

"All the News That's UNFIT to Print"

Joachim Joesten's

TRUTH LETTER

An Antidote to Official Mendacity and Newfaking in the Press

Vol. I, No. 12

March 1, 1969

Editorial: Clay Shaw - unanimously acquitted by the newsmen +

WHO IS JAMES HEPBURN ?

A Kennedy Murder Mystery Solved

The whole pattern of the conspiracy to assassinate President John F. Kennedy has been laid bare in ample and precise detail in a new book entitled "Farewell America" by James Hepburn which is making a timid appearance in several countries. In the United States, it is practically sold under the counter only and not at all in Great Britain, as far as can be ascertained at this time, while sales are open and substantial in Canada, France and Germany.

A great deal of mystery and secretiveness surround both the identity of the author (whose name so far has hardly been a household word anywhere) and the publishing firm which has put out his work and also produced a film on the Kennedy assassination with the same title.

Though written originally in English, the book was first published in Germany, in late September 1968, by ECON-Verlag of Düsseldorf, one of Germany's largest and commercially most successful publishing houses. The point is important because ECON, so far, is the only major publisher involved and indeed seems to be the only commercial publisher in the case.

A series of excerpts from the book appeared in four instalments (beginning on June 9 and ending on June 30, 1968,) in Bild am Sonntag, the Sunday edition of Bild-Zeitung, Germany's biggest mass circulation newspaper, which is published by famous "press lord" Axel Springer. This is very significant, too, for it means that there was big money behind the launching of the book.

The publication, in the most widely circulated newspaper of the Springer press concern, of excerpts from a book which with brutal frankness reveals the pattern of the anti-Kennedy plot and directly accuses the Dallas police, the CIA and FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover of complicity in the crime, came as a distinct surprise for until then the Springer group had fervently adhered to the myths of the Warren Report. Moreover, the Springer newspapers are rated as being the most enthusiastically "pro-American" in Germany and to attack the Warren Report is considered here, as elsewhere, as a sign of being "anti-American."

The date on which the first instalment was published - June 9, 1968 - is also significant, for only four days earlier Sen. Robert Kennedy had been assassinated in his turn. Accordingly, Bild am Sonntag headlined the first article "Conspiracy Against the Kennedys", with the subtitle "The Police Was Bribed."

Indeed, James Hepburn in that series, and again in the book, does not mince his words. He bluntly accuses the Dallas police chiefs of having

+ PS. A battle has been lost. The War for the Truth goes on.



been on the payroll of the Committee which, he says, organized the assassination of President Kennedy and names the following as recipients of its bounties: Chief of Police Jesse Curry; Assistant Chief Charles Batchelor; Deputy Chief N.T. Fisher; J.W. Fritz, head of Homicide; Captain W.P. Gannaway; Captain P.W. Lawrence; Captain Glen D. King, and several of their subordinates. Of Curry the author says that he had several meetings with the organizers of the Dealey Plaza ambush; that he had assigned a dozen "reliable" police officers to the job of protecting the snipers who killed the President by crossfire and that, after the deed, the assassins were spirited away to safety in police squad cars.

Quoting these and other excerpts of the series on the back cover of my book "The Dark Side of Lyndon Baines Johnson" which was published in London by Peter Dawnay Ltd. at exactly the same time James Hepburn's book came out in Düsseldorf, I wrote under the heading "A Challenge...":

"... Bild am Sonntag is published by Axel C. Springer, a multi-millionaire and one of Germany's richest men. If Messrs. Curry, Batchelor and Decker were to bring actions for libel, they could undoubtedly collect far more in damages than they are supposed to have pocketed in bribes. But if they don't sue, the whole world will know that these so-called law-enforcement officers in Lyndon B. Johnson's bailiwick conspired among themselves and with others to murder the President of the United States."

Well, these Dallas gentlemen didn't sue Axel Springer and I bet they aren't going to sue ECON-Verlag either, though they might collect there handsomely, too, for Herr Elwig von Wehrenalp, head of that publishing firm, is also a millionaire. They aren't suing because their guilty consciences won't allow them to take any chances in a court-of-law they aren't able to control.

