

"All the News That's UNFIT to Print"

Joachim Joesten's

TRUTH LETTER

An Antidote to Official Mendacity and Newsfaking in the Press

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April 15, 1969

Disbar Percy Foreman!

James Earl Ray's three new lawyers, W.B. Stoner, Robert W. Hill and Richard Ryan, have made it official now: in filing a motion for a new trial on April 7, they have stated unequivocally that Ray's guilty plea was "a farce, a sham and a mockery of justice" and that he had been pressured into it by his previous lawyer, Percy Foreman.

It would be hard to conceive of a more serious charge. Here are three attorneys publicly accusing a colleague of having put pressure on his client in order to extort from him a false guilty plea. This is not just unethical conduct of the standard variety; this is wilful, deliberate and utterly shameless perversion of the course of justice by one who has sworn to serve justice: worse still, this is the most perfidious kind of betrayal of his clients' interests any lawyer could be guilty of.

Why did a man of Foreman's standing and reputation commit such a felony? For mean, personal profit. We have his own testimony to that effect. On March 24, Foreman himself announced that he had gone into partnership with William Bradford Huie - a literary Judas worthy of such companionship - and had already successfully marketed Ray's "life story" for an estimated \$ 400,000, including magazine, book and movie rights. Foreman has a 60 percent share in this fine syndicate, but he modestly intends to keep only 150,000 dollars for himself; the rest of his earnings from this project will go to Ray's family, he announced.

What did Percy Foreman do for the \$ 150,000 he's going to get out of this raw deal (in which James Earl Ray himself has no part)? He never lifted a finger to defend his client, though knowing full well that Ray had not killed Dr. Martin Luther King, but had acted merely as a decoy. Instead, he coerced his client into a false confession of guilt by threatening him with conviction and execution if he failed to cooperate. In doing so, Foreman openly served the interests of the prosecution which was desperately anxious to avoid an honest trial where its flimsy case, built on trumped-up FBI "evidence", would have come apart at the seams at the first pull.

Readers of TRUTH LETTER know that in an Open Letter addressed to Judge W. Preston Battle on January 27, 1969 - some six weeks before Ray's guilty plea - I had warned the court of the illicit pressures that were being brought to bear on the helpless prisoner and had forecast, with dire accuracy, that Ray, who previously had denied the killing, would be forced, through a conspiracy of so-called law enforcement officials, falsely to plead guilty.

"Ray has been informed unambiguously that, if he defends himself

+Cf. TRUTH LETTER, Nos. 6, 7 and 9

against the murder charge, he will be convicted, sentenced to death and executed," I wrote in that letter. In conclusion, I wrote: "I trust that you, the judge, will not tolerate this travesty of justice. The documentation which I am making available to Your Honor, will help you establish the truth." +

At the same time, I airmailed to Judge Battle, to the Rev. Ralph Abernathy and to the ACLU copies of a 45,000-word documentation which clearly established Ray's innocence of the murder and showed that he had been framed by the plotters, with the FBI conniving and covering up, as usual.

My readers also know that, after the gist of my Open Letter had received wide distribution through a UPI dispatch dated Jan. 28, Percy Foreman wrote to me and requested a copy of that documentation. In my reply, dated Feb. 3, I wrote that I would send him one immediately, if he gave assurances that he would not go along with a guilty plea by his client. I also pointed out in my letter to Foreman that "I have grounds to believe that you have been discussing with the public defender of Memphis, Mr. Hugh Stanton Jr., and others, the advisability of persuading Mr. Ray to plead guilty. It is my considered opinion that such a plea could not be in the best interests of your client, because he did not kill Dr. Martin Luther King." (see TL, No. 11)

Foreman never replied and he gave no assurances, for good reason. For, in retrospect, it is clear that he was even then plotting to doublecross his client and making arrangements with Huie, LOOK and others to exploit this disloyalty to greatest possible financial advantage.

Adding insult to injury, and piling a mountain of lies on top of the greatest disservice ever done by a lawyer to his client in recent memory, Foreman, after hearing that Ray was seeking a new trial, declared that he was "washing his hands" of this attempt and then, with an unmatched liar's nerve, proclaimed: "James Earl Ray decided, and he alone decided, to kill Martin Luther King so that he could claim the glory. I think James Earl Ray was a racist..."

If all this isn't enough for the American Bar Association to take firm steps toward the disbarment of Percy Foreman, one can only conclude that the ethical standards of that organization, already eroded by its stand on the Kennedy Murder Fraud, have disintegrated altogether.

Judge Battle Knew More Than Was Good for His Health

American public opinion (or, rather, the news media that are supposed to represent it) has reacted with the usual unquestioning gullibility and meek submissiveness to the astonishing news that Judge Preston Battle, within a day or so after receiving two letters from Ray, collapsed at his desk and died of what news dispatches described as "an apparent heart attack." If ever there was a more suspicious death, show me.

