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12 August 1966

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JOURNALIST CLAIMS CIA ROLE IN WARREN REPORT

Vienna VOLKSTIMME 11 August 1966--A

(Article: "Kennedy Assassination: 13 Witnesses Disappeared--Did CIA Also Try To Eliminate the 14th?")

(Text) Revelations sounding like those taken from a thriller but considered quite credible by experts--on the strength of their knowledge of the methods of the U.S. secret service, CIA--have been made at a Frankfurt-am-Main press conference by German-born U.S. journalist Joachim Joesten. Joesten has published several critical works about the U.S. secret service and has been investigating the assassination of President Kennedy for several years. As early as 1964 he published a book about the alleged Kennedy assassin, Oswald. By the end of August a second book, entitled The Truth About The Kennedy Murder, was to be published in Switzerland, a book in which Joesten refutes the official Warren report on Kennedy's assassination and arrives at the conclusion that President Kennedy fell victim to a conspiracy of rightist circles.

At the press conference Joesten declared that documents on the Kennedy assassination were stolen from his trailer last weekend in Zurich. These stolen documents were material which he had used in his book. The book, among other things, charges the American Government and the CIA with having hushed up the true circumstances of the Kennedy assassination.

When Joesten discovered the burglary, he felt threatened. He went to the Swiss police and requested protective detention. The police complied with his request but when he wanted to be released he was taken to an insane asylum. Only at the intervention of his brother-in-law, Munich professor of neurology Dr. Lersch, who went to Zurich immediately, was he released after 24 hours.

The question why and on whose orders the Zurich police acted so strangely remained unanswered at the press conference. On the other hand, a number of statements from Joesten's book make it understandable why he felt threatened after the burglary and why he requested protective police detention.

In his book Joesten declares that 13 witnesses, whose evidence was apt to shake the Warren report on Kennedy's death, died under such mysterious circumstances that one could not believe they were accidents. The witnesses rather fell victim to a systematic series of murders. Joesten names, among others, journalist Bill Hunter, who on 22 April 1964 was "accidentally" shot by a policeman at a police station in Long Beach; journalist Jim Keethe, who on 21 September 1964 was killed in his apartment in Dallas by a judo blow on his throat and whose killer was never brought to trial; Ruby's first lawyer, Tom Howard, who in 1965 died in Dallas, also under mysterious circumstances; and a number of other persons, all of whom had either been friendly with Oswald's murderer, Ruby, or who had had the opportunity to talk with Oswald or with Ruby in prison.

(Editor's Note: Similar reports are carried by the three noncommunist Vienna papers on 11 August, NEUES OESTERREICH, ARBEITER-ZEITUNG, and DIE PRESSE.)

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