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The "Eggs and Sausage Man" Returns

The next morning, April 5, the temperature had dropped to the low 40s. The afternoon before, when the "eggs and sausage man" came into Jim's Cafe, it had been a warm spring day, although the temperature was plummeting at that very moment — hence, probably the reason for the sweater he wore.

About 8:30 a.m. on April 5, the "eggs and sausage man" returned. At first, Jowers was not sure it was him. He entered the cafe. He wore a large ski-type coat with hood, and had a pair of dark glasses on. He carried a large suitcase. He sat at the same table. A different waitress took his order. Again, it was "eggs and sausage".

Jowers immediately called the police and told them: "He's here again ... the eggs and sausage man ... they told me to call if he returned." Jowers said his call was switched several times, and several of the voices at the police station couldn't understand the significance of "eggs and sausage man".

Jowers said: "I finally talked to someone in homicide ... it wasn't Inspector Zachary, but one of his top men. He knew about the 'eggs and sausage' man. He said he would get a uniform detail to bring him right in. I asked him to arrest the man outside my cafe after he had paid his bill and had left. I didn't want him to think I had tipped the police. The officer understood and assured me he would do just that."

The man finished his meal. He paid his bill, picked up a suitcase and stepped outside. He walked only a few feet north of the cafe, when a squad car pulled over to the curb and two policemen got out. They approached the man. One officer took the suitcase, and the second policeman whisked the man over to the side of the squad car. The "eggs and sausage man" leaned on the squad car, his body at an angle, as the second patrolman frisked him for weapons. It appeared from the window, that they had found none on his person, but Jowers said he could not tell what the other policeman might have found in the suitcase. They put the man in the back of the squad car, and the two policemen got in the front, with one carrying the suitcase. They drove away. That was approximately 9:10 a.m. April 5.

Ramsay Clark's Statement

"All day long, I listened to the news reports on my radio. The crime seemed unsolved," Jowers said. "The attorney general — Mr. Ramsey Clark — had arrived in Memphis and I heard Mr. Ramsay's voice over a local radio station saying there was no evidence of conspiracy. He said it in a way that suggested

that they knew for sure there was no conspiracy. Other news commentators picked the statement up, and one news commentator must have gotten it mixed up or something, because he flat out said the attorney general said 'there was no conspiracy behind King's death'. I couldn't understand why they kept saying that they did not believe it was a conspiracy until they knew who actually did the shooting. I kept thinking about the man who ordered eggs and sausage. I kept wondering if they might have already solved the murder with his arrest, and they just were not telling the news media at this time, until they could confirm what they thought they knew. I said to myself, this is why they don't believe it is a conspiracy. They have already solved the murder with the 'eggs and sausage man'."

"Some Real Connections"

That night, the same police captain who had questioned him right after King was shot came to his cafe and asked for coffee in paper cups to go. Jowers told him of the arrest of the "eggs and sausage man" that morning.

"Yeah, I know all about it," the captain said. He seemed disgusted, Jowers recalls.

"That eggs and sausage guy you put us on must have had some real connections. One phone call, and he was gone less than an hour after the boys brought him in. He wasn't in the station more than an hour they tell me."

The captain was off duty when the "eggs and sausage man" was arrested and released. He said, however, the man's arrest had been "whispered about and talked about all over the police station."

Memphis Police Interviewed

This writer spent many manhours interviewing many members of the Memphis police department including Inspector Zachary, detectives, and uniformed policemen. With the exception of one high-ranking officer, not one ever acknowledged knowing about the arrest of the "eggs and sausage man" the day after King was killed. In many instances, this writer could not help but feel that he had touched a raw and sensitive nerve in many of these officials. One high ranking officer seemed highly nervous when pressed for details of the incident. This writer then decided to go to the top officials.

Henry Lux, then police chief and now professor of law enforcement administration at Memphis State University, was approached by this writer. "Where did you hear such a wild tale as that? ... I can assure you that no such incident occurred."

Arrest of the "Eggs and Sausage Man"

This writer, however, then approached his superior: Frank Holloman, then director of the Memphis Police and Fire Departments. Holloman was also a retired FBI agent with 20 years in the bureau. At one point in his FBI career, he was one of Hoover's top assistants in Washington, D.C. Holloman, now an

executive director of Future Memphis Inc., a private organization which is working behind the scenes to upgrade the image of Memphis, was interviewed by this reporter before he resigned as director of the Memphis Police three years ago.

