years.

What favors can the emperor expect in return now that the McCarthy lod High Executioner has gone to his reward?

Other than from the government.

Now does this connect Holland with the other three of the literary hacks the Newhouse-Random House empires have hacking away at our history and at the government's failures - if not worse than failures. Those <sup>two</sup> ~~two~~ Pulitzerizers do not make Mailer less of a literary hack hacking away albeit at more boring length and despite all that length saying nothing new - except about himself.

Holland does the same thing but in his own, his different way. He has no less ego than Mailer. He pretends that his simply astounding ego is not that at all but is his superior wisdom, his thoughts and interpretations, all with total disregard of the established fact, the official fact of the assassination. To a superior, all-seeing mind like his fact is irrelevant. He makes up meanings not there as his substitution for fact.

This the Max Holland who condemned his former friend and associate Kai Bird for his alleged lack of "thorough research" in his book, The Chairman: John J. McCloy, the Making of an American Establishment (Simon and Schuster, 1992).

Holland did this in a letter to The Washington Post's Book World section of July 26, 1992.

They are all alike, however, in what I wrote about Posner in Case Open, without a sound from him, that he has trouble telling the truth even by accident.

Mailer is different from the others in his tough-guy posture, his since youth. He is, in his self-description, the fighter among writers. That he once was a boxer creeps into his writing, <sup>even</sup> ~~as~~ in his Picasso book.

That is the bully in him, not the stout heart.



8A

8A

Later COPA was thoughtful and sent me a videotape of the awards dinner.

(If Gary not mentioned earlier, Dr. Gary Aguilar, San Francisco ophthalmologist, or if mentioned earlier, Gary Aguilar) in making the presentation recounted his <sup>discussion</sup> invitation <sup>with</sup> for Mailer <sup>about his being</sup> to be there and <sup>ing the</sup> speak <sup>ing the</sup> quoted Mailer as being "quite keen" on that."

But when Mailer learned that I would be getting and award and presumed I'd be there

he got bitter." At this point Aguilar was interrupted by applause. Mailer told him

that "under no circumstances would he ~~be~~ appear <sup>at</sup> for that dinner. <sup>When</sup> Aguilar told him

that I could not be there for health reasons Mailer "apparently began to reconsider."

But in the end he did not. As Aguilar explained that, "Mailer "too <sup>great</sup> exception to the

fact that "I "had treated him rather rudely ~~in~~ through some letter exchange."

Poor former pugilist and wrestler Norman Mailer, the tough guy of ~~this~~ writing and speaking, so offend<sup>e</sup>d that he declined the opportunity to speak to many about his Oswald book or about the assassination because an aged and infirm man had, in his opinion, written <sup>to</sup> him "rather rudely."

Apparently he found it rude that I asked him for ~~the~~ details on the buying of the KGB's Minsk Oswald records the fact of which Schiller had <sup>already</sup> ~~previously~~ confirmed.

That was "rude?" Not merely embarrassing because the two of them, self-conceived as slick operators, were ~~conned~~, ripped off by the hick <sup>K</sup>Minser KGB?

In the street phrase of my youth, he can dish it out but he can't take it.

He can malign Marina as we have seen, libel her no end and at length. and that is not to him "rude" or in any way at all objectionable. But to be asked for the details of their deal with the KGB, <sup>the money they paid their 613,</sup> that was rude.

In another old phrase, it depends on whose ~~ox~~ ox is being goled.

Or ~~can~~ can it be that those two Pulitzers and much acclaim over the years led him to believe that he is unlike the rest of us, above being questioned about anything, that whatever he says <sup>is</sup> or does <sup>is</sup> right and proper merely because it is he who does the doing and the saying/?

He had agreed to speak at the Coalition on Political Assassination's convention the end of October, 1995. But he did not show up.

Although I was not aware of it, I was one of four honored at that convention with <sup>an</sup> "Lifetime Achievement Award." The mailing telling me looked like a form letter. I skimmed the program and forgot about it because I would not be there. Could not, in fact. As several visitors from the west coast left they told me of the award.

