

Since Dr. Humes is suspected even by the most pusillanimous of the critics of having adjusted or falsified the autopsy findings, his self-vindication does not close the chapter--especially when Dr. Milton Helpern, the eminent Medical Examiner of New York City, has been refused the opportunity to look at the autopsy photographs and X-rays.

Tippit's "Redeployment"

To dispose of questions persistently raised about Tippit's departure from his assigned district and his presence at the location where he was shot, CBS interviewed the Dallas Police radio dispatcher, Murray Jackson, who was never questioned by the Warren Commission or its lawyers or investigators. Jackson, said to be an intimate friend of Tippit's for many years (he did not attend the funeral), said that there was no mystery at all--he himself had sent Tippit to central Oak Cliff, which had been left without police protection when the assigned officers were redeployed to the Depository. CBS, in its discussion of the Tippit murder, played excerpts from the sound recording of the police radio, for example, the recording of a citizen notifying the police over Tippit's car radio that there had been a shooting (this point is not in dispute). But CBS did not play the portion of the sound recording in which Jackson instructed Tippit to proceed to central Oak Cliff, a point which is in dispute, apparently more than satisfied by Jackson's explanation in the interview he gave CBS.

The acceptance of Jackson's explanation betrays the inadequate research performed by the CBS investigators and their incomplete knowledge of the evidence in the Tippit case, if it does not betray something worse. Jackson's claim that the officers regularly assigned to central Oak Cliff had gone to Dealey Plaza, leaving their districts unmanned, appears to be a complete invention. Central Oak Cliff consists of some ten or more numbered districts--numbers 22, 23, 91-96, and 108-109--according to the Dallas Police Radio Patrol District Map. The verbatim transcript of the

radio log

^ shows that only two patrolmen, numbers 93 and 95, were redeployed. The other eight officers remained in their assigned districts, including number 109, from which Tippit reported his location at 12:54 p.m., and number 91, in which he was shot at 1:15 p.m. or earlier. It was Tippit's own district, number 78, which was left unmanned when he departed from his assigned location, for reasons still unknown.

Other CBS Gems

Space does not permit a complete critique of the CBS marathon, but ~~in~~ it contains numerous gems of misrepresentation and ~~inaccurate~~ incomplete exposition of the facts, no less remarkable than the examples already discussed. In one segment there is a quintessential non sequitur which gives a clue to the contempt which CBS ^{must} feels for the intelligence of its audience. During the second installment of the four-part inquiry, Walter Kronkite explained that in the Zapruder film, the fatal shot "appears to move the President's head back" (in fact, it shows that the head was slammed back with great force) and that the critics regard this as proof that the shot came from the front of the car, not from the Depository. The camera next switches to Dr. Charles Wyckoff, a photo ^{and physicist,} analyst, who proceeds to discuss solely and exclusively the explosion at the front of the head as seen in the stills from the Zapruder film, but never once mentions the backward thrust of the head seen in the moving picture. Dr. Wyckoff is not to blame for this, since Dan Rather of CBS, who interviewed him, completely misstated the problem, saying, "Some critics say that by the very fact that...you can clearly see the explosion of the bullet on the front side of the President, that that certainly indicates the bullet came from the front." Wyckoff replied that, on the contrary, "a rather violent explosion (would) occur on the exiting side."

From that dialogue, in which there was not one word about the backward

recoil, Mr. Kronkite announced that we had heard "one explanation as to how a head could move backward after being struck from behind." We had heard nothing of the kind, as CES well knows.

On the other hand, I must admit that CBS did correct the record on another medical question--the original description of the bullet wound at the Adam's apple. The Warren Report (pages 90-91) had given a dishonest account of what the Parkland Hospital doctors had told the press on November 22, 1963, asserting that Dr. Malcolm Perry had been misquoted and that in actuality neither he nor his colleagues had formed an opinion on whether it was a wound of entrance or of exit. CBS said flatly that Dr. Perry told the press that the neck wound looked like an entry wound and that "there's no doubt that Dr. Perry made it sound as if he had a firm opinion." That is exactly what the critics have always said, despite the way in which the Warren Report misrepresented the facts (a misrepresentation on which CBS ~~was silent~~ was silent).

Why the Big Guns?

Walter Kronkite, who can be unbearably pompous, said in one of his summations that "it is too much to expect that the critics of the Warren Report will be satisfied with the conclusions CBS News has reached, any more than they were satisfied with the conclusions the Commission reached." Since the conclusions are exactly the same, and the "evidence" is essentially the same, I cannot imagine why in the world the critics should be "satisfied." If the critics were inclined to have their brains washed by arguments that are fatuous, inaccurate, and knowingly deceptive, they would have accepted the Warren Report even before CBS sprinkled more holy water on it.

The question that the critics are asking, and that the public should be pondering, is why three of the super-media, commanding mass audiences counted in the many millions, have made this concerted effort to confuse or convert public opinion. Is it the response to pressure from high Governmental

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