In a "prelude" to the first article of the Hepburn series, the editors of Bild am Sonntag noted that the English title of the book was THE PLOT, that the author was a 34-year-old American scholar and that he must be endowed with "clairvoyance" since his book, "written months ago," focussed on a conspiracy which - in the eyes of the German editors - had not become visible until after the second Kennedy had fallen victim to assassin's bullets.

The editors also stated that Hepburn's book was being published in the U.S. by a firm called "Frontiers Establishment" and that THE PLOT would soon be published by ECON-Verlag of Düsseldorf. But, when the German edition was published in September, it made no mention of THE PLOT. Instead, the fly-leaf of the book, entitled in German "Verschöörung" (which does mean PLOT), indicated that the title of the original was "Farewell America" and that the holder of all rights was "Frontiers, Liechtenstein."

In response to a query concerning this change of title, Herr von Wehrenalp wrote to me on Feb. 12, 1969: "Originally the book "Verschöörung" was entitled THE PLOT. The manuscript was submitted under that working title. Later, however, the title was changed to "Farewell America" for reasons unbeknown to me. I can't tell what the connection with THE PLOT is."

This is only one of the minor mysteries of the case. Far more important is the fact that quite unusual precautions have been taken to screen the author and the publishers from indiscreet inquiries. I first wrote to ECON-Verlag on Sept. 7, 1968 to inquire where I would be able to get hold of a copy of the English-language original of the book they were about to publish.

(to be continued in No. 13 of TRUTH LETTER)

---

TRUTH LETTER is published every other week by Joachim Joesten, 87-70 173rd Street, New York 11432, USA. -European address: Munich 13, Griegstr.13, Germany.



A scholarly view of the meaning of assassination

In the context of a letter he wrote me on Jan. 18, 1969, Prof. Thomas E. Katen of the Community College of Philadelphia - one of the three authors of a forthcoming book about the Kennedy murder from which excerpts will soon be published in TRUTH LETTER - observed:

"From the beginning of this bloody mess it was my contention it was missing the point, looking at the trees instead of the forest, to concentrate purely on the technicalities of the assassination in isolation on the pretense of being scientific. That approach, in effect, reduced the political crime of the century, an event of crucial historical significance, to the level of a gory murder mystery. Hence, in this sense, the technicians were really the sensationalists. How could one devote himself to all that material and spend all that time without seeing the significance unless he had some sick interest, or were too dishonest to speak of the significance. Because at the very start you addressed yourself to the big questions, the historic ones, your book was so important a contribution." (The reference is to my first book on the assassination, "Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy?" published in 1964 - J.J.)

I then asked Prof. Katen to formulate his thoughts on the subject of what the assassination means in terms of scientific methodology (Prof. Katen's field of specialty) and he graciously contributed the following article:

Some Methodological Observations on the Assassination of President Kennedy

by Thomas Ellis Katen

It is ironical that critics of the Warren Report are raked over the coals for dealing in theories instead of facts, when in fact what is most lacking in understanding the assassination is an adequate theoretical model. Journalists, news reporters and politicians, notoriously lacking in sound methodological training, as well in many cases as honesty, seem to be without understanding of the crucial difference between idle speculation and responsible theory formulation. Speculation involves guessing, but theory construction requires accounting for facts, and doing so in terms of empirical observation and adherence to rules of method. Facts do not speak for themselves; they must be spoken for. That is, they must be rendered meaningful in the light of a theoretical scheme of interpretation. When President Johnson got the Warren Report, all must admit he made at least one correct observation, namely, that it was heavy. Indeed, it is so heavy with facts unless their meaning is found they shall bury us.

The defenders of the Warren Report told us "who did it" - Oswald. The critics told us who didn't do it, and that just happens to be Oswald. If Oswald were still alive this question might be very interesting to him, but he is dead, and while this is an important question to those of us alive, more important for we who are living is the problem of the meaning of the assassination. Some such as Joesten have examined the question of Oswald with a view to unveiling the more basic meaning. But too often the question is approached as a purely technical, factual one. Thus the murder of the President of the most powerful military country in the world is reduced to a Who Done It.

