

## 12. Clandestine America

only questions casting long shadows. But certain matters are now settled. That a cultic intensity animated a law-enforcement agency attack on King, that this attack took the form of conspiratorial and illegal activity led by the FBI, and that this attack coincided with white-trash bounty-setting against King are all now solidly established facts in the death of King, make of them what we will.

-C.O.

# HSCA MLK HEARINGS— Schedule and Witnesses Called

(Here is the complete witness and subject schedule for the August, November, and December King hearings. Each day's subject heading (italicized and in quotes) was assigned by the HSCA.)

### August Hearings

14th—(*"Who Was MLK?"*), Witnesses and Exhibits (henceforth, "W & E"): Opening Statements of Reps. Stokes, Fauntroy, and Devine; Narration, "The History of the Civil Rights Movement"; Dr. Ralph Abernathy.

15th—(*"Medical Evidence"*), W & E: Dr. Michael Baden, Chairman of the HSCA medical panel; medical exhibits by Ida Dox, the HSCA medical illustrator.

16th—(*"James Earl Ray"*), W & E: Gene Johnson, HSCA Deputy Chief Counsel, "Description of the Crime Scene"; James Earl Ray (including a 1½ hour prepared opening statement), accompanied by counsel, Mark Lane.

17th—(*"James Earl Ray"* cont'd), W & E: James Earl Ray.

18th—(*"James Earl Ray"* cont'd), W & E: James Earl Ray (henceforth JER); HSCA interview of Alexander Anthony Eist, retired Scotland Yard detective; HSCA staff report, "Compilation of the Statements of JER" (100 pps.—GPO #052-070-04628-7); Mrs. Ethel Peters, Piedmont laundry counter-clerk; Coy Dean Cowden, alleged Ray alibi witness; Ernestine Johnson, HSCA staff investigator, re: HSCA interview of Harvey Locke; Lawrence E. McFall and Philip T. McFall, Memphis Texaco station owner-operators.

### November Hearings

9th—(*"The Admissions of JER"*), W & E: Opening statements of Reps. Stokes and Fauntroy; Alexander Anthony Eist; Narration, "Circumstances of Corroboration." (*"Science"*), W & E: Narration, "Science"; HSCA ballistics panel—Monty Lutz, Donald Champagne, John Bates, Jr., Andrew Newquist, Russell Wilhelm and George Wilson.

10th—(*"Ray's Motives"*), W & E: Narration, "Possible Criminal Motives of JER"; Taped HSCA interview with Manuela Acuirre Medrano, a Mexican prostitute in 1967 who knew JER. (*"Security Stripping"*), W & E: Narration, "Official Complicity in Memphis"; Edward Redditt, former Memphis detective; Frank Holloman, former Memphis Director of Fire and Safety.

13th—(*"Security Stripping"* cont'd), W & E: Narration, "CB Radio Broadcasts" and "Cutting Down of Trees Behind 422½ South Main Street." (*"Escape and Capture"*), W & E: Edward Evans, HSCA Chief Investigator, re: "Aliases"; Narration, "Conspiracy to Silence?—JER's Guilty Plea"; Percy Foreman, former attorney for JER; Phil N. Canale, former District Attorney for Shelby County, Tennessee; Dr. McCarthy DeMere, attending physician to JER during his Memphis incarceration.

14th—(*"Grace Walden"*), W & E: William L. Striggley, former Memphis Police officer; Dr. David F. Moore, supervising psychiatrist at John Gaston Hospital, Memphis (1968); C. Cleveland Drennon, former Assistant Attorney for Shelby County, who was appointed Grace Walden's guardian (1968); Dr. James R. Druff, superintendent of Western State Mental Hospital (WSMH) (1967-69); Dr. Jack C. Neale, III, superintendent of WSMH (1969-73); Dr. Morris Cohen, superintendent of WSMH (1976-78); HSCA Report of Dr. Roger Peele, HSCA psychiatric expert; Duncan Ragsdale (Memphis attorney) and Mark Lane, current co-guardians of Grace Walden.

15th—(*"Ray's Finances"*), W & E: Edward Evans, HSCA Chief Investigator, "Staff Report—JER's Finances."

