

"The Case For Conspiracy: Fact or Fiction?"

Russ Trunzo vs. Edward S. Butler

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JIM CONWAY: We're about to witness an interesting confrontation between two gentlemen who were kind enough to join us this morning. First of all, Mr. Russ Trunzo, freelance writer and reporter; and Mr. Ed Butler, a man with a unique profession, he calls himself ^A Conflict Manager. Mr. Butler and Mr. Trunzo. (APPLAUSE)

WE have entitled this the ~~X~~ Case for Conspiracy: Fact or Fiction.

First of all, let me give you just a little background. Mr. Trunzo is currently associated with Warren Report critic Harold Weisberg and is gathering material for Mr. Weisberg's latest book. Now, Mr. Weisberg has been on the program. Mr. Trunzo is the author of a series of articles ^{APPEARING} in the Roosevelt University newspaper; the series is titled Who Killed Malcolm X? Now, Mr. ~~Trunzo~~ Trunzo, and correct me if I'm wrong, ^{RUSS,} says that Malcolm was killed by the CIA, he also indicates that the CIA was involved in the assassinations of President Kennedy, Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy.

Mr. Ed Butler is a Conflict Manager, and ~~we~~ we'll get him to define that term a little bit later. His main effort is to combat Communism in Latin America with revolutionary techniques of agitation and propoganda. He's the founder of the Information Council of the Americas and organizer ^{OF} the Student Committee on Conflict; author of Revolution is My Profession; and 3 months before the assassination of President Kennedy he debated Lee Harvey

First of all, Mr. Trunzo, am I correct in saying what I said, the fact that you claim ^{That} the CIA was involved in the death of Malcolm X...

TRUNZO: Essentially yes. Our contention is - my contention is, that the CIA paid Talmudge Hayer \$3,000 to assassinate Malcolm X. Talmudge Hayer confessed at the trial - the murder trial of the 3 accused assassins that he had been paid \$3,000 by someone, he said the man was not a Muslim, the newspapers said that Elijah Muhammeds's Muslims had killed Malcolm.

CONWAY: Why would they want to do such a thing?

TRUNZO: ^{well,} Malcolm X, in the last year of his life, most people are not aware of this because there's been a strong propoganda effort ~~made~~ done to change the image of Malcolm X. In the last year of his life, Malcolm X was involved in a monumental campaign to take the problem of black people in America before the United Nations.

He was having some succes in ^{This} ~~it~~. And the United States was about to be brought up before the United Nations for its treatment. ^{And-- Ah--} Because of this the State Department and the Central Intelligence Agency became very worried ~~about him~~ about him and felt it was ~~max~~ necessary to eliminate him.

CONWAY: ^{well,} What about the charge that the CIA ~~was~~ ^{WAS} connected somehow with the assassinations President Kennedy and Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy.

TRUNZO: On that, to say that the CIA was connected with it is, in fact, an oversimplification. I believe

that they were connected with it, ^{BUT} ~~that~~ they were connected with it through their right wing contacts. And that right wingers who were on the payroll of the Central Intelligence Agency, including Lee Harvey ~~OS~~ Oswald, were in fact involved in the assassination of John Kennedy and also had plans going to assassinate Martin Luther King. Now, on the question of Robert Kennedy, a lot of this is still to be determined but we can see in a few little things, the same cast of characters reappearing.

CONWAY: ^{Gosh, That's --} To me, it's a horrifying concept. It's a continental European concept because I've heard similar things said in Europe.

Mr. Butler, I don't think you buy any of this.

BUTLER: No, as a matter of fact, Jim, I think it's a fabrication out of the whole cloth which was started, strangely enough, on the Saturday after President Kennedy's assassination as far as that incident was ^{BY Fidel CASTRO,} ~~concerned~~ concerned. He went on the air for 3 hours and broadcast at length many of the things that Mr. Weisberg later picked up.

