

"All the News That's UNFIT to PRINT"

Joachim Joesten's

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" TRUTH LETTER "
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Editorial: There's no difference between Nazi war criminals and Nixon war criminals.

Uncanny Parallel

In all history, there has never been anything like the astounding parallelism between the assassinations of Presidents Abraham Lincoln and John F. Kennedy, almost exactly a century apart. It is far more comprehensive, detailed, repetitive and revealing than most people suspect. Certainly this writer was not fully aware of it, for while the Kennedy murder has been one of my primary concerns for the past eight years, my knowledge of the exact circumstances surrounding the deaths of Lincoln and of his slayer has been slight and, as it turns out, defective.

Ironically, it is thanks to the literary labors of the very same Dr. John K. Lattimer whose clumsy attempt to assist in the official coverup of the Kennedy assassination was duly lambasted in the last two issues of TL that the uncanny parallelism in the inspiration as well as the execution of the two crimes has come to light.

Bathing in his new-found glory as the "first independent physician" to be allowed a peep at the sequestered Kennedy autopsy materials, Dr. Lattimer has been circulating reprints of several articles he had previously published in various medical journals. One set of these reprints fell into the hands of a devoted TL reader who forwarded them to me for comments. While the several pieces written by Lattimer about "Factors in the Death of President Kennedy" and "The Kennedy-Connally Single Bullet Theory" reveal nothing but his ignorance of the true nature of that case, plus the fact - which had been assiduously suppressed or distorted by the newsfakers - that he has always been an apologist for the Warren Commission, there is one study that deserves close attention. It is called "Similarities in Fatal Woundings of John Wilkes Booth and Lee Harvey Oswald" and was published in the "New York State Journal of Medicine" of July 1, 1966.

In this article, Dr. Lattimer points to a number of circumstantial analogies in the slayings of Booth and Oswald that are truly amazing - so much so that it is quite impossible to consider the parallelism purely accidental (which Lattimer does, though). The impression prevails that the organizers of the Kennedy assassination, having studied closely the manner in which Booth was silenced, before he could talk, copied the pattern almost slavishly, except for slight alterations imposed by "modern times."

Booth, like Oswald, was a defenseless prisoner when he was gunned to death, on April 26, - twelve days after the Lincoln assassination - 1865, by his captors. Handicapped by a broken leg and unable to see, for the police had set the barn where he was hiding on fire, Booth was deliberately shot, in cold blood and ostensibly against formal orders, by a cavalryman named Boston Corbett. Booth was felled by a single, well-placed shot from an army revolver and died two hours later - exactly like Oswald.

Ruby's repeat performance, 98 years later, is thus characterized by Dr. Lattimer: "Like Corbett, Ruby employed a somewhat sophisticated technic, adapted to the type of weapon he used... now standard in most police weapons in the United States. He did not extend his arm at full length and attempt to aim his shot from a distance, as the usual amateur might, but bent his body slightly forward and advanced his shooting hand only part way, in approved police fashion, (emphasis added - J.J.), so that the pistol would be less obvious, would be firmly held, and would be better protected from any blow from an onlooker or protector of Oswald." Ruby of the CIA knew how to do a job.

To revert to the prototype, here is what Lattimer writes about the consequences of his action: "Subsequent to his admission of the shooting, Boston Corbett was placed under arrest because the orders of his detail had ostensibly been to capture Booth alive. He was very shortly released, however, and indeed was somewhat lionized, and was finally given some \$ 2,500 of the reward money which had been offered for Booth's capture, dead or alive. He was later made doorkeeper and sergeant-at-arms of the Kansas State Legislature..." Corbett, then, profited handsomely from his "violation" of orders, which proves of course that he had been secretly instructed to shoot Booth and to do it in such a manner that the victim would have no chance of survival.

When Dr. Lattimer goes on to say, "Unlike Corbett, Ruby was neither released from his imprisonment nor rewarded..." he is being exceedingly naive. Ruby had been paid off in advance. Though broke, he had stashed away thousands of dollars in his car as he went into the basement of the Dallas Police Department to shoot the manacled prisoner. And Ruby, too, had been promised his freedom at the earliest possible moment. In the end, however, he was double-crossed by his sponsors and the CIA saw to it that he didn't leave his jail cell alive.

