

# CONFLICT

## THE DORFF REPORT



### THE ESTABLISHMENT MEDIA: COWARDS

**A**s a veteran of the ongoing battle to draw the attention of the Establishment Media to the Kennedy assassination case, I can say, with unqualified assurance, that the Establishment Media continues to demonstrate irresponsibility, lack of professionalism, and outright dishonesty and cowardice, toward what has rightly come to be known as The Crime of the Century. In the face of massive evidence discrediting the Oswald-lone-gunner solution to the Kennedy assassination case the Establishment Media has consistently resisted acceptance of all other explanations of the crime, largely, I believe, out of considerations of saving face and bureaucratic self-preservation. In the last analysis, the Establishment Media is still committed to the position on the case it took twenty-six years ago.

While interest in the Kennedy assassination case has probably never been higher on the part of the general public, the Establishment Media remains wary of, even hostile to, the subject. The most persistent, and dangerous, offender in this regard has been The New York Times. 'Dangerous, because with its inflated reputation as the "newspaper of record" and premier daily in the country, The Times tends to discourage interest in the case.

Exhibit 1 to illustrate this point is the coverage which the Times gave this case the day after the House Assassinations Committee released their Report. This Times article received less than a column on page A17 (7/18/79).

The major radio and television networks have also failed to adequately cover the Kennedy assassination case. They have largely refused to keep abreast of the latest developments in the case. They have yet to produce a documentary, or a miniseries, dealing with the issue of the Mafia's possible involvement in the assassination or that of the possible involvement of renegade elements of the CIA. And all three networks have refused to broadcast Nigel Turner's documentary, "The Men Who Killed Kennedy," which first aired in October 1988 over Britain's independent television network.

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### A&E PREMIERES BBC DOCUMENTARY ON MARTIN LUTHER KING MURDER.

**T**he British continue to outstrip their American cousins in the production of high class documentary films. Otmoor Production's "Who Killed Martin Luther King?" had its initial U.S. showing on the ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT channel, Sunday March 18th.

Aside from scores of distracting commercials, this 52 minute hour is uniquely rewarding. In light of the myriad of work on the JFK murder case, it is very satisfying to see a first rate cinematic probe into the circumstances surrounding the King assassination.

The style of this BBC offering is reminiscent of Nigel Turner's "The Men Who Killed Kennedy", which we reviewed in our February edition.

The appearance and commentary of James Earl Ray, who has served more than 20 of his 99 year sentence for the murder of Doctor King (April-1968), interspersed with a roster of familiar names Eric Starvo Galt, "Raoul", Percy Foreman, Congressman Louis Stokes and newcomers Kimble, Evans, Hubert Macdonald plus surprise speculation concerning possible CIA involvement, combine for a very engrossing program.

Ballistics expert Hugh Macdonald claims that the FBI's failure to conduct ballistics tests on the bullet which allegedly killed King is not justified. ("Not to test fire the weapon was a case of poor judgment.") Their reasons for not doing this Macdonald branded as "ridiculous".

(When one contrasts the mangled bullet which allegedly killed Dr. King, with the pristine projectile from the JFK case, it makes Mr. Spectre's magic bullet thesis even more ludicrous).

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**CONFLICT: THE DORF REPORT....****COWARDS continued..**

Having engaged in a number of costly and time-consuming FOIA battles to obtain long suppressed FBI documents suggesting foreknowledge of the assassination on the part of a Marcello associate and placing Oswald in Carlos Marcello's New Orleans headquarters in the spring of 1963, I was acutely annoyed and disappointed that not one organ of the Establishment Media even bothered to report the content of, never mind attempted to deny the significance of, those documents. The New York Times, The Washington Post, Time Magazine, CBS, ABC, NBC apparently just didn't give a damn about what I had dug up. Only Newsweek reported on what I had unearthed. But the magazine did not credit me with the discovery. It simply appropriated the information I had obtained from the FBI suggesting foreknowledge of the assassination on the part of a Marcello associate and published it as a sort of epigraph to its 25th anniversary coverage of the assassination.

By and large the major networks—ABC, CBS, and NBC—have displayed a cowardly attitude toward the Kennedy assassination.