17th—(*"FBI and COINTELPRO"*), W & E: Opening statement Rep. Fauntroy re: Allegations made by Mark Lane; Andrew Young, US Ambassador to the UN; Brady Tyson, assistant to Andrew Young; Stoney Cooks, executive assistant to Andrew Young; Affidavits of Daniel Ellsberg and Rev. James Lawson; Narration, "Security and COINTELPRO"; Arthur Murtaugh, former Atlanta FBI agent; James Rose, former Atlanta FBI agent; Charles D. Brennan, former chief of the FBI's Internal Security Section of the Domestic Intelligence Division (1968); George C. Moore, former chief of the FBI's Racial Intelligence Section of the DID (1968); HSCA deposition of Theron Rushing, former FBI supervisor of the Racial Intelligence Section (1968).

20th—(*"FBI Complicity and the Invaders"*), W & E: Marrell McCullough, former undercover Memphis policeman; Calvin Taylor, former member of the Invaders; John B. Smith and Charles L. Cabbage, founders of the Black Organizing Project of Memphis and former Invaders.

21st—(*"FBI Field Office and FBI Contact with JER"*), W & E: William Lawrence, retired Memphis FBI agent assigned in 1967-68 to the security investigation of MLK; Robert Jensen, retired SAC Memphis (1967-70), Narration, "FBI Contact with JER."

27th—(*"FBI"*), W & E: Narration, "MURKIN Staff Report"; Cartha De Loach, former FBI Assistant Director (1965-70); Statement by Rep. Stokes, "Did The FBI Kill MLK, Jr.?"; HSCA Staff Report, "An Analysis of the Performance of the Department of Justice and the FBI."

28th—(*"Justice Department"*), W & E: Ramsey Clark, former US Attorney General (1967-69); Stephen Pollak, Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Rights Division (1967-69).

29th—(*"Conspiracy Theories"*), W & E: Opening Statement of Rep. Stokes; Narration, "Conspiracy Theories—Out of Many, One To Consider"; Russell George Byers, St. Louis man offered \$50,000 to kill MLK in 1968; Judge Murray Randall, former attorney of Russell Byers; Lawrence Weenick, former attorney of Russell Byers; Edward Evans, HSCA Chief Investigator, "Investigative Report: St. Louis Conspiracy."

30th—(*"Jerry Ray"*), W & E: Jerry Ray, brother of JER, accompanied by counsels Florence Kennedy and William Pepper.

### December Hearings

1st—(*"John Ray"*), W & E: John Ray, brother of JER, accompanied by counsel James H. Lesar and investigator Harold Weisberg; Freddie Philips, owner of the Southern Motel, Corinth, Mississippi; Closing Statements of Reps. Fauntroy and Stokes.



Daniel originally offered his film to the Dallas sheriff's department in 1963 shortly after the assassination. The DPD decided it wasn't significant evidence and returned it to him. In late 1978, one of his sons encouraged him to contact the FBI, which he did. FBI agents received the film and sent it to Washington. On December 28 the HSCA requested a copy.

One general misconception has developed about the film due to an inaccurate report in the *Denver Post* (2/8/79), which first broke the story. The *Post* reported that the film clearly showed the grassy knoll and might reveal a puff of smoke coming from there. Both of these facts left the erroneous impression in the minds of many readers that the Daniel film might be principle evidence of a second gunman on the knoll.

Looking through the underpass tunnel, Daniel's camera could see some of the plaza on the other side. However, *none* of the grassy knoll is visible. "The *Post* got the story wrong, because it does not show the knoll at all," Sigalos told the AIB. "As far as smoke, what happened is that Bob Groden had the original and there have been some copies made, and on the copies there appears to be some sort of a haze coming across the grassy area on the middle of the plaza as you are looking underneath the underpass."

Groden thinks "it is just an illusion. One of Daniel's boys was waving his hand very, very rapidly [at JFK's limousine] and his hand becomes a blur and it makes the area in the background appear a little bit lighter. There's no one who wants that to be a puff of smoke from a gun more than me, but most likely it's not. I think it's just a waving hand."

Sigalos adds, "It'll be studied more to be sure what it is. But you can't see the grassy knoll, and it would have to be a cannon going off to see smoke drifting over that far from the knoll."