---

Don't miss these important new "mimeo-books" by JOACHIM JOESTEN:

- 1) The Case Against J. Edgar Hoover (in the assassinations of JFK, MLK and RFK), 2nd revised and enlarged ed., March 1969, 17,000 words, list price \$ 20.00.
- 2) The James Earl Ray Hoax, February 1969, 45,000 words, list price \$ 30.00.

Special discounts to TRUTH LETTER subscribers: 1) 50% ; 2) 40%.



When primitive man sought to find out what was going on in his world, he always asked Who did it? The gods did it for whatever whims they might have had. Modern scientific man does not ask WHO did it; he asks HOW it was done. That means he seeks to describe what occurred, but it must be observed such description makes no sense unless it is explained. This means making sense of how something happened inherently requires elucidating WHY. Only by explaining the facts of the assassination will it be possible to come to terms with the Warren Report. For the function of the Warren Commission was not to provide a logical examination of the assassination, but to develop a mythological account for our society.

If the Warren Commission had been dealing with facts instead of myth, it would have been absurd for it to have reached the utterly impossible conclusion Oswald was the lone assassin. For that conclusion is not a function of the commission's own evidence as compiled in the 26 volumes. The facts themselves raised too many doubts, doubts concerning the number of bullets, their trajectory, the question of time, the plausibility for one man to have achieved so much. There was absolutely a lack of substantial evidence to conclusively establish a lone assassin. That could only have been established collusively. In addition to this much evidence exists to establish a conspiracy. Foremost is the head snap backward so shockingly observable to the viewer of the Zapruder film. There is photographic evidence, evidence of witnesses, physical evidence and mysterious surrounding circumstances, all of which do point to a conspiracy. The point is that it is not credible in the light of the evidence established by the authorities themselves that any reasonable man thinking in terms of rules of inference and empirical evidence could conclude ONE man did all Oswald was supposed to have done, and what's more even without motivation. (to be continued in No. 13 of TRUTH LETTER)

---

#### How World Opinion Is Being Fooled

On the eve of the Sirhan trial, there appeared in the German illustrated magazine QUICK (and presumably in other magazines around the world) a series written by one Robert B. Kaiser which purports to illuminate the murky background of the second Kennedy murder. Although the author boasts that he was the only journalist to have been allowed a peep at the FBI file on Sirhan (is that true, Mr. Hoover?) his story is just a rehash of the same old untruths about when the young Arab allegedly came to this country, what he did here for a living, that he killed Robert Kennedy out of anti-Zionist spite etc.etc.

Referring to Sirhan's three "priceless defenders," Messrs. Parsons, Ber- man and Cooper, the author informs his awe-stricken readers that they have all agreed to defend the penniless accused "free of charge." If that isn't worth a belly-laugh from the chief purse-keeper of the CIA, there's no humor left in this world. No wonder Sirhan finally got fed up with his government-provided mentors and tried to fire them - free of charge.

---

#### TRUTH MEDAL AWARD No. 1

TRUTH LETTER's first citation for breaking the habit of lying goes to Herbert G. Klein, President Nixon's director of communications. Not because Mr. Klein, in a press conference on Feb. 18, 1969, affirmed that the government has "no right to lie" to the public, even in matters of national security - that ought to be a matter of course. But Klein also said he had long felt that the government had no right to lie and thus admitted that it has been lying systematically in the past. It took guts to make such a confession. PS. How about shutting up some of those loud-mouthed generals in Vietnam, Herb?



The new book by Joachim Joesten TRILOGY OF MURDER  
An analysis and interpretation of the John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy and  
Dr. Martin Luther King assassinations. - Copyright by J. Joesten, 1968-69.  
(continued from No. 11, p.5)

were just as desperately determined to prevent his brother from ever reaching the pinnacle of power wherefrom alone he could bear down effectively on the assassins and their instigators.

There has been a lively discussion among critics of the Warren Report on the question whether or not Robert Kennedy's purported statement "There are guns between me and the White House" was authentic. The original authority for that phrase was Mark Lane who for the past two years or so has been in close touch with District Attorney Jim Garrison and has even worked as a member of the DA's investigative staff.

