

ANOTHER WHITEWASH IN THE MAKING

David Belin, who has a vested interest in the Warren Report, was appointed chief counsel of the Rockefeller Commission by a man who was designated as the Commission chairman by Gerald Ford, who also has a vested interest in the Warren Report. Belin was an assistant counsel to the Warren Commission and appears to be compromised by his part in obtaining perjurious testimony from a witness who attempted to incriminate Oswald. Gerald Ford was a member of the Warren Commission who later published a book which he titled "Portrait of the Assassin". Both men would be discredited if the Warren Report falls apart from the weight of its deficiencies and deformities.

Belin, as chief counsel to the Rockefeller Commission--which is charged with investigating the domestic activities of the CIA--has appointed a panel to review the criticism of the Warren Report. On the panel are two neuropathologists. It is hard to see how neuropathologists could contribute to an inquiry into the CIA's possible involvement in the assassination of President Kennedy. We may therefore infer that they have been recruited to examine and explain away the violent movement backward and to the left of President Kennedy at the impact of a bullet in the head as recorded in the Zapruder film. That smash backward and to the left was never mentioned and certainly never explained by the Warren Commission, nor by the Government-appointed panel of medical experts headed by Russell Fisher. But now that the Zapruder film has been seen by television audiences, and posed irresistably the problem of how a bullet to the back of the head could thrust a body backward instead of forward, some kind of explanation must be offered by defenders of the Warren Report.

The Belin-appointed panel is to rely, moreover, on the advice of Dr. Alfred Olivier, a Government ballistics expert on whom the Warren Commission also relied. Dr. Olivier, too, has a vested interest in the survival of the Warren Report.

Those of us who have challenged and criticized the Warren Report throughout the eleven years since it was published have frequently called for a new investigation, but one of demonstrable objectivity and fairness, utilizing the adversary proceeding which is a pillar in our system of justice, and an investigation which would weigh impartially, specifically, and publicly each and every substantive criticism of the Warren Report.

Instead, we see another Government-appointed panel, selected by and including individuals whose lack of impartiality is self-evident, which will work in secret and almost certainly produce still another whitewash of a thoroughly tainted Warren Report.

We ask the American people to monitor this new but old-style reexamination of the Warren Report and to withhold judgement on its findings until it is established beyond doubt that its motives and methods meet the rigorous tests of impartial adjudication.