I had an opportunity to confront Mr. Weisberg for an hour on the JOE PINE Show and many of the things he said then left a great deal, ~~asking~~ I think, to be desired about this theory. One of the basic points that they made and continue to make was that Oswald was a double agent. A CIA agent in disguise, and I pointed out to Mr. Weisberg,

who admitted, although he had written 5 books on the subject, that he hadn't read the 10 million words in the full Warren Commission Report; I pointed out to him that one of Weisberg's childhood companions, a ~~familiar~~^{friend} named William E. Wolf, had testified that he knew Oswald, and Oswald was a communist when he was 15 years old and that, as a matter of fact, his father had thrown him out of the house at 15. Now, I asked Mr. Weisberg if he thought that the CIA was recruiting from junior high schools, ~~when~~ he was at a loss for words. Later on we produced some other evidence I think might be interesting to your audience, I don't know if we can get it on camera, but this is ~~an~~ an article from a little magazine *That* I do called the Westwood Village Square out in California.

Here's a ~~xx~~ letter from Lee Harvey Oswald to the Socialist ~~Party~~ Party of the United States, he says, "Dear Sirs: I am 16 years of age and I would like some information about your Youth League. I would ~~be~~ like to know if there is a branch in my area, how to join, etc. I am a Marxist, have been studying socialist principles for well over 15 months and I am very interested in the Young People's Socialist League, Sincerely, Lee H. Oswald."

Mr. Trunzo, in an article ^{*That*} he did recently, and I just happened to have it with me, ~~xx~~ cites Harold Weisberg, which to me is like -- well, I won't even go

into that, but anyway he cites Mr. Weisberg to the effect that the only evidence of Oswald's ~~connections~~ connections at all with anybody are that he was anti-Castro and that he was a CIA agent, and I don't have time to quote it, maybe Mr. Trunzo would like to quote it himself but the point is that the whole thing is just a fabrication from the whole cloth which matches Fidel Castro's immediate statements on the assassination.

I'd also like to point out, ^{That--} and this is really the terrifying thing, that Castro was attacking President Kennedy viciously and continually. Constantly before the assassination. He called him the ~~Evil~~ Batista of our times, he called him a ~~scumbag~~ ^{CRETIN}, he called him every name he could think of. I think that the basic thing that the American public has got to understand - that these ^{words ARE} ~~were~~ the weapons. That they can stimulate and incite violence and I think to some extent you've seen that happen right in your own city. Saying a thing is just propoganda is like ~~xx~~ saying it's just an Hbomb.

CONWAY: ^{well,} Do ~~xx~~ you feel in ~~xx~~ your heart, and I'm not going into the technical background, do you feel that Lee Harvey Oswald was part of a communist conspiracy or was he just a person who had been inflamed let's say by Castro's propoganda.

BUTLER: Well, Jim, when I knew Oswald, he was a propoganda addict, and I think that this is a point

that I believe most Americans can't understand. But Oswald traveled with his own surroundings ^{of} propoganda, his own underground newspapers, his own pamphlets. I'll never forget one time I mentioned a sentence in a pamphlet by a fella named Carlos L'Aimant (?) called the Crime Against Cuba, which Oswald had given me before the show, and Oswald said, yes, but you're not quoting the beginning and the end of it. And he went on to read the first page that preceeded that question - not read it but spout it verbatim - and then finish up with the end of the ~~king~~ thing. He had it ~~axx~~ almost committed to memory. He was that deeply involved in the thing.

And since then I've been in many, many confrontations with kids around the country - many of whom belong to SDS, I brought a little piece of paper here which one of the ~~kds~~ ^{that} we work with got this before he left, and this might give you an answer about conspiracy ~~shunt~~ and so forth. It was found on his windshield at San Fernando Valley State College, and he was one of the kids that ^{had} been fighting the SDS there, and as you know, it says: Stop, or we will stop you. SDS. This is simple storm trooper tactics as far as I'm concerned and we're not going to ^{be} ~~muzzled~~ or ~~sixxxx~~ silenced or quieted by these guys at all, or intimidated.

CONWAY: ^{we is} Russy is building up a head of steam here we'll give him a ~~shunt~~ chance to rebut after this message.

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CONWAY: ONce again back to the case for conspiracy, Fact or Fiction. Russ Trunzo and Mr. Ed Butler. Russ you were about to rebut some of Mr. Butler's comments I think.

