



**FORUM** is the monthly publication of the Washington State Citizens' Committee of Inquiry. Material in this newsletter may be published with credit to CCI. Free subscriptions are available on request. Address all correspondence to: CCI, P.O. Box 2221 Tacoma, Wash. 98401.

**ZAPRUDER FILM IS CONCLUSIVE**

In a sense, the Warren Commission Report is on trial in New Orleans. The actual indictment is specifically citing Clay Shaw for his alleged part in the assassination of President Kennedy on November 22, 1963.

The most startling and significant piece of evidence which District Attorney Jim Garrison has offered to the grand jury has been a copy of *Life's* Zapruder film. This is an 8mm motion picture film taken of the assassination.

The copy seen by the grand jury was identical to the original print viewed by the Warren Commission. The film was shown numerous times and at various speeds. The purpose was to study the effects of the fatal bullet which struck the President. What was found could not have been more obvious. The following are the comments of several members of the audience after having seen the Zapruder film.

Assistant District Attorney Andrew Scambra said that, "Kennedy could not have reacted so violently to a hard right to the head. Otherwise it is reminiscent of watching a boxer driven back and out by a tremendous blow. The shot came from the right front. No one who sees the film can doubt it. I guess that's why no one can see it."

Louis Ivon, Garrison's chief investigator, said, "I can't see how the Commission could have come to the conclusion that there was a lone assassin in the Book Depository building when it is so obvious that the man was hit from the front. I ask myself, did they fail to look at the film or completely disregard it as evidence."

And O'Brien Elliott, who is an independent film expert, comments, "It is conclusive evidence that the shot came from the grassy knoll. There is no question but that it could not have originated from the Book Depository. I think the film should not be withheld from President Johnson, by President Johnson, until 2039. I think he should see it tomorrow."

What Elliott is referring to is President Johnson's concealment of numerous documents of conclusive evidence, including the medical autopsy and numerous photographs, all placed under a "secret" classification which will not expire until the year 2039 A.D.

When the press asked the President why he had locked up this information until that specific year, he said, "By the year 2039 A.D. all those who were living at the time of President Kennedy's assassination will be dead. Then, when the information is revealed, no one will be hurt by what is found."

But who is Big Brother protecting? If there was a CIA conspiracy, or for that matter if there were any others involved in Kennedy's death—and miscellaneous data seemingly ignored by the Warren Commission indicates there was—then they will also be dead, more than likely from natural causes and not from due process of law. Is this what Americans call justice under a democratic constitution?

In seeking a true perspective on the events surrounding Kennedy's death, we, as conscientious citizens, seek only the truth with regard to this tragedy.

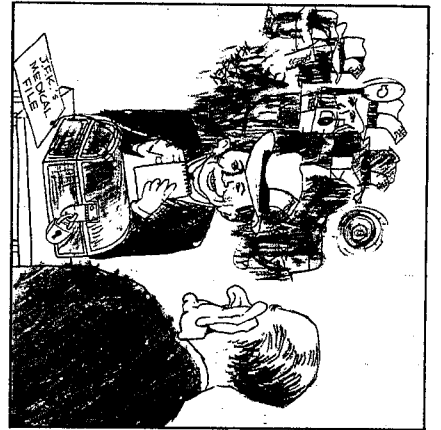
If there is nothing to be inferred within the Warren Commission Report and if Oswald did act alone in this murder, then would not an unbiased, non-government agency of professionally competent criminologists reach the same conclusions as did the Commission after reviewing all available evidence, including that locked up until 2039?

The sentiment is growing for such a review to be conducted, and you can do your part to become an informed, responsible citizen in this regard. The Washington State Chapter of the Citizens' Committee of Inquiry (CCI) will be active until some tangible conclusions have been reached. The CCI's address is 7001 106th St., E., Puyallup, Washington 98371. It should be noted that the CCI is not merely a local organization; it is nationwide in its effort to resolve the truth.

Join them today and help restore our waning democracy. The alternative is to be backslide as many of us are doing today, and to relegate our privileges to those in Washington who pass upon policy and designate what information we will be allowed to receive.

When this happens, when the voice of the citizenry loses its representation, democracy will have died. □

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"Mr. President, why are you concealing this conclusive evidence until the year 2039 A.D.?"