My first knowledge that tough-guy Norman Mailer chickened out was in a congratulatory note from another friend who was there at the convention. He concluded it asking me,

"Did anyone inform you that among the reasons Norman Mailer gave for not showing up was that he thought you would show up to collect your plaque? That set off another round of applause for you."

*didn't sign place*  
*8/1 here →*  
~~In seeking the confirmation I did get I was told that among the other reasons for Mailer's refusal to appear was his inability to control the format of the convention. For example, he wanted each speaker to be limited to five minutes. Whatever his reason, this would have meant that nobody would have the time to make a case against him and his failed book.~~

Picture of this self-proclaimed, super-Norman Mailer afraid to be where a feeble man of eight-two might be!

I had not told him I was writing a book about him and his book. He could, of course, have learned from others. Or he could have remembered that more than twenty years earlier I had offered him all I have for his use.

~~Whatever his reason.~~ It is a confession of fear of me and of what I might say.

This is how tough Mailer really is when he feared what might be said to his face about his writing ~~in~~ supposedly about the assassination and about Oswald when it is really about Norman Mailer and his writing.

There was another Mailer confession reported in the San Francisco Bay Guardian of November 5, 1995. I'd been told that he'd said it but here it was published: that

The book did not come from long interest in <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ subject. Nor did it come from deeply-held principle. He did it because he needed money.

The item in the Bay Guardian by Brad I Wieners says:



his real reason for disgracing himself with his "Oswald" book was to make money

<sup>94 here</sup> his announced his schedule ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ lecture:

**PROLIFIC** doesn't even begin to describe what **Norman Mailer** has been. Has been? Remains. Just this year, Mailer has delivered his own investigation of the naked (Lee Harvey Oswald) and the dead (tricky Dick Nixon). Mailer may say he's staying so busy to pay the bills, but one



appears Sun/5.

can't help but wonder if he wasn't inspired by Borges's idea of rewriting history — filling a library with one's own version of history and, over time, having it effectively replace history in the imaginations of successive generations of readers. Listen and decide for yourself if you

trust Mailer with history. 4 p.m., Main Stage. (Brad Wiener)

Paying the bills <sup>has been</sup> ~~was~~ a Mailer ~~prog~~ Problem what with his lifestyle, all those wives and all that alimony, to say nothing of ten children and the tax collector.

His life made a hack of him, his life and its endless extravagances, for <sup>N</sup> ~~churing~~ writing out to make money is hacking. And that, as Brad Weiner <sup>write</sup> ~~who write~~ this ~~notice said~~, made him a "has been."

His urgent need to make money led him to make the confession I like most of all. He made this confession, seemingly not realizing what kind of confession it really is, ~~in~~ a set of audio tapes of his and his wife's reading ~~of~~ from his Oswald book that <sup>They also were made for money,</sup> really is not about Oswald for Random House to sell.

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The set of four audio cassettes is packaged to look like <sup>the</sup> a book. It duplicates the dust jacket of ~~the hardback book~~, even to the picture of the house in Fort Worth in which the Oswalds had an apartment. To give it an eerie appearance ~~on both~~ the picture used seems to be the <sup>e</sup>negative rather than the positive. At \$25 for the four cassettes it is not cheap. In price, anyway.

*without single file*  
 Not is Random House cheap in describing the tapes. It says of the book it is a nonfiction masterpiece. a work of meticulous <sup>e</sup>research and reportage... As we have seen, not a word of this is true.

Publishers do tend to be unrestrained and imaginative when they puff up the books they publish and Random House is no exception with this book and these tapes.

I single out, however, the Random House claim that the book is "nonfiction."

~~I si~~le single this out because during the six hours he and his wife read from the book Mailer had a ~~moment~~ moment of aberrational honesty about it.

