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Pearson Sued For \$3 Million

A summons was served on Washington columnist Drew Pearson Friday night in Chautauqua ordering him to reply within 20 days to a \$3-million libel suit. The suit was filed against the columnist in 1964 by John R. Pillion of the Town of Hamburg, then a U. S. Congressman.

The summons was served after Pearson completed a lecture in the Chautauqua amphitheater and the columnist labeled it "a publicity stunt" by Pillion. The former congressman was on a fishing trip in Canada, and could not be reached for comment.

The lawsuit claims that Pearson libeled Pillion in columns published Sept. 26 and Nov. 1. The Sept. 26 column said "Pillion is certain his fellow Republicans on the Warren Commission (investigating President John F. Kennedy's assassination are all wet and that Lee Oswald was part of a Moscow-hatched conspiracy."

Pillion had strongly criticized the report calling it an "unjustified whitewash" of the Communists' role in the assassination, and a "sad documentary on this great American tragedy."