

SELECT COMMITTEE TO HOLD OPEN PUBLIC  
HEARINGS - FULL MEDIA COVERAGE DOUBTFUL

by Ted Gandolfo

The House Select Committee on Assassinations Chairman, Louis Stokes, went to the floor of the House of Representatives on June 26, 1978 to announce the schedule of open public hearings to be held by the Select Committee to (in his words) "in which the Committee intends to examine the evidence it has uncovered in both investigations".

Upon being apprised of this information, I personally contacted by phone, various news networks including CBS, NBC, ABC and others, including the Public Broadcasting Station in New York and Washington. They all said the same thing, that they did NOT intend to provide "live" coverage, as with Watergate, to the people, but that they merely intended to cover the proceedings as "straight" news stories in their network news broadcasts/telecasts.

As a direct result, the very same media outlets which have lied continuously about these murders for more than fourteen years will again be involved in the same kinds of suppressions of the relevant information and will again be a party to continued rapings of the rights of the people of the USA to know the TRUTH. For, it was the voices of millions upon millions of the people of this country, across the land, that demanded there be a Congressional Investigation of the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. And now, the major media has decided that there be no coverage of this most important event. I think it is therefore incumbent that these millions of people DEMAND from these networks that they reverse this odious decision of non-coverage.

Based on very recent and numerous conversations I had with Mark Lane, I am of the firm conviction that the Select Committee will sustain and perpetuate the cover-up which was first instilled and propagated by the Warren Commission. Lane told me that inside sources had told him that the Committee had already reached its conclusions: they are that Oswald was the lone assassin, but that he fired only TWO shots, not three, and that James Earl Ray WAS the assassin of King, but that he was aided and abetted financially by his brother, Jerry Ray.

With the contemptuous Robert Blakey as Chief Counsel, the Committee will closely adhere to the so-called "investigations" of the past, and therefore, there may be little hope of the truth in these cases being made known to the people. But the public should be granted the opportunity of watching and hearing everything that transpires when the Select Committee goes public, so that they will be fully informed of the deceptions and obfuscations of truth which emanate from its chambers!

Therefore, I am calling upon EVERYONE to write to their representatives in Congress, and to the major media network stations, demanding that there be coverage of ALL of these hearings.

Only if and when the voices of the people rise and are heard can we avert the contemplated "BLANKET OF SILENCE" by the establishment media. The right to know is an all-consuming one and should permeate our entire society.

Remember - Watergate was just the tip of the iceberg!



Three pictures and two drawings released by the Assassinations Committee of the House of Representatives investigating the murders of President Kennedy and the Rev. Martin Luther King. The committee would like to contact the men concerning their inquiries.



"Maurice Bishop"



"Ralph"

This news article was published in the Daily Telegraph on August 1, 1978.

Unfortunately, the original drawings and photographs were rather fuzzy and unclear and our subsequent reproduction has made them even more so! It is, however, apparent that the left-hand photograph depicts "The Umbrella Man" (see our No.25 issue) seated in Dealey Plaza after the shooting. This must be a newly-discovered picture showing him full-face.

We do not recognize any of the other characters although the drawing of "Maurice Bishop" (the correct name is actually "Morris Bishop") does bear a very strong resemblance to "Dr Peters" who was interviewed in the recent BBC TV documentary produced by Anthony Summers, "The Kennedy Cover-up".

If our readers can help with identification please tell us!

## Kennedy inquiry may call Ford as witness

By **STEPHEN BARBER** in Washington

**JAMES EARL RAY**, serving a life sentence for the murder in 1968 of the Rev. Martin Luther King, might appear at a Washington public inquiry later this month, while former President Gerald Ford could also be a witness at a similar hearing in September.

The public hearings of the House of Representatives' Select Committee on Assassinations concern the Memphis murder of the black civil rights leader and the killing in Dallas in 1963 of President Kennedy.

At the weekend the committee issued photographs and sketches of people it wishes to contact concerning its inquiries. The reaction of most Americans — officials included — is that the trials in both crimes are too cold by now to produce much that is new, but interest dies hard. There are still people who argue passionately about the assassination of President Lincoln, 115 years ago.

The committee opens its first round of public hearings in a fortnight's time into the Assassination of Dr King and is to follow in September with hearings on the killing of President Kennedy.

### Grassy knoll

After spending \$15 million and about 39,000 man days on its investigations, the committee, which is chaired by Representative Louis Stokes of Ohio, is under some pressure to produce some fresh tidbits, even if nothing very substantial has yet been turned up.

There was no explanation yesterday on why the committee released the five pictures so close to the beginning of open hearings, especially since it expects to complete its final report by the end of this year.

One of the pictures is of

a young, blond man wearing a wind-cheater. The other is of an older man with grey bushy hair and the third, according to the committee, was taken in Dealey Plaza in Dallas, through which Mr Kennedy was passing in his open presidential Lincoln when he was killed.

The features of the man in the Dealey Plaza picture, are indistinct, but it happens that he was photographed sitting on the grassy knoll overlooking the scene of the assassination. Since one of the prevalent rumours is that there was a second gunman taking aim at Mr Kennedy from close to that vantage point, presumably this man could be sought as a witness.

The other sketch purports to be that of a man identified only as "Ralph," who allegedly was in Atlanta in 1967 or 1968. The committee had subpoenaed two brothers who were allegedly offered money to kill Dr King. Rumour now has it that "Ralph" may have been an intermediary for those who offered the bribe.