While I was on the promotional tour for the N.A.L./Signet paperback of MAFIA KINGFISH I was interviewed by HARD COPY in the ABC studios in New Orleans for an entire hour about the Kennedys. During the interview I expatiated at some length on the JFK assassination. When the interview was finally aired, only my remarks on Joseph P. Kennedy were included. Everything I said about the assassination had been excised.

Recently HARD COPY interviewed me in my New York apartment about Robert F. Kennedy. Again the interview lasted an hour, again I expatiated for at least a half hour on the JFK assassination, and again, when the interview was finally aired, everything I said about the assassination had been thrown out.

All HARD COPY finally aired were a few remarks I made about Bobby Kennedy's determination to destroy the Mafia. While I chose, in the interview, to concentrate on RFK's campaign against Carlos Marcello, saying little about Jimmy Hoffa, HARD COPY did not include my remarks on Marcello (which would have led directly to a discussion of the assassination), but chose to show footage of Bobby grilling Jimmy Hoffa.

I should point out, that HARD COPY is aired over the CBS Network and the head of CBS is David Burke, former Chief Administrative Aide to Senator Edward Kennedy, friend of Ethel Kennedy, and a key figure in the Chapquidick cover-up. He and Roone Arledge of ABC, also a friend of Ethel Kennedy, keep a vigilant eye out for anything that might be offensive to the Kennedys. It is worth bearing in mind that a Kennedy, Maria Shriver, is now a star at NBC. Thus, all three major television networks are, in one form or another, under the influence of the Kennedys.

I was interviewed briefly by CBS for its 25th anniversary coverage. Most of what I said to the interviewer, Rita Braver, was not used. Later on in the broadcast Dan Rather told the listening audience that most Americans still be-

lieved Oswald had acted alone, which was an outright lie. (By then polls showed that 80 percent of the public believed there had been a conspiracy.)

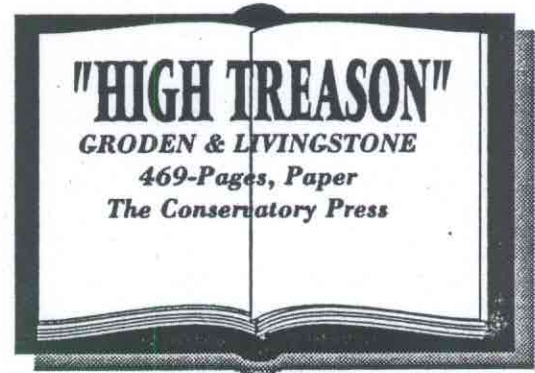
The only network to broadcast a significant show marking the 25th anniversary was NBC which aired the Geraldo Show—"The Killing of JFK: A Conspiracy of the Mob?"—starring Gov. and Mrs. Connally, Edward Becker, Madeline Brown, Esther Ann Mash, David Scheim, Cyril Wecht, David Belin, and myself. It is to be noted that NBC did not originate the show. It was originated wholly by Geraldo Rivera whose production company syndicated it.

While in Los Angeles, on the promotional tour for my paperback, I was scheduled to do the Ed Snyder radio show, a national show aired over the ABC network. The show was going to be about Carlos Marcello and the Kennedy assassination. At the last minute the show was cancelled with no explanation given.

It is my belief that the major radio and television networks are frightened of confronting the JFK assassination. They are simply unable to come to terms with this crime.

John H. Davis, March 7, 1990

*Author John H. Davis reports that 2 lawsuits filed against him as a result of information contained in Mafia Kingfish were dismissed after summary judgement hearings in Federal Court.*

**BOOK REVIEW**

**HIGH TREASON** (The Conservatory Press, 212 Emily Lane, Boothwyn, PA 19061, \$21.95 hdbnd, \$16.95 paper) is a collaborative effort by Robert J. Groden and Harrison Edward Livingstone which stands out as one of the best, if not the best, books on the JFK assassination.

Groden and Livingstone have been researching the subject for 23 years and their hard, painstaking and courageous work shows in every paragraph of this 469-page book. Not only have they carefully analyzed all the available evidence (the 37 volumes of the Warren Commission the House

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