TRUNZO: Well, according to the best evidence that the Warren Commission could ~~see~~ develop, they could find no living, breathing, ~~a~~ leftist in the City of New Orleans that Lee Harvey Oswald ever had ~~any~~ connections ~~with~~. In File 6 of the archives, now this ~~is~~ ^{was} not reprinted in the Warren Report, but it's in the ~~see~~ archives, File 6, page 463, is an FBI report that says all Communist party ~~a~~ sources and leftist Cuban sources ~~in~~ in ~~the~~ New Orleans have no knowledge of anyone named Lee Harvey Oswald ~~a~~ nor anyone going by the name of Hidel ~~which~~ ^{That} was the alias that Oswald was supposed to have used, and they know nohting about a fair Play for Cuba Committee Chapter in New Orleans. The only people who seem to have been acquainted with Lee Harvey Oswald are Mr. Butler, Carlos ^{BRINGUIER} ~~BRINGUIER~~ and a few other right wingers from New Orleans.

BUTLER: Well, Russ, let's just take that as a starting point, because I think it's a perfect example of Mr. Weisberg's technique and I hate to see you using it but since you have let's go right into it. There is a great deal of conflicting information in the Warren Commission

as you know, there are 10 and 1/2 million words in the report, it was put together like an enormous encyclopaedia, you can find information that contradicts or supports any viewpoint that you want.

There are letters direct from Cuba saying that Lee Harvey Oswald was ~~xxxx~~ associated in a conspiracy with Fidel Castro, Cuban postmarks [✓] on them and so forth that the Warren Commission received. There are also testimony ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ by a Lieutenant Martello (?) to the fact ~~that~~ that there were ~~x~~ meetings for the Fair Play for Cuba Committee which Oswald may have been associated with in New Orleans on ~~at~~ ~~xx~~ Pine Street at a Professor's house.

There are all sorts of bits of information in the Warren Commission hearings that could lead to any point of view. I think the real ~~point~~ point in all of this is that people like Mr. Weisberg and his associate Mr. Trunzo, ^{here} take parts of the Warren Commission report and put absolute faith in it. ^{They say we'll} quote to you and read to you as he did here. ~~And~~ And then they say the government that put the thing together was a pack of liars, murderers, assassins and so forth and they don't believe the rest of it. So either you're ~~x~~ going to believe it all or you're not going to believe any of it. Or you can admit what it actually is, is a report which includes all kinds of contradictory evidence ... FINALLY... (APPLAUSE)...thank you. This is the last thing and I think it's really very important. IN CASE YOU DON'T

communications it's not necessary to corner a man in a closet and whisper to him, "~~Go~~ kill ~~such~~ such and such." You know that's not needed at all. You get on a television show and broadcast inflammatory material, ~~ex~~ say your government is a pack of assassins and liars, and some people out there are going to be kooky enough to ~~eg~~ ^{go} out and start killing people. And I think ^{IT'S} that this kind of an irresponsibility and stupidity on many people's parts ^{That} have caused a great deal of the terror that's visited on this country today. And I think the American public is about sick and tired of it and we're going to put a stop to it. At least I'm speaking as one square.

(APPLAUSE)

BUTLER: Thank you.

~~TRUNZO~~

TRUNZO: Well, I'd just like to point~~xxx~~ out that I believe that the Warren Commission, obviously, has a lot of conflicting testimony in it. For example, the point that you made about the professor. THIS professor's name was Risemann. ^{At the time ~~the~~ when Martello ~~it~~ said that Lee Harvey Oswald attended meetings at his house on Pine Street, Professor Risemann was in fact on a year's sabbatical ~~from~~ ^{at} Stanford University. He wasn't even in New Orleans in that year. And what is strangely ~~devoid~~ is - in the Warren Commission Report we ~~ifindno~~ mention of any right wing plot to assassinate John Kennedy.}

BUTLER: "That's Right."

Now, on November 2nd, 1963, John Kennedy was scheduled to come to Chicago to see the Army-Navy football game. A man named Thomas Vallee was arrested by the Chicago police. The Chicago police had been watching him at the request of the Secret Service. They picked him up on November 2nd with a knife and 2,000 rounds of ammunition in his car. Because of his arrest, the White House called off Kennedy's trip to Chicago. Now, ~~his~~ this was not mentioned in the Warren ~~Commission~~ Report.

BUTLER: Think of it. They missed something. Isn't that awful.

TRUNZB: This was a Commission that was organized by the President to find out who killed the former president...