Perhaps the most remarkable disclosure made in the Lattimer piece is that the assassination of President Lincoln and the subsequent silencing of his slayer was also a secret police plot. That conspiracy Lattimer perceives clearly enough even as he closes his eyes to the conspicuous fact that exactly the same thing happened again in the Kennedy assassination.

In charge of the detail of cavalrymen who captured Booth was Detective (Major) Everton J. Conger, "of Secretary of War Stanton's National Police Detectives, a kind of secret police," as Lattimer puts it. Elsewhere in his article, he refers to "the impressive circumstantial evidence that Stanton may have been behind the plot to assassinate Lincoln, as accumulated by the late Otto Eisenschiml, Shelton, Neff, and Roscoe, all quoted in The Civil War Times of February and July, 1965, which suggest that Stanton's chief of National Police Detectives, Gen. Lafayette C. Baker, may have written to Booth only one month before the assassination and may have transferred some \$ 16,000 to Booth in Canada via a dummy corporation in New York." This "dummy" company, one further learns, was a "front" for the "undercover" operations of Gen. Baker - and Booth was on its payroll! Lincoln, too, then, was assassinated in a secret service style consistent in every detail with current CIA operations and with the CIA's Dallas performance.

One "similarity" alleged by Dr. Lattimer is phony, though. According to him, "both accused presidential assassins were active enemy sympathizers (Booth for the Confederacy and Oswald for the Communists)..." I don't know about Booth, but if Lattimer really believes that Oswald was a Communist, then he is more stupid than I thought he was; and if he doesn't really believe, but just pretends to do so for the sake of convenience, then he is even more dishonest than I had given him credit for.

How I envy those Civil War historians like Otto Eisenschiml, V. Shelton, R. Neff and T. Roscoe! They didn't have to contend with a sacred package of lies like the Warren Report. They had free access to fact-finding sources and research materials. They could even get books published with titles like "The web of Conspiracy" (Roscoe) and "Mask for Treason" (Shelton). Ah, maybe in 2063, we'll be able to match their performance...

How Garrison Was Framed (ctd.)

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It happened in September 1965, soon after Garrison had been compelled, much against his own will, to fire his grafting friend from his staff. And now I'll let the DA tell in his own words how Gervais took advantage of his kind-heartedness:

"I had to fire him when I caught him fixing a case. And I did it as nicely as I could and I said I hoped we could still be friends. He says, 'But this leaves me flat.' A few weeks later I borrowed money from my mother and loaned it to him so his family wouldn't starve while they got started. And he just waited and bided his time. We didn't know it, but he set himself up as a DA's man on the outside to contact to have cases fixed... Let's say we charge an armed robbery case. Well, the word is around with the underworld and so forth. They go see Gervais. And he says, 'We can handle that but it will take fifteen grand that Garrison won't fool with them.' But we figured this out: If we won the case, he called up the guy and said, 'Sorry, but the Judge wouldn't let Garrison throw the case.' If we lost the case because we've got a goofy jury, or perhaps we just happened to be wrong - like sometimes that happens - he calls and says, 'Garrison was successful in withholding the evidence. We worked it out. So just give me a call the next time. I can help you.'

"So he's driving a Cadillac and has diamonds and he's not doing any work. And not too long ago I said, 'Look, Pershing, we've been friends a long time and everything and I don't think a great deal about money but that money I loaned you I was not able to give you. I need it. When can you repay me?' So, after some time passed, he began to repay me but always just before I was to pay a bill of some kind. I was separated from my wife for three weeks and I stayed at the Montainebleau Motel and my bill was \$ 997, and that's where he operates from. And I said, 'You know these people here. See if they can't give me a reasonable rate. My God, that was a small suite I'm in for three weeks and it's almost a thousand dollars.' And he comes back and he says, 'I can't get you any reduction because it's not locally owned. But come meet me upstairs in my room where there's a permanent room for nothing.' Maybe he just pays them, he makes so God damn much on his angle. He's got the best angle in town. Especially now with the Federal Government backing him. He's still on the take with immunity from the Federal Government. In other kind words, this guy grabs with both hands... There are men who will cut your throat and take your money. But he's done everything he could to destroy me.

"Let me tell you what they did. They had two or three setups but they're all similar. If I give you just one you won't even have to hear about the rest. I bump into him every three or four months... Anyway I get a call the other day from him and he said, 'Urgent that I see you at 8:00 o'clock tonight.' He said, 'I've got to see you tonight. I've got to catch a plane...' He comes by, and this apparently is a partial repayment of the loan. He sucked me into this, just when I'm about to pay a hotel bill, knowing I'm going to use this to pay the hotel bill, and then afterwards having a contact - having them set it aside and contacting the Internal Revenue agents or the Federal agents to take the numbers. They got the numbers before, and that kind of stuff, you know.