Holloman reluctantly acknowledged the arrest of the "eggs and sausage man". He contended that this writer, however, was on the wrong track if he was trying to connect the "eggs and sausage man" to the King assassination. When the writer tried to broach a second report, concerning the involvement of a purportedly respectable Memphis businessman¹ in an alleged conspiracy plot to kill King, Holloman admonished this writer: "You had better watch yourself. Time magazine knows all about that incident and they were threatened with a libel suit if they ran the story."²

When this writer suggested a tentative identity of the "eggs and sausage man," Holloman did not appear to be familiar with the name. Later in the conversation, his face beamed as if he suddenly recognized the name, but never conceded that he actually had heard the name before.

"Believe me," Holloman concluded the conversation as saying: "There was no conspiracy behind Dr. King's death. Forget the "eggs and sausage man". We have checked him out. We picked him up for the FBI who wanted to check him out on something completely different from the King slaying."

When pressed to at least identify the "eggs and sausage man," Holloman declined: "If I were to reveal his identity, this would violate the confidentiality that we must accord to persons we question in the course of an investigation. It could also libel the person involved and damage his reputation."

Memphis FBI Questioned

This writer then approached William Lawrence, FBI agent in charge of counter-intelligence and subversive surveillance in the Memphis area. (He has been retired from the bureau several years now.) Lawrence, at the time, seemed genuinely interested — and surprised — when this writer told him about the "eggs and sausage man" and when I presented him with clues to his real identity, and other information not related here. Lawrence said before he could respond to my questions, I would have to repeat my information in the presence of his superior, Robert Jensen, special-agent-in-charge of the Memphis FBI office. Jensen quickly conceded that he knew "all about the eggs and sausage man," but repeated Holloman's assurance that the mysterious customer at Jim's Cafe one hour and a half before the shooting had "absolutely nothing to do with King's assassination".

This writer reminded Jensen that Holloman had told him that Memphis Police picked him up for the FBI.

Jensen said the "eggs and sausage man" was released by Memphis police on the okay of the FBI because "his story checked out," but Jensen declined either to identify him or why he was picked up. Unlike Holloman, Jensen concedes that the "eggs and sausage man" was picked up in connection with the King assassination. (One high ranking Memphis police official told this reporter in confidence that the "eggs and sausage man" was both an undercover FBI informer and Army intelligence agent, but this story was never confirmed by his superiors and later the inspector denied making the statement although this writer never divulged his identity in print or to any other person.)

Rare Gun Collector

When I pressed him about a tentative identity, Jensen blurted out: "What is so unusual for a gun collector coming to Memphis to buy a rare gun? We are on the crossroads here. There's nothing in the man's ("eggs and sausage man" presumably) story to connect him in any way to King's death." Jensen, when making this statement, looked at the writer, who sensed Jensen was pretending to make a slip, but actually was trying to give a hint to the newsmen.

If Jensen's explanation is correct — namely, the "eggs and sausage man" was only a gun collector — would it not be coincidental that he would select a cafe in a blighted area to eat breakfast at 4:30 p.m. in the afternoon? Nor did Jensen seem to find it coincidental that Dr. King was killed less than a block away about an hour after he left the cafe. If Jensen's seemingly inadvertent statement about buying a "rare gun" is the "eggs and sausage man's" story, where did he go to buy the rare gun? Who was the prospective seller? Did he buy the gun? What kind of gun was it? Was the seller in the neighborhood of Jim's Cafe? Could he have resided upstairs in the rooming house?

And where did the "eggs and sausage man" go after leaving Jim's Cafe? Did he have a rendezvous with the seller during the time span of 5 and 6:10 p.m.?

Non-Conspiracy Theory

If the answers to these questions were known, the "eggs and sausage man" might prove to be the fly in the ointment of the "non-conspiracy" theory upon which the official version is predicated.

The non-conspiracy version must rest on these four assumptions:

- 1) James Earl Ray killed King from the bathroom window of the rooming house above Jim's Cafe.
- 2) The rifle left below on the sidewalk was the murder weapon.
- 3) Ray had no assistance and no ally (Ray contends a mysterious Raoul had masterminded King's slaying and the FBI and Memphis police have gone to exhaustive length to prove that Raoul never existed).
- 4) Ray was a professional robber³ and had possession of a pistol and therefore supported himself by committing robberies to finance his travels between the time he escaped from the Missouri Prison in March 1967 until he was caught in June 1968.

