

LOOKING OUT

ELLIOT MINTZ

I am thoroughly convinced that the most important issue facing our country today is the current investigation into the assassination of our late President.

For me, this case must take precedence over any and all issues from the war in Vietnam to the feared guerrilla warfare on our cities' streets.

All of the corruption, degradation, and hopelessness that we find in our country sooner or later seems to find its roots in common soil. This is not to say that everything in America was cool up to Nov. 22, 1963. Nor am I implying that JFK was the only cat around whose vision and wisdom might have greatly improved our planet.

No, the roots I'm referring to concerns itself with that careful balance of justice and those subtle nuances of power. Over twenty million Americans were thirteen years old the day they watched their President being shot down in the streets. They were the first children of the mass-media generation who observed the na-

tion's first coast to coast live coverage of two murders in two days. That sight will always be part of their psyche and its implications are overwhelming, and without precedent.

There is good reason to believe that our government was overthrown during that terrible day in Dallas. Each and everyday, it becomes more and more apparent if you've been following the happenings out of New Orleans, that a group of government officials working within the intelligence confines of the CIA willfully and knowingly conspired to assassinate John Kennedy.

In the course of time we will learn how they harnessed the energy of the discontented Cubans, retired militarists and with the support of some local power people, conspired to pull off the crime of crimes.

And I am not referring only to the death of a President. I'm talking about the fate of the American dream.

RESPONSIBILITY DEPT: Roger Craig is a former Dallas Deputy Sheriff. He was on the force for eight years; and in 1960 was the recipient of the Man of the Year Award for heroism and courage. On the day of the assassination he was about fifteen yards from the steps of the book depository building in Dealey Plaza.

Craig was a guest on my radio show on March 3 with author Penn Jones. Among other things he informed us that at the time of Jack Ruby's arrest in the Police base-

ment an enormous amount of cash (over ten thousand dollars) was discovered both on his person, in his pad and in the trunk of his car.

He said that Sheriff Decker informed his men on the day of the assassination that the secret service and FBI would handle all of the local security.

When Craig wanted to rap about Edgar Eugene Bradley, I told him that I rather he did not. Craig agreed and Bradley's name never came up.

One day later I am watching Baxter Ward's version of the news and suddenly Roger Craig is being interviewed by an ABC reporter. It's one of those staged news sequences in which the illusion is given that Craig has just observed some ABC film of Bradley in one of the studio's screening rooms.

Roger Craig makes a positive identification that the man he saw in the film (Edgar Eugene Bradley) is the same man he observed in Dallas on the day of the assassination.

I was genuinely disturbed by the fact that an innocent man (until proven otherwise) was being tried on TV in absentia. Bradley was not able to cross examine this most convincing and seemingly reliable witness. There was no equal time rebuttal in evidence and Craig's comments were not labeled opinion or speculation. It was truly a frightening moment.

Now, I know you're going to say that they never give Garrison equal time and Bradley was parading all over the place with his lie detector expert and former FBI attorney. You'll tell me about his refusal to go to New Orleans to clear his name and all the rest of it.

Yeah, sure I'm hip to that. But let us not lose sight of our objectives here. Aren't we concerned with the pursuit of justice? Don't forget that Lee Oswald was denied all of his legal rights in Dallas and the press had determined his guilt within hours after his capture. And he was innocent of all charges against him.

In our over-zealousness to function in the interest of the people let us not lose sight of the rights of all the people.

Upon reflection, it occurred to me that surely ABC must have realized the danger in doing what they did. Surely they are aware of the fact that the publicizing (in

this manner) of such an inflammatory piece of testimony might tend to damage the District Attorney's efforts. Didn't they understand that Bradley's attorneys could at some future date stand before a judge and claim that the four minutes of ABC film might tend to prejudice a perspective juror and make it impossible for Edgar to get a fair trial?

And then I remembered that this is America. And the American Broadcasting Company is in business to sell deodorant cream and dog food. The Baxter Ward news hour as well as the Joey Bishop show were not set up to help our country get its things together. And at the risk of sounding slightly paranoid, perhaps the word came down from the Ministry of Truth that the network should inform all of its local News Outlets that a man named ROGER CRAIG #H52768 would be in Los Angeles on Sunday, Feb. 25 and, well you know the rest.

Hey, this Sunday, March 3, I'll be presenting a special 8-hour program about the assassination, the investigation and the critics of the Warren Commission. It begins at 7:30 p.m. and will run until 3:30 in the morning. You will hear in-depth interviews with Mort Sahl, Penn Jones, Roger Craig, Harold Welsberg, Ray Marcus, Maggie Field, David Lifton, Stanley Marks, and others. Also, during the opening segment, I'll air a one-hour Sound Collage I put together which features a fifteen-minute interview with Lee Harvey Oswald.

We don't name names or attempt to indict anyone; but we do try to present the facts and allow you to draw your own conclusions.

ELLIOT MINTZ BROADCASTS
TUES., THURS., & SAT. FROM
10-11 PM AND SUNDAY FROM
11 PM UNTIL 3:30 AM OVER
KPFK (90.7) FM.