Investigators are also reported to be tracing funds that flowed through the bank accounts of Ray's brothers and sister, which might explain how he managed to finance his post-assassination wanderings, which took him to London, Brussels and Lisbon as he tried to escape into anonymity as a mercenary in Africa.

The assassinations committee's public hearings next month could be quite a show. It is contemplated that Ray may be brought to Washington from his maximum security prison to testify behind a bullet-proof glass shield.

Our first two items this month may give the impression that the Select Committee in Washington is beginning to waken? Until we have some positive evidence to the contrary we continue to view the "investigation" with a very cynical eye. Of course we will be very pleased to have to eat our words but it does appear that Congress does not possess the firm resolution to want to uncover the true facts surrounding the JFK and MLK assassinations.

At this stage here are the details we have regarding the imminent commencement of the Public Hearings:

The schedule contemplates holding approximately 20 days of hearings into each assassination. The first five days (August 14-18) are planned on the Martin Luther King case. On September 7 the next set of hearings will begin. They will continue each weekday throughout the month of September and will concentrate on the JFK assassination. At the end of the Kennedy hearings the Committee will re-commence the King investigation. These will run from November 9 to December 1 except for a short break for Thanksgiving holidays.

Later in December, from 12-15, there will be four Public Meetings to discuss and resolve the issues that have been presented during the investigations.

The Final Printed Report is expected before the end of 1978.

We hope to keep a watching brief on the hearings as they develop and will attempt to keep you fully informed through these columns!

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#### BOOKNEWS

Over the past few issues, due to a lack of space, we have been unable to include our usual features on new material which has been published. We now aim to rectify the situation with all the information that we have received. It is a strange quirk that, as usual, the worthwhile items originate from small, obscure publishers and self-publishers while the "big-boys" of the publishing industry continue to supply us with the pro-Warren Commission viewpoints. There has to be a moral there, somewhere?

And We Are All Mortal by George Michael Evica.  
July 1978. 465 pages. \$7.95 (+ \$1.00 postage).  
University of Hartford. 200 Bloomfield Avenue. West Hartford. CT 06117.

George Michael Evica is to be congratulated on producing an excellent volume of new evidence and viewpoints which will be of immense value to students and researchers of the JFK assassination!

His book concentrates on two vital points. (1) An examination of the assassination rifle "the Mannlicher-Carcano" and Lee Harvey Oswald's links to it. He reviews the official case against Oswald, shows the FBI's testimony on the weapon aspect to be misleading, probes the intriguing first reports on the "Mauser" rifle found at the TSB and produces some new evidence which poses some very disturbing questions as to Oswald's innocence. (2) The second part of his work zeroes in on the Mafia/anti-Castro Cubans/CIA links and their apparent relevance in the plot which culminated in Dallas. The references to the mysterious Jack Ruby are especially chilling.

All in all an exciting read and highly recommended!

Very valuable are the 120-odd pages of source notes but one slight critique is the lack of a bibliography and the absence of illustrations as these would have rounded everything off.

Well, a small grumble, as we can't have everything.....

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In addition, the following two volumes relating to the medical aspect of the assassination and the wounds have recently appeared:

Wound Analysis by Jeffrey P. Hoyle  
March 1978. 42 pages. Illustrated. \$7.00 (+ \$2.00 Airmail to Europe).  
The Author. 37 Farnham Street. Fall River. MA 02720.

In this self-publication Jeff Hoyle sets out to examine the theories on the wounds to JFK and also to John Connally. Using the various reports from the Autopsy through to the Rockefeller Commission coupled with an investigation of the trajectories and firing points he attempts to discover if the medical evidence proves a lone assassin or a conspiracy.

Jeff has done some sterling work in this aspect and deserves your support to reward his efforts!

Medicolegal Investigation of the President John F. Kennedy murder by  
April 1978. 318 pages. Illustrated. \$14.95 + postage. Charles Wilber.  
Charles C. Thomas. Publisher. 301-327 East Lawrence Ave. Springfield. IL 62717.

It is really beyond the knowledge of this reviewer to give a basic critique of this academic volume by the Deputy Coroner of Larimer County, Colorado. Sufficient to say that, despite the high price, that this is a book which should be read by those who are SERIOUSLY interested in the medical aspects of the JFK murder. To date we have had serious articles by Doctors Wecht, Nichols and Latimer but this is the first book on this subject to my knowledge and, as such, it must set the standard for the future.

To the layman it is interesting in that it sets down the basic facts of the assassination and then proceeds to the medical treatment of the victim, the autopsy on the remains and then the Warren Commission and its conclusions. Dr Wilber then offers his critiques of the Rifle and Bullets, the non-fatal and the Head Wounds. His conclusions follow to end his account.

A valuable inclusion in this book is the COMPLETE inventory of the autopsy photographic and X-rays materials, which have been hidden from public view for nearly 15 years. When they become available we can look forward to Dr Wilber's sequel!

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THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME..... \*\*\* As the Select Committee cranks up for Public Hearings we can be sure to expect many new volumes to appear. Due soon are: Who was Jack Ruby? by Seth Kantor (Everest House \$10.95), Three Assassinations Volume 2 (Facts on File Inc. \$11.95) and Conspiracy Fever by Jacob Cohen (MacMillan \$10.95).

Later this year a paperback is scheduled from Fontana Books on this side of the Atlantic and Larry Harris tells me from Dallas that his study on the enigmatic murder of Policeman J.D. Tippitt is well advanced. The projected title is: Dallas. November 22, 1963. The other unsolved murder. We may also expect the English translation of a Japanese text by Nobuhiki Ochiai!

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