In the course of his work my friend Ray Kurpis spends much time driving. Ray <sup>with</sup> knew I had been ~~writing~~ <sup>Mailer's</sup> this book and that I believe it is a wretchedly bad and dishonest job that exploits and commercializes the assassination about which Mailer remained ~~at~~ determinedly ignorant even after he finished with it. <sup>Ray</sup> He did not buy <sup>Mailer's</sup> the book. But when he saw the set of audio cassettes he got it to listen to on his long drives. When Ray came to two sentences in Mailer's account, more or less of an account, anyway, of the killing of Dallas policeman J.D. Tippit he had that transcribed professionally and sent it to me.

What should be kept in mind in reading this Mailer on Mailer is that he, too, has insisted <sup>Q</sup> that his book is a work of nonfiction and that it requires Oswald to have been the assassin. Without <sup>S</sup>Oswald as the assassin, there is no book for there is no more interest in him than in <sup>any of</sup> the many millions of <sup>other</sup> young men of that period.

What Mailer himself selected to read from his book is;

*without single file*  
 There is a good deal of evidence that it was Oswald who <sup>of</sup> shot Tippit, but since the approach of this work is not legal, technical, or evidentiary,

without  
single  
space

but is novelistic & that we are trying to understand <sup>W</sup>Oswald - let us judge that if he killed Kennedy, then it was well within the range of our expectation of him that he would be frantic enough after seeing that pistol in his face, to sending him to Dealey Plaza and fleeing to his rooming house and out again to be he yet also frantic enough to kill Tippit as well. If, however, he did not shoot at Kennedy then small but ~~confusing~~ details in this second murder take on much more ~~importance~~ prominence, <sup>for</sup> if Oswald was innocent of shooting Kennedy why would he have fired at Tippit?

At the Tippit killing, if it was Oswald who killed him, and Mailer himself admits just before this gibberish that "there were witnesses <sup>with</sup> enough disagreement over identification to offer opportunities to a defense lawyer" - there then was no "pistol in his face." Mailer himself here says of Tippit that he left his car with "his pistol still in his holster."

But even if true, that could not have "sent" <sup>Oswald</sup> him ~~to~~ Dealey Plaza and fleeing to his rooming house and out again frantic enough to kill Tippit as well" because all of that allegedly happened before Tippit was killed and <sup>Mailer</sup> he has that "pistol" in Oswald's face <sup>at a</sup> after that killing in this <sup>h</sup> mishmash of his, <sup>not before it.</sup>

Mailer himself admits the possibility that Oswald killed neither the President nor Tippit. Without his ~~kill~~ having killed the President there is no book on Oswald for Mailer or for anyone else and he did do this book based on Oswald as the assassin.

The assassin he has just admitted maybe "did not shoot at Kennedy" and perhaps "was innocent of shooting Kennedy."

In short, long after his book was out and coming to my knowledge only long after I had completed this manuscript Mailer <sup>T</sup>admits that his work of claimed nonfiction is only a novel and is not nonfiction.

More, he even articulated this, as quoted above:

"the approach of this work is not legal, technical or evidentiary but is novelistic."



12

I referred earlier to Mailer's dybbuk. Earlier still I would have if I had <sup>with him</sup> those rare powers Mailer claims, of extra-sensory perception and of reading minds, both from the grave. This is because the very first words in this lengthy manuscript that are Mailer's words come from his dybbuk. They came from Mailer's mouth not only before his book was out but even before the condensation of that Oswald in Minsk part was published by The New Yorker. Those first words are

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"History is exactly like novel writing. They're both fiction."

Mailer then, ~~per~~ speaking to these history majors at the University of Pennsylvania, also told them, as I quoted from The Philadelphia Inquirer's story,

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"Ultimately, nothing in history is true," Mailer added.

Four manuscript pages later, after ticking off proofs <sup>of historical truths,</sup> ~~that history is true,~~ referring to one of ~~Mailer's~~ Mailer's novel, Harlot's Ghost, I wrote of what Mailer was saying, no doubt under the control of that dybbuk of his, "This is Mailer trying to justify his won literary harlotry."