* As will be discussed later, the "eggs and sausage man" was tentatively identified by Jowers, his waitress, and at least two other persons from photographs obtained by a Memphis private detective, Renfro Hayes, and Bernard Fensterwald, until recently the attorney of record for Ray.

For the present time, we will name the "eggs and sausage man" by a code-name: "Jack Armstrong". Later, a psychological profile will be given of Armstrong.

Five days after Dr. King was killed, and four days after police released from custody the "eggs and sausage man," two significant events occurred in Memphis. That was on April 9, 1968.

A Model for Conspiracy of the Left

Before delving further into the mysteries of the "eggs and sausage man," it is necessary to put into proper perspective this time-frame. On April 9, 1968, the world was still waiting in suspense for

* YOUNGBLOOD?

answers to such perplexing questions as: Who killed Dr. King? Did the FBI and Memphis police have any tangible clues as to the identity or identities of the killer or killers? Of course, the answer to the latter question would determine whether King was the victim of a murder conspiracy.

If it were a conspiracy, the question would naturally emerge: Was it a conspiracy of the left? Or was it a conspiracy of the right?

If it were the former, three logical possibilities prevailed:

- A foreign Communist power, which wanted to exacerbate the racial problem in the U.S. for propaganda purposes.
- A domestic left-wing group with anti-Vietnam war objectives. Domestic turmoil might divert the U.S. from its course in Vietnam.
- Militant blacks who opposed Dr. King's peaceful and nonviolent protest tactics, which they deemed passé and ineffectual. Motive: to give a more violent direction to the civil rights movement in America and set the stage for black guerilla warfare in urban centers of America.

Of the three, the latter would appear the most plausible when the motives, opportunities, and power to carry out a successful conspiracy and a subsequent cover-up are thoroughly analyzed. Why? In the first two possibilities, one would have to ascribe to the culprits a total lack of perspicacity and a myopic view of the dynamics of American voter psychology. A foreign Communist power — already facing a bellicose U.S. policy in Southeast Asia — would hesitate before fomenting domestic discord if the obvious result would be to tilt American public opinion further to the right. America's military might could certainly crush such domestic turbulence and the resulting martial climate would tend to foster a "man on a white horse" syndrome in the American white voter six months before a Presidential election. If President Johnson were deemed a dangerous man by the Communist world (assuming for a second there is such a monolith) because of his Vietnam policy, wouldn't Richard Milhaus Nixon be deemed even more dangerous? As Vice President under Eisenhower, Nixon had been one of the earliest proponents of an interventionist policy in Indo-China, especially during the crucial days of 1954 after the Vietminh (nucleus of the present day infrastructure of the National Liberation Front and the Viet Cong) had defeated the French Colonial Army at Dienbienphu. (Ironically enough, Johnson⁴ — then Senator Johnson, minority leader of the Senate Democrats — and his longtime mentor, conservative Senator Richard Russell — then senior ranking minority leader on the Senate Armed Forces Committee — were credited with trimming the sails of Nixon and the other early Indo-China interventionists.)

Conspiracy by Black Militants

Thus, if one would explore conspiracy possibilities among the left, the black militants would be deemed the most logical plotters. Their motives, of course, like those of most revolutionaries, appear paradoxical and even contradictory to the non-believers. True believers of an ideology are often willing to make deals with true believers of a diametrically opposing ideology to eliminate those who hold power in the middle, as true believers in both camps assume that the power vacuum in the middle would give them a chance to move in and take control.

Why wouldn't black extremists be willing to deal with white racists extremists in a turbulent atmosphere in much the same way that Communists of the Stalinist orientation were willing to make deals with Nazis in Germany, Russia, and the U.S. during the late 1930's? In these power plays, there will always be a risk that the opposing ideology might turn on you before you can turn on them, but the benefit-risk ratio is such that the prospective benefits — tactically speaking — out-weigh the risks. King's assassination could serve three purposes for the radical black militants.