"It's a neat little trick. He comes in the door and he says, 'Look, I've only got a minute. My engine's running. Where can we go talk? Let's go in the office.' I have a little office. He says, 'You've got to hold this for me for a day or so.' And he hands me an envelope. For one thing, if it had been a little longer, I'd have noticed several things. But it was so quick, I had no time to think. And so, you know, the thing is open and I look inside and there's stacks of money. The smallest bill is a \$ 50 bill. I said, 'What do you want me to hold this for? Why don't you just hold it or stick it away somewhere?' He says, 'Look, I'll be back in a day or so and when I come back you'll understand everything. I'm going to miss the plane if I stay three more seconds. Stick it in the desk and hold it for me. That's all I ask of you.'..."

(to be continued in the next issue)

New Light on the Robert Kennedy Murder Fraud (ctd.)

"with the test weapon at an angle of 15 degrees upward and 30 degrees forward (to correspond with goniometric data) and at a distance of one inch (2.5 cm) from the edge of the right 'ear,' the test pattern is most similar to the powder residue pattern noted on the Senator's right ear and on hair specimens studied. Similarity persists, on the 2 inch (5 cm) distance firing, with respect to the distribution of discrete powder granules."

In other words, the test firings showed that Dr. Noguchi's previous estimate, before the Grand Jury, that the gun had been fired at a distance of no more than two or three inches from the edge of the right ear had been a little too generous. One inch now appeared more likely, with two as a second choice.

At the Sirhan trial, Wolfer specifically told the jury: "The weapon was held approximately one inch away from the Senator's ear at the time it was fired, based upon the exemplar in People's 56 and 57 and the pattern formed in People's Exhibit Number 58."

It is an established fact, then, that the fatal bullet was fired into Kennedy's head at almost contact distance - one inch away, at the most two. Now let us turn to the question of how close Sirhan was able to get to Senator Kennedy. The Grand Jury transcript again provides the answer.

On his way through the pantry, where Sirhan lay in wait, Kennedy was escorted, or rather led, by two employees of the Ambassador Hotel, to wit Karl Uecker, assistant maitre d' in the Banquet Department, and Edward Minasian, banquet captain. Uecker testified before the Grand Jury (Transcript, pp. 137-152) that he was holding Senator Kennedy's right hand by his left, as they made their way through the pantry from the stage of the Embassy room to the Colonial Room.

"I was leading him through," he added. "I went first, and he was right behind me." He described the shooting in these terms: "At the time, something rushed on my right side. I - at that time I didn't recognize what it was, and I saw some paper flying. I don't even remember what it was, paper or white pieces of things. Then I heard the first shot and the second shot right after that, and Mr. Kennedy fell out of my hand. I lost his hand. I looked for him and I saw him falling down. And I turned around again, and I saw the man right standing next to me. The arm, was holding the gun in, push the arm down on towards the steam heater, and my right arm I took around his neck as tight as I could, and pressing him against the steam heater..." (sic)

Uecker further testified that he had grabbed Sirhan after the second shot and by pushing the subdued gunman, who kept firing wildly, across the steam table, while hitting his hand on it as hard as he could, he tried to get the point of the gun as far away as possible from the spot where Kennedy was lying. Asked by Deputy District Attorney Morio L. Fukuto, "How far was the suspect from Senator Kennedy and yourself at the time that the first shot took place?" Uecker replied: "How far? As far as my left hand can reach because I remember I was trying to pull him (Kennedy), and the man who shot, I could feel him coming around me and falling over the steam table and start shooting." Visualize the scene. Uecker is pulling Kennedy along with his left hand, while Sirhan, coming from the right side, moves around him, falls over the steam table (according to other witnesses, he propped himself against it) and lets go with his gun. How could he, from that position, have pressed his revolver against and behind Kennedy's ear, one inch from the skin? It's clearly impossible.

The district attorney, evidently uncomfortable at this testimony, probed further: "Okay. He rushed right past you and did he reach over you at the time he shot?"

A. He reached over in front of me.

Q. "And he reached over from - "

(to be continued in the next issue)