"Because by that time all those who were living at the time of the assassination will be dead. Then when the information is released, no one will be hurt by what is found."

**Pressing the Issue**

EDD A. JEFFORDS, State Chairman

The recent tragic murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, coupled with the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King, has elicited new interest in the possibility of a single, wide-spread conspiracy to kill anyone who dares speak out against racism and global warfare. Still, however, when there is definite evidence of a conspiracy at least in one assassination—that of President John F. Kennedy—the mass media tends to ignore it.

As Mark Lane pointed out in his new book, *A Citizen's Dissent*, much, if not most, of the blame for this attitude can be placed not with any grand government directive, but with individual newsmen themselves. Most news-men apparently would rather accept a spoon-fed government handout (i.e. the Warren Report), than dig into the matter themselves and find the truth. As Lane also illustrated, most reporters are aware of what line their publications prefer on a given issue and adhere to that policy.

An excellent example of irresponsible press coverage is the Garrison Probe in New Orleans. After a brief flurry of news reports when the investigation first came to light, most newspapers, including the wire services, dropped all follow-up accounts. For whatever reasons, the decisions of the individual publications appear to have been their own. Outside of direct covert government intervention, there is no other way to explain the lack of published news as the probe continued and even produced convictions.

Whether or not Garrison eventually will prove his case in court is not the issue. The point is that much new and important evidence was first brought to light in his investigation and men were indicted by grand juries for the murder of our president. What should have been the story of the decade was ignored or relegated to the back pages. If the press is to regain its respect as a check on the government and protector of the public interest, it must re-evaluate its position on a four-year-old murder. Editorial writers and columnists cannot continue to call for an end to crime and violence in the streets without noting that the murderers of John Kennedy still are free.

FORUM is one of very few publications attempting to give continuous coverage to new and significant developments in the JFK assassination case—but we would like nothing more than to be put out of business by well-meaning, informed, and truth-serving commercial media.

**Photo of Roy Near JFK Slaying?**

NEW YORK (AP)—The head of a research group looking into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy said today a photograph of a man arrested near the assassination scene in Dallas just after the shooting strongly resembles a sketch of James Earl Ray, in the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

John P. Galt, a Canadian actor who says he is a member of the newly reconstituted Kennedy assassination inquiry Committee, compared the sketch and the photograph and said, "It's identical." They both show a long-nosed, thin-lipped man.

The photograph is of one of three men arrested in a railroad freight yard in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963—the day Kennedy was slain. The man was described as drunk at the time.

Galt said the three men were arrested by Dallas Police Sgt. Duane Matthews and were taken to the police station. He said, "There is positive identification of any of the three."

**REFERENCE**

- MARK LANE, *Rush To Judgment*, 1966, 478pp., \$5.95; *A Citizen's Dissent*, 1968, 290pp., \$6.95. Holt,
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- STYLVA WEAHER, *Subject Index to the Warren Report and Hearings and Exhibits*, 1966, 150pp., \$4.
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- JOSIAH THOMSON, *Six Seconds in Dallas*, 1967, 233pp., \$5.95.

**INTERVIEW:**

**Garrison Comments on Lane**



James, Rosemary & Jack Wardlaw, *Plot or Politics? The Garrison Case and Its Cast*. Pelican Publishing House, Maritime Bldg., New Orleans. 167pp., \$1.75.

**BOOK REVIEW**

By George Renner

The authors are reporters for The New Orleans States-Item who have been covering the Garrison investigation from the start. In fact, it was Mrs. James who broke the story. The core of the book, therefore, consists of information which appeared in the New Orleans Press. Most of this was ignored by media elsewhere. This book is one of the few available sources containing an account of any substantial portion of the events in New Orleans.

The book apparently is about one year old. It appears to have been written last summer shortly after the conviction of Dean Andrews for perjury. While much has happened since then, the "Garrison thesis" already was established and most of the key figures in the investigation were public knowledge.

The book is full of background information, photographs and human interest. A very useful appendix purports to list all persons connected with the probe.

The authors neither praise or condemn. Their conclusions are cautious, even tentative. Able journalists, they have an interesting story before them and, at least when the book was written, took pains not to disclose possible future developments.

**We need \$**

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