

Inquisition

3/16/67

Raymon Cummings, one time cab driver, held a press conference on Friday to tell of a trip in his cab in which he drove Lee Harvey Oswald, David Ferrie and a third unidentified person to the Carousel Club during early 1963. His personal opinion was that Cummings was more honest than any reporter present.

Rather than act as objective newsmen seeking truth, reporters were inquisitors — apparently representing Assistant District Attorney Bill Alexander. Alexander had previously characterized the Cummings story as "garbage" although he had not personally questioned Cummings.

Reporters present were demanding that Cummings take a lie-detector test in Dallas. Cummings attorneys had indicated that Cummings would go to New Orleans at the request of District Attorney Jim Garrison and take any reasonable test requested of him.

Hugh Aynesworth of Newsweek Magazine, formerly of The Dallas Morning News, even offered to pass the hat to raise the money for a lie-detector test to be given in Dallas. We could not help but wonder if the test would have the same enlightening results as some tests given during Warren Commission hearings. Carroll Jarnigan's test was pronounced as fanciful by District Attorney Henry Wade but with absolutely no supporting evidence.

The story of Cummings must now be added to the evidence given by other witnesses to the effect that Ruby Oswald knew each other. Carroll Jarnagin, Bill DeMar, and Bob Litchfield are witnesses who stated Oswald and Ruby knew each other. Many of the strippers and waitresses might have so testified had the question been asked of them.

The activities in Miami prove a conspiracy existed to protect President Kennedy. The activities in New Orleans only hint at a continuing conspiracy. How much additional evidence must be uncovered in Dallas to make newsmen there act as seekers of truth rather than representatives of wishful thinking of the projectors of the Dallas image. Such performance tarnishes that image just a little more.