BUTLER: Good lord, Mr. this is a country of 200 million people, you're not going to -- it's 10 and 1/2 million words now, the thing costs \$78, it takes ^{--A--A} a great deal of strength to lug it around. They could have put in, I'm sure, every possible thing ~~in~~ in the world in it. They had - people's false teeth, ~~was~~ have impressions, they ~~akxx~~ all sorts of crazy things in it as it is. Look, the real real point is, you demonstrate to me, at any time, ^{AT} any point in history, any proof, and I've talked to Jim Garrison and I heard him for 3 hours go into a long harangue which was totally ~~inconclusive~~, ^{inconclusive}, as he has right now and tried to get out of this

trial in order to avoid it, I'm afraid. The big point of all of this is that Mr. Oswald was caught on the scene, he tried to kill a policeman, he had powder burns on his cheek, he was in trouble. And the -- the boy, as far as I'm concerned, had every reason to do it. Did you know Oswald?

TRUNZO: No.

BUTLER: I did. And I was fully prepared to argue with him on television, if he had been such a kook what was he doing there on the biggest talk show in New Orleans debating Castro's revolution with a couple of presumed experts -- not myself, but another guy who had made a walking tour through all of Latin America, who Oswald was holding his own with, and a Cuban refugee who had been a public defender in Cuba. Now how did the ~~my~~ guy get on there if he was just a kooky little CIA agent who was trying to establish a cover? He denied, and did his best, incidentally, ^{on that show} to deny he was a communist. He admitted he was a Marxist when he was backed against the wall.

In the very beginning of the show we had developed some information from various sources and worked like the devil to get it, in order to prove that Oswald had defected to Russia, something he had lied about, or at least debated in an ^{earlier} interview. When we got him into the show, we threw the thing at him in the very beginning of the thing -- of the interview -- and Oswald turned the thing around completely and very very succinctly said 'Listen, all that shows is that I have excellent qualifications to repudiate that the Fair Play For Cuba Committee is a Communist organization, cause I've been to Russia.' In other words, the guy was very clever, very astute, very dedicated to Castroism,

and he was no dupe, and he wasn't trying to -- ah -- ah --- establish a cover in any way. So what're you trying to tell these people?

TRUNZO: My question to you is why is it that in all the evidence gathered by the Warren Commission they could not locate the fact that there were at least two operable Right Wing plots, not Left Wing but Right Wing plots to assassinate John Kennedy, one in Chicago and one in the city of Miami, where Kennedy's trip to Miami they had to cancel the motorcade November 18th, they didn't cancel the motorcade November twenty-second, and John Kennedy was killed. In both Chicago and Maimi they were right wingers who were plotting to assassinate John Kennedy.

BUTLER: All right, and I think this really gets to the heart of the matter. From Castro's initial statement on the Saturday after the assassination when no evidence was in, to Mark Lane's five page article in the NATIONAL Guardian, which was printed, incidentally, less than a month after the assassination, he talked about people rushing to judgement, a lawyer's brief for Lee Harvey ~~OW~~ Oswald. Everybody on what is considered the far left has been trying to exonerate and exculpate themselves and alleviate this ~~gu~~ guilt. I think the first thing that has to be understood, is that these old fashioned terms coined during the French REvolution don't fit the American context anymore: right and left, liberal and conservative...

TRUNZO: You still haven't answered the question.

BUTLER: I'm trying to answer it as thoroughly as I can. I can't discover for you a right wing plot, I wish I could and make you feel better, but I can't.

TRUNZO: Well here's one right here.

BUTLER: Just a minute. The Warren Commission...

TRUNZO: Right there.

BUTLER: Thank you very much. What is this?

CONWAY: That's -- actually, I don't mean to take sides, that concerns the arrest of a man by the name of Vallee who was ~~for~~ found with a knife and two thousand rounds of ammunition.

What evidence of conspiracy do you find in that?

TRUNZO: Well...

CONWAY: If they come in my house they'll find a case of 12-gauge shotgun shells and a Marine machete...

TRUNZO: If -- if I can quote from here. Vallee was stopped for a traffic violation at Damen and Wilson where police found a hunting knife and two thousand rounds of ammunition in his car, and three weapons in his apartment. He was held by Summerdale Police until after President Kennedy had cancelled his trip to the Army-Air Force Football Game in Soldier Field. Valle said he returned to his native Chicago, etcetera, etcetera. His apartment contained John Birch society literature, a Goldwater button, and a fatigue cap he wore seven years in the Marines where he was awarded Purple Heart and Oak Leaf Cluster.

CONWAY: So from that you conclude that there was a Right Wing plot, is that correct?