We know that Ray, in one of the two letters, told the judge that he wished to file a postconviction petition and was trying to get a new lawyer. But, what were the contents of the other? Could it be that it contained some information to the effect that some crucial points which I had made in my documentation were rigorously true, or at least striking close to the truth, and that Judge Battle thus became the sole holder of the second most deadly secret in America today (the most lethal of all still is the threadbare secret of President Kennedy's assassination, which has already taken at least 30 lives.)

The CIA, which is in the background of the Dr. King murder, as it is in the foreground of the two Kennedy assassinations, knows of at least a dozen

+ For the benefit of those readers who have not seen the preceding issues, a copy of my Open Letter is again attached at the end of the present issue.

ways of killing people through simulated heart attacks. Among at least a score of prominent victims - not counting several of the lowly and unsung Kennedy murder witnesses - of these surreptitious murder methods were Adlai Stevenson, David Ferrie and the Orleans Parish coroner, Dr. Nicholas J. Chetta, who had testified, against his better knowledge, that Ferrie had died of natural causes and then carried around his guilty secret for 15 months until his own lips were sealed in the same manner. From all indications, Judge Battle is just the last name to be added to that list which will keep growing relentlessly as the architects of the three great murder plots of our time are getting more and more frenzied - because THE TRUTH WILL OUT.

A Million-Dollar Orgy of Pseudo-Psycho Baloney

If one attempted to write a slapstick parody of American justice at its lowest in this era of total disintegration, one could hardly devise anything more grotesque or repulsive than the Sirhan trial in Los Angeles. Because nobody dared reveal in court the true background and motivation of Robert Kennedy's murderer - which is that of a cold-blooded professional assassin formerly employed by the CIA in the Middle East - and then hired by it to do away with the upcoming presidential candidate - both sides at the trial conspired to put on an utterly phony "psycho" horror farce worthy of the Theater of the Absurd or even of the late, lamented "Grand Guignol" of Paris.

No less than nine psychologists and psychiatrists were on hand to explore and explain the simplest mind on earth: that of a young rogue who hardly ever did an honest day's work but made a picayune living by hiring himself out for any dirty jobs he could find, including espionage and murder.

The crowning glory of a series of ludicrous performances which have made American psychiatry the laughing-stock of the world (see also TL, No. 14) came in the testimony of Dr. Bernard L. Diamond, "noted psychoanalyst" of the University of California and star witness for the defense, who described in hilarious detail ~~xxxx~~ how he had unlocked Sirhan's mind in the course of a long hypnotic session. If there is anything more funny than the good doctor's arguments, it is the way his labors were described in TIME (4-4-69):

"Sirhan Through the Looking Glass - A mirror. Two flickering candles. And Sirhan. Alone in his cramped room, day after day, hour after silent hour, Sirhan studied Sirhan. Mailorder courses in Rosicrucian mysticism had given him a new creed. They told the disturbed Christian Arab that he could unlock from the mirror image of Sirhan the inner knowledge, Happiness and power he craved. Focusing his mind power on the looking glass, Sirhan soon convinced himself that he could order an inanimate object to move... Yet telekinesis - the ability to cause objects at a distance to move through the exercise of will - was a frightening power and Sirhan feared that he might lose his mind. Once, instead of his own image in the mirror, Sirhan saw a vision of Robert Kennedy, the man he was soon afterward to kill..."

So now at last you know why Senator Kennedy was murdered: because the Jew-hating Rosicrucian Christian Arab, tired of telekinesis, but untiringly contemplating himself in the mirror, one day discovered Kennedy's image in the looking glass, instead of his own, familiar mug. So justly enraged, he went out, got a gun and shot the intruder...

Even the prosecution's chief psychiatrist, Dr. Seymour Pollack, wallowed knee-deep in the psycho-mud lavishly spread about by the opposing side. He agreed with the defense that Sirhan was suffering from "substantial mental illness" and he recommended sending the killer to the State Medical Facility at Vacaville, near Sacramento, (where prison officials, according to press reports,

+ For the complete story, see TRUTH LETTER, No. 4 ff.

are already preparing a special three-cell block for Sirhan) instead of the gas chamber. Even so Dr. Pollack, in his own words, "in spite of all my searching and probing" could not find enough evidence to suggest that Sirhan was anything but a calculating, cold-blooded murderer, which indeed he is.

At least a million dollars, more than three months (as compared to the three hours of the James Earl Ray "trial") of precious time and uncounted millions of not so precious words have been wasted on proving what everybody knew beforehand - that Sirhan shot Robert Kennedy, and that it was first-degree murder. Now comes the time for cleaning up the pseudo-psycho mess left behind.

Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of this weird judicial travesty, which has desecrated the very concept of justice, is the continued silence of the Kennedy family. Twice, within a span of five years, the head of the clan has been gunned down - and twice the rest of the family has met the challenge by playing ostrich. All the adult survivors of the clan are, and have been from the first day, fully conversant with the true facts and the background of the double assassination, but, judging by the way they have been acting, they don't give a damn about whether these crimes are every punished.