First: it would eliminate King as leader of the black civil rights movement in America. Second: the militants could quickly fill the gaps. Third: King's death itself could be exploited to engender even more hatred toward the white establishment. (The assassination, of course, would have to have been plotted whereby it would appear that a white racist or racists killed him, a modus operandi made imperative from the lessons of Malcolm X's murder.)⁵ Dr. King's murder could trigger black urban warfare in America. It could unleash the restless but resilient rage in America's black ghettos. A massive hostility seethed beneath the surface of Black America, but it was a paradoxical phenomenon — an apparent animus that simmered in the winter, smoldered in the spring, and sizzled in the summer. Sometimes, despite potential provocations, these seasonal smolderings never exploded. Other times, the least likely provocation⁶ could ignite these human combustibles and detonate a social explosion of mushrooming proportions. If one could ignore the tragic aspects, an almost zany quality could be detected in the dynamics of these human passions. They sometimes resembled the old Laurel-Hardy scenario in which a dispute between the two comedians on a public street would accidentally ensnare an innocent bystander. The feud would escalate by encompassing a third, fourth, and fifth bystander until the madness sweeps over entire city blocks in the manner of a forest fire raging out of control.

Racial Unrest

It was no laughing matter, however, when this summer madness spawned sniper-slayings, fires, riots, looting and devastation in Detroit, Newark, and Patterson, N.J., the year before. This monumental madness of racial rage laid waste to inner urban areas of those particular cities, but they were only the egregious examples of its destructive potential. In at least 50 other cities, the racial rage manifested itself in lesser confrontations, but public officials had detected its foreboding presence in the air and swiftly acted to contain it.⁷

If spontaneous combustion could wreak such widespread damage and elicit concessions from the white establishment, what destructive potential could it have if it were programmed and given human direction? This thought could have prompted the radical black militants (or radical white racists) to use this critical mass of hostility as the human kindling for a much more sweeping explosion: one that could be channeled into urban guerilla warfare — not too dissimilar to the kind of warfare waged by the Viet Cong in Vietnam, the kind Castro and his Sixth of July Movement used to topple Batista, and the kind that was being waged in 1968 in at least two South American nations. The more massive the destruction, the more effective the concessions that could be wrung out of the white establishment — that is, if one accepts the thesis that the only real political power is that which comes out of the muzzle of a

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gun.⁸ The thesis presumes that the level of violence is in direct proportion to the benefits or concessions that can be elicited from a war-weary white establishment.

Dismissal of Black Militant Theory

The "black militant" theory of conspiracy and a variation of the "black militant-white racist" temporary alliance were the only two conspiracy theories considered by the FBI and the Memphis police in the first days after King's death. Considering Hoover's reputed vanity for the moment, the first theory had to be quickly dismissed if no tangible evidence — and suspects — could readily be found, because the serious consideration of such a thesis for any length of time would suggest the FBI was ineffectual in penetrating and prosecuting a strong criminal organization in the nation. The second theory was a variation of the black militant thesis. It goes like this: a seemingly, incongruous coalition of black militants, left-wing black subversives in Dr. King's entourage, conspired with white racists hired by a black Mafia-like organization which obtained a murder contract from a Los Angeles black businessman. The latter was a cuckold of many of Dr. King's amorous exploits. According to this theory, this was the reason James Earl Ray went to Los Angeles. This theory had to be also dismissed lest Hoover concede that the invincible FBI could not cope with certain criminal organizations in America.

A Model for Conspiracy on the Right

Then there are possibilities of conspiracies on the right. They could conceivably include:

- Radical racists such as the Ku Klux Klan or National States Rights Party.
- An agency within the Federal government.
- Paramilitary professional organizations with links to both private organizations and key policy makers inside the Federal government.

Radical right-wing racists hate Negroes, Jews and Catholics, although to a lesser extent, Catholics may not rank so high on their hate lists as they formerly did. (The militant anti-Communist stance of many prominent Catholics such as the late Cardinal Spellman and Senator Joseph McCarthy has somewhat diluted and assuaged the virulence of that particular prejudice, which has been traditionally rooted in KKK demonology.) Hatred of Negroes seem to be the number one hete noire in the KKK's panoply of prejudices. Thus a sufficient motive could be easily established.

Weakness of the theory: the motive — even the man-endangering capabilities — exist, but racist-rooted rightists seem to lack the requisite power inside the Federal establishment to cover up evidence of conspiracy once the crime is complete and a fall guy has been caught. A "cover-up" is a sine qua non of a successful conspiracy. Also, J. Edgar Hoover — the nemesis of the KKK — is included in the litany of demons cited in the average KKK tirade, which denounces Hoover as a "tool of the Communists" for persecuting Klansmen.