TRUNZO: The Secret Service knew of this man's identity, they had asked the Chicago Police Department to watch him, this is cited in another newspaper article here.

CONWAY: I'll attest to it, I read it.

TRUNZO: And they -- they knew that this man was planning to assassinate the President, and when he was picked up with the ammunition in his car, the trip was canceled. Now, if he were

the only person involved why would they have to cancel the trip? He was in police custody. So they must have known that there were other people involved with him, otherwise once he was picked up by the police it would've been safe for the President to come to Chicago. But it wasn't, even after Vallee was arrested; therefore, there must've been other people with him.

BUTLER: All right, Russ, you brought this up, actually to me it's pretty the type of thing that Weisberg's been doing. But let's get into some actual evidence, ^{this is a letter} /which many (CAUGH) pardon me, which many Americans, I'm sure, have never seen. It's from Lee Harvey Oswald to the Communist Party, USA. It was written, one of six letters that he wrote to them and two or three replies he got, right around the debate that I had with him. This was done on August 28, 1963 --Oswald and I had the debate on the 21st.

He says, "Comrades," this was addressed to the Central Committee of the Communist Party, USA. It says, "Comrades, please advise me upon a problem of personal tactics. I've lived in the soviet Union from October, 1958 to July, 1962. I had in 1959 in Moscow tried to legally dissolve my United States' citizenship in favor of Soviet citizenship. However, I did not complete the legal formalities for this. Having come back to the United States in 1962 and thrown myself into the struggle for ~~peace~~ ^{Progress} and freedom in the United States. I want..." and then he goes on and asks for information and this part of it's illegible, let me go down here. "Can I continue to fight, handicapped, as it were, by my past record? Can I still, under these circumstances, compete with the anti-progressive forces," that's me, "Above ground, or whether,

in your opinion, I should always remain in the background, i.e. underground." ~~Now~~ Oswald concludes that "Here in New Orleans I am secretary of the local branch of the Fair Play For Cuba Committee, a position which, frankly, I've used to foster communist ideals. On a local radio show I was attacked by Cuban exile organization representative for my residence, etcetera, in the Soviet Union," that's me again. "I feel I may have compromised the Fair Play For Cuba Committee. So you see, ^{That} I need the advice of trusted, long time fighters for progress. Please advise, with fraternal greetings, sincerely, Lee H. Oswald."

Now Arnold Johnson, who turned over these letters to the FBI in order to avoid an investigation of all the Communist Party files, number three man in the Party in the United States, replied in this way: "Dear Mr Oswald," ^{This} ~~which~~ was September 19, 1963, "Your letter of August 28 to Elizabeth Gurley Flynn," she was number one in the Party, "Was turned over to me for reply. Since I received your letter of September 1st indicating that you were moving to Baltimore I suggest that when you do move ^{That} you get in touch with us here and we will find some way of getting in touch with you in that city. While the point you make about your residence in the Soviet Union may be utilized by some people I think you have to recognize that as ~~an~~ an American citizen who is now in this country you have a right to participate in such organizations as you want, but at the ~~the~~ same time there are a number of organizations, including possibly Fair Play which are of a very broad character. And often it is advisable for some people to remain in the background, not underground. I assume this is pretty much of an academic question now and we can discuss it later."

Now it seems to me that this is a direct link with Oswald. I wrote, and I didn't think...

CONWAY: Excuse me, I've got to move in, this is perfectly fascinating, and I'm sure it will continue in our wrap-up when both Mr. Butler and Mr. Trunzo will return.

* * *

CONWAY: Ah -- could I -- could I have a copy of Mr. Butler's book, please. Let's reintroduce everybody who's been on. First of all Russ Trunzo and Mr. Ed Butler, *The Case For Conspiracy Fact or Fiction*; and of course this pretty lady, Carmel Quinn, who's our cohostess this week, and we're delighted to have her. Edd Byrnes, starring at the Drury Lane Theater in *"Star Spangled Girl,"* Molly Wolfe brought us some fashions from Beeline, fashions for the budget-minded, and Roy Rasmus, talking about Finland, with some fascinating color film.

Mr. Trunzo, what do you hope to accomplish by accusing CIA of having something to do with these assassinations.