If Edward Kennedy, the present head of the family, swallows the outrage of the Sirhan "trial", as he had swallowed before the monstrosity of the Warren Report, he will deserve the title of America's Most Glorified Coward. Or, should he be planning on making the same fatal mistake as his brother Robert who for years pretended to believe in the official version of how JFK died and then, in a sudden burst of energy, reached out for the supreme power to destroy the myth and punish the assassins - a neat game, just as neatly foiled by the opposition. If that's what Ted has in mind for 1973, he is sure to go the way of his two brothers, before 1972 is out.

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Because of the pressure of space, the continuation of "Who Is James Hepburn?"
again has to be postponed to the next issue.
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The Impact of "Truth Letter"

TRUTH LETTER is getting around. Besides having earned the unflagging interest and confidence of a surprisingly large number of individual subscribers, this newsletter is now permanently on file in a dozen or so college and public libraries, not only in the United States, but also abroad. Most of the libraries have placed long-term subscriptions or standing orders - an unmistakable mark of trust.

What is more, there are clear-cut signs that TRUTH LETTER is getting its message through. It has already had a discernible effect on the course of events in several important respects. And this is only a beginning. With TRUTH LETTER now on the shelves of many of the country's leading libraries, its record of dissent is secure for the future. I venture to predict that in five, ten or even 20 years, students of history will still be consulting TRUTH LETTER - and marveling at the uncanny accuracy of its analyses and prognoses.

Commencing in the next issue of TRUTH LETTER: A new feature of absorbing interest -

HIGHLIGHTS AND LESSONS OF THE CLAY SHAW TRIAL

What a careful study of the transcript reveals - and why the newsmakers have been so eager to keep you uninformed about the points that matter

This is a "must" - don't miss it!

TRUTH LETTER is published every other week by Joachim Joesten, 87-70 173rd Street, New York 11432, USA.

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. 14)

"The crowd closed in behind him," Mr. Barry answered, "leaving me behind. At the curtain I met Mrs. Ethel Kennedy and she needed help negotiating that slight jump and I assisted her with that. By this time there was a heavy crowd between me and the senator..."

The situation, as described here by Robert Kennedy's bodyguard, is perfectly clear, and it couldn't be more revealing. An exit of the Kennedy party from the Embassy Room through the rear was not planned; the possibility of leaving that way had not even been considered, for the heavy curtains in back of the podium (from which Kennedy had been speaking) were tightly drawn right up to the minute the senator himself parted them and "jumped down." The fact that anyone leaving the ballroom in that direction had to negotiate a slight jump (which proved too difficult for the pregnant Mrs. Kennedy to perform without assistance) shows that it was an inconvenient exit reserved for the personnel, stage performers etc. No one had thought, or known in advance, that Kennedy would go out that way.

This is a key element of the situation which cannot be stressed too much. And there were other witnesses, besides William Barry, who bore out his contention that Kennedy took the wrong way out of the Embassy Room. According to an AP dispatch from Los Angeles, dated Feb. 18, 1969, "other hotel employes and members of the Kennedy party testified that the decision to go through the pantry area was made at the last minute."

If that last-minute decision had not been made, then Kennedy would have left through the main entrance to the ballroom and would have passed nowhere near the point where Sirhan was waiting, gun in hand. GUN IN HAND. That is another main point. For the time between the moment Kennedy decided, on the spur of the moment, to jump down from the rear of the stage and the moment he came face to face with his murderer was too short for Sirhan to have gotten his lethal equipment out of some hiding place and wrapped it up in paper for disguise. No, there's no question about it: Sirhan had been standing there, for quite a while, with his revolver at the ready, prepared to shoot at a moment's notice - if that unexpected moment ever came. He could not see Kennedy behind the closed curtains, he had no idea what was going on in the ballroom, he had no reason whatsoever to believe that the Kennedy party would come his way.

Then, what was he doing there, waiting in the pantry for a most unlikely event to happen? Since he was so determined to kill Sen. Kennedy, why wasn't he lying in wait somewhere in the corridor or lobby through which the party was scheduled to pass? If one asks that question - which all parties concerned carefully avoided to do at the Sirhan trial, for obvious reasons - the answer is inescapable: Sirhan was waiting in the pantry, because he had been assigned to that particular location by someone who had planned a sure-fire operation, taking all possible contingencies into account. Sirhan was guarding the rear, just in case the Kennedy party quite unexpectedly happened to turn up in that unlikely area. Other potential assassins were posted along the exit route through the ballroom, the corridor and the lobby, which the Kennedy party was scheduled to take.

So far, we have established as a point of elementary logic that the hotel was surrounded on all sides by potential assassins. Is there any material evidence to support that assumption? There is - plenty of it. (to be ctd.)