I ~~was~~ was not ~~prescient~~ prescient. I did not read his mind. I was merely analyzing what he said in an effort to give it the meaning it obviously had so long before his book was out and we could know what is in it.

His own public record justified what I next wrote- before we knew what is in his book or could know other than from his telegraphing it at Penn,

indent, single space

The ~~II~~ history <sup>so</sup> ~~is~~ so precious to others that is 'fiction' to him - and he writes it for money that from the kind of life ~~Mailer's~~ he led Mailer needed more than most people can live well on - really extravagantly on - for his alimony and for paying the large debts he accumulated by the kind of life he led.

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Three manuscript pages later I wrote, based on what Mailer said at Penn, Mailer says that as a novelist he is also a historian and is licensed to ~~lie~~ ~~as~~ ~~he~~ lie and he has the brazenness to boast in advance that his Oswald's Tale is a lie. Which by design <sup>of</sup> intent it without question is.

In this he also reflects that he is a man of principle. <sup>of</sup> With the

13  
usual principle of your normal, everyday writer without those Pulitzer's and other honors and successes.

But principle it is to boast of being a liar who writes lies, abnormal if not ~~not~~ unprecedented as that is.

Mailer, the principled liar or Mailer, the liar of principle?

I concluded that first chapter the first words of which are Mailers saying

He did not say some of history is a lie. He said all of it is.

It is not history that lies.

It is some of those who write history who lie.

Like Mailer.

It is not often that a writer can so correctly anticipate what another ~~writer~~ ~~has~~ has written so long before it could be seen but then most of us do not have the kinds of dybbuks Mailer has, the kinds of needs he anticipates and the kind of, to quote again from these very first words in this work, the "literary harlotry" Mailer had to try to make acceptable. Nor the world-class ego that controls him.

That incredible ego that impelled him to write what the Book of the Month Club boasted in offering his <sup>3</sup> \$30 dollar book for \$17.95 in November, 1995 ran to 896 pages. (For those who bought the book they also got <sup>ten</sup> points worth a third of the price and for those who had accumulated <sup>thirty of</sup> those points they got it <sup>free.</sup>)

Although he and Random House and all of the rest of the Newhouse empire that pulled all the stops of their publicity organs to promote it hawked it ~~was~~ nonfiction, before it appeared Mailer said that ~~history~~ and ~~novels~~ <sup>of</sup> are the same and that they are both fiction and that history lies. In effect he announced that his ~~non~~ alleged nonfiction was fiction and that it was untrue.

We saw his puerile explanations of not depending on evidence and we saw throughout, as I noted throughout, that he was really ~~writing~~ a punk novel. That, however, is not the same as Mailer's admission of it. ~~He~~ <sup>he</sup> says of his book, as quoted verbatim from his ~~ste~~ <sup>of</sup> audio cassettes he and his write prepared <sup>baed</sup> <sub>1</sub> on it, that it is a novel.

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~~This~~ is why he  
 That, ~~he~~ says in what Random House seeds as his "Audiobook" says ~~his~~ "a <sup>g</sup> ~~novel~~  
 fiction masterpiece," <sup>This</sup> is why he shunned what is ~~fact~~, what is "legal, technical or  
 evidentiary." "

That without shunning ~~that~~, <sup>the officially established fact,</sup> as to a degree we have also seen, he could not  
 have written the book is ~~another~~ matter.

The fact is that after all of the hype, the boasts, the lectures and all else,  
 Mailer admits his book is a novel and that all novels ~~lie~~ is <sup>Mailer's more than</sup> ~~adequate~~ self-  
 characterization.

He says his book lies and he wrote his book. So, he says what was obvious if  
 one knew the fact of the subject matter, he is a liar.

Whether or not there is an unseen connection between these two postscripts  
 Mailer provided after ~~the~~ <sup>this</sup> manuscript was completed, they are welcome and I thank  
 thank him for them.