TRUNZO: Well, put this in a broader context. I've read Mr. Butler's book, I think it's a good book, if I were to go through it and cross out certain words and insert my own words I would agree with it entirely. We have both looked at the American situation, we both agree that there is something wrong, and that there is someone ~~who's~~ behind it. Now Mr. Butler's analysis is that it's the Left Wing and the Communist Conspiracy; my analysis is that it's the Right Wing and probably the Central Intelligence Agency and other Right Wing radicals who are involved in the United States Government. Now neither of us

is probably right. Somewhere between us is the truth.

But we could ~~arg~~ argue about Lee Harvey Oswald for two ^a days, we could ~~arg~~ argue about all these other things. But I think that what we all have to do in bringing up these issues is try to find a solution to the problems of the United States.

BUTLER: Well that's very well put...

CONWAY: Incidentally, I'll put your book right there, I beg your pardon.

BUTLER: I appreciate the compliment about the book. But ^{do} I think that there is a question of truth here, and ^{the} it can be determined, and that it's not a compromise between you and I, but what is the fact of the matter? The fact of the matter very very simply is that a great many people in Castro's Cuba were making a lot of noise, very , very unAmerican noise, and anti-President Kennedy noises.

I'd just like to close with one quick picture, and this is no recital and no reading, but I think it will demonstrate what I'm talking about. Just before Kennedy's assassination, about three months, actually, this newsletter was put out from ~~the~~ The Crusader. As you see, it shows Bobby Kennedy, President Kennedy, and J. Edgar Hoover as three monkeys with Swastikas up next to them, then Black people in chains beneath it, and "White Man's Kingdom" at the bottom. This is published in Havana by Robert F. Williams, publisher in exile.

BYRNES: He's an American? Ex-American?

BUTLER: Yeah, an ex-American Marine who was -- fled to Cuba. The real point is that these guys were ~~fixing~~ spreading a lot of hate propaganda, and they were doing it very irresponsibly.

I didn't hear the CIA doing that. I did hear people like Mr. Weisberg doing it.

One final thing I'd like to mention. I have never accused, made any blanket endorsement of Left or Right Wings, I think that sort of thing is absurd, it's nonsense. There is no relevance in today's life between right and left and that type of thing. The question is between tyrannists: those who believe in dictatorship and can condone that kind of thing, and those who believe in Freedom. And if you did read my book you know that I made that point over and over and over again. I'm as much against the Nazis and the Fascists as I am against the Communists. And the reason I'm against them is not because they're revolutionaries, but because they're counter-revolutionaries. They create the very opposite of the thing they claim they've been fighting for when they get into power.

And the final thing I'd like to say is that the United States was invaded by a tremendous amount of hate propaganda and it's still going on. And I hate to see people like you, who are, I'm sure, very very good-hearted, repeating a great many calumnies and untruths and things that do tend to discredit the government and destroy it without giving it any kind of credence.

TRUNZO: Well I would have much more respect for your ideas if I ever heard you be concerned about who killed about who killed Malcolm X; if I ever heard you be concerned about why it is that Robert Williams is in exile in Cuba. If you knew the circumstances behind which Robert Williams left the country perhaps you wouldn't be so critical. What I hear you ~~is~~ reciting is a continual White Anglo-Saxon Protestant American ideal.

BUTLER: I happen to be Irish Catholic.

(LAUGHTER)

CARMEL QUINN: You know what I think...

BYRNES: Why was -- oh excuse me...

QUINN: That's all right. Go ahead.

BYRNES: I was going to ask you, why was this man Williams exiled to Cuba?

TRU_NZO: Robert Williams organized a rifle club in Macon ~~and~~ Georgia, because the Ku Klux Klan had been raiding the Black section of Macon Georgia nightly. Robert Williams organized a rifle club and announced to the Klan that if they came into their section anymore there was going to be someone killed. For, I think ~~is~~ it was two weeks, the Black people sat on their ~~own~~ porches with their shotguns on their laps, and there was no trouble.

Now, a couple got out of a car ~~in~~ one night, a White couple got out of a car in the Black section, Robert Williams took them into his house to protect them from possibly being shot or beaten or whatever. And let them go the next morning. These people charged that Robert Williams had kidnapped them. It was a cut-and dried question: did you keep these people in your house overnight against their will? "Yes." Robert Williams is guilty of kidnapping, subject to go to a Southern jail, and he certainly wouldn't have come out of there alive. And this is when he fled the country.

