

# Levelland Daily Sun

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ASSOCIATED PRESS (AP) LEVELLAND, TEXAS PA

## CHARGES WARREN COMMISSION

# Texas Editor Raises - News

# Questions On Kennedy

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Editorial: Although it is more than 2 1/2 years since the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas, at least five new books on the subject have been published or are coming out this summer alone. All are critical of the Warren Commission report on the case, and one was written by a Texas newspaper editor, Penn Jones Jr. of Midlothian. Here is a report.

By TOM JOHNSON  
MIDLOTHIAN, Tex. (AP) — A Texas newspaper editor predicts that "more killings are going to be necessary in order to keep this crime quiet."

He is Penn Jones Jr., and "this crime" is the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963.

Jones, editor and publisher of the Midlothian Mirror, says he is the only Texas author to join the ranks of writers producing a spate of books this summer critical of the Warren Commission report on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963.

This revived interest coming three years after the assassination, has also produced a flood of magazine articles on the subject.

Books already published this summer are "Forgive My Grief" by Jones; "Inquest" by graduate student Edward Bay Epstein of New York; and "Whitewash" by former Senate Investigator Harold Weisberg of Washington.

Scheduled for United States publication in September are similarly critical works by New York attorney Mark Lane and French newspaperman Leo Sauvage, who works in this country.

Jones, Epstein and Weisberg do not indulge in spinning unprovable conspiracy theories about the assassination, as did some writers in 1964.

Rather, their efforts rely heavily on the official testimony released by the Warren Commission in September 1964, and on personal investigation.

"It would be presumptuous," Jones writes, "for a weekly newspaper to think it could resolve such a behemoth crime."

# COVERUP Investigation

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Midlothian editor, not a stranger to controversial causes, further states:

"We expect to work on the assassination for the rest of our lives."

Jones, whose newspaper is only 19 miles from Dallas, says he has spent thousands of hours "knocking on doors, asking questions" about the murders of Kennedy, Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippit and alleged Presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald.

He adds that careful reading of the commission's 26 volumes of evidence and testimony leads him to conclude that "activities were taken by the commission" to obfuscate the evidence.

Jones' major conclusions are that:

Oswald and Jack Ruby, his killer, very possibly were acquainted before the assassination;

Kennedy was shot from the front, not from the back; and

at least 13 persons benefited financially or otherwise

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The Warren Commission, however, by a President John F. Kennedy, concluded that:

Oswald, acting alone, killed Kennedy with rifle shots from behind;

Oswald and Ruby did not know each other; and

There was no conspiracy, foreign or domestic, involved.

Jones, Epstein and Weisberg all charge that the commission was unduly selective in its choice of evidence in order to make its single assassin conclusion plausible.

Jones' book, which he subtitles "Volume I," has as a general format the juxtaposition of segments of official commission testimony, in most cases, with his own testimony.

Commission testimony also is juxtaposed with results of Jones' own legwork.

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He presents a long list of co-  
incidences, which have led commission  
lawyers to say and again to say  
"the next most obvious..."

Among these is the fact that  
Mrs. Earlene Roberts, Os-  
wald's landlady at the time of the  
assassination, was the sister of  
a Dallas woman acquainted  
with Jack Ruby.

up "and" Oswald at Mr. Roaming  
house shortly after the assassi-  
nation, and while Oswald was  
in his room allegedly changing  
clothes.  
Perhaps the most intriguing  
of such coincidences put forth  
by Jones is the one involving  
two reporters who allegedly vis-  
ited Ruby's apartment the night  
of the assassination.

...he has learned  
that some...  
Herald reporter, and Bill Hunter  
...a native of Dallas but work-  
ing for a Long Beach, Calif.,  
newspaper at the time, went to  
...apartment after the visit  
was set up by a Dallas lawyer.  
...persons are said to have  
...  
What the two lawmen  
learned there, if anything, is  
not known. Both are now dead.  
Koethe was found in his Dal-  
las apartment, the victim of a  
blow to the neck or head. His  
murder is unsolved.  
Hunter's death was officially  
listed as an accident. He was  
shot by a policeman who said  
his pistol discharged while  
he was practicing "fast draw"  
the Long Beach police sta-  
tion's room.  
Koethe and Hunter died  
1964, some five months apart.  
Jones also states that the first  
attorney Ruby had after he shot

Oswald (he) also had...  
cab driver who drove Oswald  
out his rooming house immedi-  
ately after the assassination.  
... Jones refers to such events as  
"the string of amazing coinci-  
dences."  
... Epstein's book was submitted  
as a master's thesis at Cornell  
University. He said its initial  
purpose was to investigate how  
the commission functioned to  
arrive at its conclusion, rather  
than to take issue with the con-  
clusion itself.  
But a recent review of the  
Epstein book in Look magazine  
took the author to task for mak-  
ing the same type of selective-  
evidence judgments that the  
commission is accused of hav-  
ing made.  
... is more free-wheeling in  
his book, which consists of 25  
chapters, most of which were  
carried previously in his news-  
paper.  
... He openly challenges the com-  
mission on a number of points

and frequently uses the find-  
ings of...  
... alleged shortcomings  
... Warren report.  
... Jones believes Oswald was  
involved in the assassination but  
is not sure to what extent. He  
is convinced that Kennedy was  
shot down in a cross-fire of at  
least two weapons.