Conspiracy by Federal Government

The number two possibility approaches credible proportions upon superficial review of events which have occurred over the past decade. Of course, any such agency must be possessed with right-wing predilections, and an anti-king animus. The FBI might

fit such a description upon cursory examination. The feud between Hoover and King was legend.⁹ Thus, a sufficient motive might be argued. Added to this is the fact that the FBI had the power not only to kill King, but to cover up evidence of a conspiracy.

However, one would have to weigh Hoover's personal animosity toward King against his "image consciousness". The evidence would suggest the latter would prevail. Hoover's vanity and his inordinate preoccupation with the FBI's image as the number one law enforcement agency in the nation would be severely damaged if King were killed amid the "massive and electronic surveillance".⁹ It would have the effect of making the FBI appear to be as inept as the Keystone Cops — especially if the supposed fall guy got completely away from the scene after King was killed. After all, King's criticism of Hoover's lack of "vigorous investigation of civil rights violations in the South" had the effect of making Hoover so self-conscious about the civil rights situation that after that incident he bent over backwards in ferreting out subsequent violators — especially in the KKK — so he could not be accused ever again of being soft on civil rights. He had the FBI catch the culprits responsible for the murders of the three Mississippi workers (including a deputy sheriff), but also the killers responsible for the Penn murder case in Georgia, and a woman civil rights worker near Selma.

Hoover then zeroed in on one of the better known paramilitary organizations on the right — the Minutemen. Headed by Robert DePugh, the Minutemen had four prominent Americans marked for assassination, including Dr. King. Of course, one does not have to assume that Hoover was a late convert to the cause of civil rights.¹⁰ On the contrary, his reinvigorated pursuit of fascists and rightists could again be ascribed to his excessive preoccupation with his image as number one law enforcer in the nation.

(In the next installment —
Conspiracy by Paramilitary Organizations)

Footnotes

1. Gerold Frank. An American Death (New York: Doubleday & Co.), pp. 147-149.
2. Time carried the story without the businessman's name, but was never sued. According to the story, the Memphis businessman — easily confused with four other Memphians with the same name, including another prominent businessman — has a brother with Mafia connections living in New Orleans. It has been confirmed that John McFerren, a black grocery man and active West Tennessee civil rights leader, gave a signed statement to the FBI that he overheard the Memphis businessman talking over a telephone the day before King was killed and heard him say: "Get that black bastard on the balcony of the Lorraine and my brother will pay you off in New Orleans". McFerren said he offered to take a polygraph test.
3. William Bradford Huie. He Slew the Dreamer (New York: Delacourt Press). Huie is the opposite of Bishop. He now accepts the official non-conspiracy theory, but he disputes some of the premises the official non-conspiracy theory is based upon. Huie concedes the existence of Raoul, and quotes none other than Ray's own attorney Percy Foreman, that Raoul was probably a runner for the Mafia who paid Ray to smuggle contraband across the Canadian and Mexican borders, but that Raoul was not in any way connected to the King slaying.