On the very eve of the assassination of Robert Kennedy, Tuesday, June 4, 1968, just before the polls closed in the California primary, Mark Lane was interviewed in Washington, D.C. over TV station WFAN. He was asked by the interviewer, Mr. John Hightower, why Robert Kennedy appeared to accept the findings of the Warren Commission. Lane replied that over a period of several weeks a number of "emissaries" from Robert Kennedy had been carrying messages to New Orleans, each assuring Garrison that the Senator did not believe the conclusions of the Warren Commission and that he agreed with Garrison that a conspiracy had taken the life of President Kennedy.

According to Lane, Robert Kennedy, in these messages, had indicated his intention to investigate the assassination of his brother thoroughly if he were elected president and vigorously to prosecute those responsible.

"Garrison asked," said Mr. Lane, "why Senator Kennedy felt it necessary to suppress his dissent. Each emissary answered with the same phrase: He (Robert Kennedy) knows that there are guns between him and the White House."

For this allegation, Mark Lane has been severely taken to task by fellow-critic Sylvia Meagher in particular. In "The Minority of One", September 1968, Miss Meagher wrote: "Self-evidently, this was an infamous falsehood from beginning to end, and utterly incompatible with the recent views expressed by Robert Kennedy, by Garrison and by Lane himself. Immediate inquiries were nevertheless undertaken, which confirmed that the story of the emissaries was wholly unfounded and false."

Miss Meagher then went on to say that one of those alleged "emissaries" had been Jones Harris, a critic of the Warren Report closely associated with the Garrison inquiry. "Despite his loyalty to Garrison," she wrote, "Jones Harris stated at a public meeting on June 29, 1968, that the story of the two emissaries (in either of its versions) was completely false; he himself was the author of the phrase 'there are guns between him (RFK) and the White House' in a conversation during a visit to New Orleans, expressing his purely personal fears, and he was in no sense an emissary from or representative of Robert Kennedy."

However, Garrison himself, in an interview with Art Kevin of KHJ News in Los Angeles, shortly after the assassination of Robert Kennedy, confirmed in essence the accuracy of Mr. Lane's statement. While he would "use different words in a few senses; for example, 'emissaries,'" Mr. Garrison said, Lane's version was "essentially true." He added: "We (Robert Kennedy and Garrison) had mutual friends who came down to visit from time to time. As a result, I finally came to understand Sen. Kennedy's silence. He was silent, I think, because he realized the power that lay behind the forces that killed his brother."  
(to be continued in the next issue)



THE CASE AGAINST J. EDGAR HOOVER

In the assassinations of

President John F. Kennedy - Senator Robert Kennedy - Dr. Martin L. King

A Public Indictment Before the High Court of World Opinion

by JOACHIM JOESTEN

(Author of eight published trade books about the KENNEDY MURDER FRAUD)

-----

Part I : <u>Malfeasance Extraordinary: How the FBI Chief Betrayed the President</u>	
Chapter I - Grand Master of Deceit	pp. 1-4
Chapter II - How Hoover Connived at the Kennedy Assassination: Five Warnings Ignored	pp. 5-11
Chapter III- "I Done as I Was Told and Kept My Mouth Shut"	12-18
Part II : <u>How Hoover Shielded the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King</u>	
(And set up another scapegoat for sacrifice)	
Chapter IV - Trickery with Fingerprints	pp. 19-22
Chapter V - When the Director Takes a Hand	pp. 22-25
Chapter VI - How the FBI Gave the Show Away	pp. 25-26
Part III : <u>Another Enemy of Hoover Is Killed: Robert Kennedy</u>	
Chapter VII - A Smokescreen for Sirhan	pp. 27-28

-----

Copyright 1969 by Joachim Joesten

About 17,000 words

§ 20.00 a copy  
(twenty US dollars)

Compiled and published by: Joachim Joesten, 87-70 173rd St., New York 11432  
European address: Joachim Joesten, Munich 13, Griegstr. 13, c/o Rahim, Germany