—J.G.

## RECOMMENDED READING

1. *The Search for the Manchurian Candidate* by John Marks, New York Times Books, 1979.
2. "The Assassination Tangle" by Tracy Kidder, *Atlantic Monthly*, March, 1979.
3. "Press Contortions: Still Denying A JFK Conspiracy," editorial in *Inquiry*, 3/5/79.
4. "The Missing CIA Man" by Tad Szulc, *New York Times Magazine*, 1/7/79; the facts on the mysterious death of John Paisley.
5. "The Spy Who Never Was" by Joe Trento, *Penthouse*, March 1979; a good companion piece to the Szulc article (above).

## HSCA Chief Counsel on JFK

SPEECH BY G. ROBERT BLAKEY

(January 25, 1979; Plaza Hotel, New York City;  
To the Cornell University Law School Alumni Meeting)

Mr. Justice Holmes once observed that the first requirement of a theory is that it fit the facts. He didn't add it, but I suppose he would not object if I said what he really meant was, the first requirement of a good theory was that it fit all the facts, and not just some of the facts. One of the great problems with the Kennedy case is that people have taken some of the facts and fit them to a particular theory and suggested that it was the truth.

What really happened in Dealey Plaza on November 22, 1963, is a very troublesome question, because what happened there not only happened in Dallas, it happened in Washington. I dare say that there are very few of you who could not tell me if I asked you where you were that day. Some of you that are a little older could probably tell me where you were December 7, too. Those two days we remember.

My problem when I got down to the committee some 18 months ago was how to figure out what, if anything, a congressional committee, not a grand jury, not an executive police agency, could add to the tragedy, except complicate it. I recognize, as I'm sure many if not most of you do, that fact-finding 15 years after an event is difficult if not impossible. As I am sure you would remember or at least think you remember when you tell me where you were on November 22, ask yourself honestly, are you telling me where you were or are you now telling me the story that you tell about where you were? Now that story is not false. It normally has a meaning to it and that simple meaning is true, but over time the details change. So one of the first things that we faced in an effort to try to find out what happened in Dealey Plaza is that the witnesses' testimony was no longer valid. Frankly, it offered little hope of settling very difficult questions. Consequently, we hit on a strategy of looking not to people but to science and files.

Let me speak for a moment about files first. There is a myth, I suppose actually promulgated by the investigative agencies, that they know everything. It's widely believed that the truth of the Kennedy assassination is somehow locked up in the FBI, or more particularly the CIA's files. One of the first things we found, my friends at the CIA will forgive me if I say it publicly, is that the reason they classify information is not to hide things from you, but rather to hide how little they know both from us and the Russians. The answer to the Kennedy case is not in the CIA files. We ranged wide and deep in those files. The agency gave the Select

## HSCA HEARINGS Schedule and Witnesses Called

(Below is the complete witness and subject schedule for the December HSCA hearings. Each day's subject heading [italicized and in quotes] was assigned by the HSCA.)

### December Hearings-

11th— ("*Prevention of Assassinations and Legislative Recommendations*") Witnesses and Exhibits (henceforth, "W&E"): Opening statement, Chairman Stokes; William Webster, FBI Director; Frank Carlucci, Deputy Director of CIA.

12th— ("*Prevention of Assassination and Legislative Recommendations*") W&E: H.S. Knight, Director of the Secret Service; Benjamin R. Civiletti, Deputy Attorney General; Chairman Stokes, closing remarks.

29th — ("*Acoustics Revisited*"), W&E: Chairman Stokes, opening statement; Narration, "Acoustics Evidence Refined"; Professors Mark Weiss and Ernest Aschkenasy, HSCA acoustic consultants; Officer H.B. McLain, Dallas Police Department; Dr. James A. Barger, HSCA acoustic consultant, Bolt, Beranek, and Newman, Cambridge, MA.; Narration, "Medical and Trajectory Evidence"; Showing of the Zapruder film with synched DPD tape; Summary of Dr. Michael Baden's findings on the medical evidence by Chief Counsel Blakey; Summary of findings of Thomas Canning, HSCA trajectory consultant, by Chief Counsel Blakey; Chief Counsel Blakey, final statement; Chairman Stokes, closing remarks.