4. David Halberstam, The Best and the Brightest (New York: Random House), pp. 139-141. In a bipartisan conference of Senators and state department officials in 1954, President Johnson, in effect, shattered intervention plans when he elicited an admission from Secretary of State John Foster Dulles that a majority of the Joint Chiefs of Staff — including Chairman Matthew B. Ridgway — opposed intervention.
5. Two close advisors of Dr. King have related a theory in vogue with many black intellectuals concerning Malcolm X's assassination. According to the theory, the murder of Malcolm in a Harlem auditorium in 1965 was the culmination of a CIA plot. Malcolm had been deemed a "national security threat" because of his growing stature in the underdeveloped nations of Africa. Neither advisor said he accepted the theory in toto. The two advisors are: Chauncey Eskridge, general counsel to the SCLC in Chicago; and the Reverend Mose Pleasure, a Memphis minister and an early protege of Dr. King in the formation of the SCLC in the early and middle 1950's. The rationale behind the theory that the CIA had Malcolm murdered goes like this: first, the gunmen who killed him were hard-core criminals, not Black Muslim ideologues. Second, the assassination was propitiously timed at a point where there was a split between two Black Muslim factions. Third, the CIA believed Malcolm X was dangerous because of his shrill and strident speeches against the U.S. foreign policies in underdeveloped nations — especially in Africa and Asia. What made him even more dangerous was the fact he had reached an accord with Dr. King — via emissaries — that he was ready to merge his Black Muslim faction with the SCLC on domestic black civil rights issues. Malcolm would temper his black power slogans, but the quid pro quo, however, would require Dr. King to get the SCLC to take more militant positions on international questions. This meant that Dr. King would have to join Malcolm in denouncing the growing escalation of the Vietnam War, as President Johnson had just ordered the bombing of North Vietnam a few months before Malcolm's death. Several weeks before, Malcolm had toured Africa where he vehemently denounced the U.S. role in Vietnam. Malcolm capped his tour with a visit to Nasser in Egypt. According to the theory, the CIA had penetrated Nasser's menage. A cyanide pill was planted in Malcolm's food at Nasser's table. Nasser's private physician pumped Malcolm's stomach and saved him. Nasser suppressed news accounts of the event, but it was leaked through the international intelligence grapevine. After Malcolm left Egypt, his private plane landed at Orly Field outside Paris, but French officials refused to let Malcolm deplane. It was apparent the assassination attempt in Cairo had reached French intelligence. Thus, French officials feared Malcolm would be assassinated in France.
6. A hose held by a white merchant apparently proved to be a more effective fuse than a policeman's nightstick in Harlem in the summer of 1964. The merchant splashed two black teenagers and sparked a riot that required Mayor Wagner to call for National Guard units.
7. Ironically enough, Memphis, Tenn., was one of the fortunate cities in the summer of 1967. Specter of riots hovered over the city, but Mayor William Ingram was credited for defusing the explosive atmosphere. He disciplined several policemen for alleged brutality complaints and kept the lines of communication open to the black community. Ingram, however, was defeated for reelection in the fall by a white backlash electorate who assailed Ingram for playing up to the "nigger vote".
8. A counter-thesis can be constructed to the Mao thesis based on observation of American politics since 1968 — namely, the election of a conservative Republican administration that feels that it does not have to make any concessions to the black community. Instead, it feels more obligated to a white backlash electorate to attempt abolition of War on Poverty programs and other urban reforms, concessions gained from a Democratic administration, which was the target of most of the more massive black protest tactics.
9. William Turner, The New York Times (May 21, 1973). Turner interviewed Arthur Murtagh, 51, retired FBI agent, who worked for many years in the Atlanta FBI bureau. Now a New York attorney, Murtagh said when he was in the Atlanta bureau, he headed a labyrinthian underground of black informers. The intelligence he received indicated there were no black subversives in Dr. King's entourage as the late FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover had insisted to then Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy. The phantom subversives, of course, created the raison d'etre for Hoover's electronic surveillance of King. Hoover, Murtagh tells Turner, consistently ignored his intelligence reports and in 1964, after Kennedy left office, and the imbroglia between Hoover and King over the investigation of the three slain civil rights workers in Mississippi (this was the incident which culminated with Hoover calling King the "most notorious liar," etc.), Hoover ordered a beefed-up contingent of FBI agents to monitor every movement of Dr. King. Turner quotes Murtagh as saying: "The surveillance was massive and complete. He [King] could not wriggle" without the FBI knowing about it. Concomitant with the surveillance was a comprehensive campaign to "smear Dr. King's reputation" by the special FBI squad. Agents visited newspaper editors (including the late Ralph McGill) and urged them to assign photographers to follow King to certain hotels and motels where the black civil rights leader had love trysts with several women. Agents also visited many prominent businessmen — both in the Atlanta community and elsewhere — urging them to not attend a banquet in King's honor after he had won the Nobel Peace Prize.
10. William Turner, Power on the Right (New York: Ramparts Press), pp. 89-90. To show that Hoover had not been converted to any scrupulous concern for civil rights of suspects or victims, this author — an FBI agent for 12 years and now author-critic of Hoover — said Hoover was so concerned with eliminating the doubt in the public mind that he was soft on right-wing organizations that he went after the Minutemen with such a fanatic zeal that he used Gestapo-like tactics. Turner said he testified at the trial of DePugh, the founder, who had been indicted of bank robbery and illegal possession of unregistered firearms by a Federal grand jury. He said DePugh was innocent of the bank robbery charge and had been framed by FBI agents as an expedient means of breaking up the Minutemen. Turner is no friend of right-wing organizations as he left the FBI in the late 1950's because he felt Hoover was ignoring the threat of growing right-wing, paramilitary organizations which were collecting firearms and recruiting private armies of fanatics. □