



Federal involvement in and control of the investigations
of the major political assassinations beginning with that of
John Kennedy is a little known and rarely understood reality.
~~it is also in most cases illegal.~~

search, the F.B.I. failed to turn up a second pistol. The local police who lack the facilities of the F.B.I., ^{and} whose men are generally not as well trained did find the pistol the F.B.I. missed.

When Washington violates the rights of the states in these political crimes there is no hue and cry from those who profess ^{devotion to} an affinity ~~for~~ the right of the states. Generally these are of conservative persuasion, ^{however}, the same is true of liberals. The respected New York City Judge, Arnold Fein criticized me for first noting and then protesting Washington seizure of everything including the ^{corpse} courts when John Kennedy was killed. At that time while it was a federal crime to kill a postman, it was not a federal crime to kill the president. But by force ^{and} over the repeated protests of ~~all~~ the Texas authorities, the coroner, the Justice of the Peace, ^{snatched} Washington took John Kennedy's body, flew it back to Washington and ^{with this one illegal act began the unneeded (24 here)} thus began all of the controversy, all of the dissatisfaction, all of the second and unnecessary national trauma as a consequence of this assassination.

Judge Fein's complaint which is strange for a judge
when I a non-lawyer and non-judge upheld the law was paralleled
by other legal eminences, for example the late Alexander Bickel,
renowned as an expert on Constitutional law took a similar
position and was impelled by whatever drove him to incredible
stupidities in an effort to support it, one example is his
claim in an article in Commentary Magazine in 1966 that a
rifle could be aimed, fired and hit a moving target in a
maximum of 1/18th of a second.

In the John Kennedy case ^{after} Washington ^{took control from} having seized the
~~crime and jurisdiction over from~~ ^{Washington} Texas authorities immediately
attributed the crime to an unspecified "spirit of Dallas". ^{This} ~~That~~
assassination, ^{and} like that of ~~the~~ ^{were} King, was committed with bullets,
~~and~~ not by a spirit.

When Hoover ~~illegally and~~ immediately seized the ~~KENNEDY~~ ^{King}
~~case there~~ ^{Washington} could not ^{raise} have been this kind of hue and cry ^{raising}
~~against Memphis. Except for public relations Hoover and Washington~~ ^{creating all possible headlines}

^{was}
were content for Memphis and Shelby County to appear to
control ~~the case while they did what they wanted behind the~~
scenes. (C) 4A

There is, of course, right and proper for an extradition from a foreign land to be handled for the state by the federal government. But, it was not right or proper for the federal government to have any except auxiliary involvement in the King assassination, then only in the investigation without the claim to what everyone in Washington insisted, there was not; conspiracy. There could have been proper federal jurisdiction if anybody in authority had alleged in a charge that there had been a conspiracy to kill Dr. King. Murder is a federal crime only if it is committed in the course of violating someone's civil rights. It then is a crime under federal law only if it is part of a conspiracy. Once Ray was identified as long as it took the F.B.I. it did file conspiracy charges not in Memphis, but in Birmingham. They were laughable ~~xxx~~ except this is a very grim matter. There was never any basis for it. It was

The King assassination could have been a federal case only under the conspiracy provision of the Civil Rights Act. Murder was a crime in Memphis, not Washington, with this one exception. There was no FBI jurisdiction except under the Civil Rights Act. On April 17, 1968 it filed a conspiracy charge in Birmingham, ~~belatedly~~ It then did nothing about this conspiracy charge. Instead it pretended there was no evidence of any conspiracy.

By then the FBI knew it had no case. It was more than happy ~~for~~ it appears as no more than the helper of Memphis authorities. It left the prosecution to them, with all of the liabilities of a non-existing case against the lone accused, Ray.

Handling extradition from a foreign country is, of course, properly the responsibility of the federal government, acting for the state or states.

(Details of these consequences are in all six of my books on the JFK assassination. What is most relevant to the direct results of the forcible removal of the corpse from the only jurisdiction in which any crime was committed is the deplorable state of the medico-legal evidence. It ranges from undependable and non-existing to deliberately false. All of Post Mortem deals with the medico-legal and related evidences, as do the chapters "The Number of Shots" and "The Doctors and the Autopsy" of Whitewash: The Report on the Warren Report.)

Among the immediate results of Washington's seizure of the JFK case is the total absence of anything that can without shame be described as an autopsy and the continuing reports secrecy enforced by the FBI over the results of all other testing relating to the shooting. The evidence of a competent autopsy and of careful, precise testing the results of which are set forth in clearly-stated reports are basic in any criminal investigation. They are essential in establishing the corpus delicti or the body of the crime. My efforts to force the FBI to make these reports secret have not succeeded after 11 years. ~~The FBI~~ Had there been a trial the FBI's records would have been subject to critical examination in court if it was used in court.

For example, when Arthur Bremmer shot Alabama Governor George Wallace ~~in~~ during the 1972 presidential campaign it was at Laurel, Maryland. There are reports that in forcing the local prosecutor to turn the evidence over to it the FBI's agents grabbed and shook the local prosecutor. The FBI did get and did search Bremmer's car, after which it returned the car to local authorities. When the local police made their search of the car they found an extra pistol the FBI had missed. Yet prior to ~~the~~ its search of the Bremmer auto the FBI had found ammunition to fire the second pistol, not the one Bremmer used, in his Milwaukee apartment.