BUTLER: Well, this is one story, I've never heard it told quite that way, but it was nice of Mr. Williams to take them in and protect them with his rifles and so forth, I'm sure they

enjoyed it. I don't know why it's being charged against me. It's
back, let's not get straight. Mr. Williams is a fanatic,
he's totally unbalanced and...

BYRNES: That's what he must be.

BUTLER: Oh, he is. He publishes -- you know, if you just
read -- have you ever read the Crusader?

TRUNZO: I've read copies of it about four years ago.

BUTLER: Do you endorse what's said in it?

TRUNZO: No, I don't endorse it, but I can understand...

BUTLER: Wait a minute.

TRUNZO: ...his reasons for saying it, just as I can under-
stand your reasons for saying what you say. But you seem to
have a blinder analysis of everything, that you see it your
way and no one else's way.

BUTLER: Mr. Trunzo, I'm not blind to the truth, and I'm not
blind to reason. But Mr. Williams has lost all sense of reason
he's spewing out hate propoganda, just venom, by the quart, by
the gallon, and pouring it into this country. You've gotta
understand that this kind of thing produces results. And no
matter what his reasons might be when he stirs up a hornet's
nest that revolves -- I was just in a -- in a confrontation
out at UCLA, and one of the people with me was a member -- matter
of fact, a leader of the Black Student Union out there, a fellow
named Odell Lee. And Odell made the point, he's a Black Man,
he said "Look, we're not gonna get caught in the ~~trap~~ ^{CRACK}. I'm
not gonna be led by SBS to get out in front man and get up against
the wall and get shot because they wanta move in behind me and
steal power." That's the kind of statement he made. And I think

a great many Black people are gettin' really fed up with this kind of thing. They understand what's happenin'. You're very up tight about Mr. Williams, I think the real point is why in the world can't we get down to the facts, and why -- why don't you answer Mr. Conway's question. What leads you to believe that the CIA had anything to do with this?

TRUNZO: The one man who was capable of solving the racial crisis in the United States was Malcolm X.

BUTLER: What about Kennedy? John F. Kennedy?

TRUNZO: I mean from...

BUTLER: Wasn't he doing anything about it at all?

TRUNZO: The civil rights legislation...

BUTLER: I mean, that's a very broad statement to make that Malcolm X is the one man that can do anything about the racial...

CONWAY: Well, I think he's going to clarify it.

TRUNZO: I could give you a half hour analysis of why ~~z~~ he was the one man. Civil Rights legislation legislated peoples' feelings; that didn't work. You cannot take a man out a situation where he has no pride in his heritage, where he probably has no knowledge of his heritage, and expect him to do as well as someone else. Now what Malcolm was intending to do was raise the question of Black people in America, not on a Civil Rights questions, but on a human rights question. It was Malcolm who brought to the fore the idea of Black Pride; it was Malcolm who insisted that Black people stop processing their hair and doing all these other things; and he was the first major spokesman of that ideal. And he could have prevented all this ~~km~~ ~~km~~ trouble in the ghettos today. Because he was the one man who

had the ear, not only of diplomats throughout the world, all over Africa, all over Europe, he had the ear of diplomats; but he ~~xx~~ also had the ear of that common man on the street because he had come from the streets. He had risen from being a dope addict and a dope peddler all the way up.

Now, he was gunned down; he was not gunned down by communists, the newspapers say he was gunned down by Muslims. But all the evidence at the trial of the three accused Muslims pointed to the fact that two of them certainly didn't do it, and the other one was paid by someone who was not a Muslim to do it.

CONWAY: And you conclude that that someone was...

TRUNZO: The only group that had any -- in any murder case the primary question is motive. The only group that had a motive for assassinating Malcolm X was the State Department and the Central Intelligence Agency.

CONWAY: That's a big assumption, though, if you forgive my taking a polemical side here, the fact that there has to be a motive. Many times people whose minds are confused don't have a clearly cut motive, isn't that true?

TRUNZO: But this was -- this was clearly not a confused situation. The newspapers said that the motive was that Malcolm had split from the Muslims. It was clearly planned in advance, it was well-executed, and it was practically down to the second of how -- the only thing that went wrong was one man got caught who shouldn't have. So it was not a confused -- ah -- inflamed situation.

(AT THIS POINT MR. CONWAY ASKED MR. RASMUS A QUESTION,
AND THE PROGRAM ENDED FOLLOWING HIS ANSWER)