

Dear Dave,

5/2/92

Up early I read the AHR version of "Hollywood Secrets" before walking and after home what I like, your piece on Crenshaw. The Ginocchios got in last night and from what Jerry told Lil I should have enough time to finish this before they get here. I do not remember that well now. I have little recollection of what I did and sent you, for example.

I think that unless you want brevity you should insert a graf after the first on 2 saying, "His explanation for his long-delayed outburst of patriotism - surely it was not the fame accruing to an assassination-book author when they were all selling extraordinarily well and providing coast-to-coast TV exposure - is that earlier it might have cost him his job if not his career. For 28 years?"

Next sentence I'd replace "candid" with "the." Or, "even the casual".

I'd make the last three lines of this graf into three sentences and change along this line, "Crenshaw puts forth in his own name in another font and under his own name as the alleged factual assassination details what he got from Gary Shaw, a conspiracy theorist who never heard a theory he did not love and even adhered to contradictory theories at the same time, espousing both. The writer, Jeff Hansen, a la Mary Shelley stitched them all together and like her, created a monster."

I'd begin the next graf, ^{Crenshaw's} "The Frankenstein of JFK assassination literature, small pocket-books size, is a mere 205 pages of varying sizes of large type with an abundance of blank space as the fonts change."

At the bottom of the page where you refer to notes, insert, "most urgently needed when Crenshaw uses the mishmash of fancy, fiction and fact he got from Shaw."

Consider adding on 3 after first graf:

"That he made no contemporaneous notes no doubt made it easier to write this book." graf "The one thing that can be said for such a book is that it is a first-person account of an expert's observations. This is what Crenshaw represents. Yet he says he saw what he could not have seen, the President with his shirt on. (p.78) In one of his numerous coast-to-coast TV appearances (ABC 20/20) he added another impossibility, that he saw the bullet hole in the front of the President's neck was above the tie's knot." [Did he really say this?]

In the official account of the assassination and indispensable in its single-bullet theory on which the official solution is based, a single bullet caused all seven non-fatal injuries the President and Governor John B. Connally suffered. This required that it be officially ordained that the ^{slits} holes in the front of the neckband of the shirt and the nick at the upper ^{left} hand extremity of the knot, as worn were caused by this bullet of imputed magical properties like nothing in science of mythology.

"Locating this anterior neck wound above the knot leaves the neckband slits and the nick of that knot unexplained."

"From his own account and not from it alone Crenshaw did not see the shirt in position on the President's body, as worn. He could not have, either.

"Only one doctor in the entire world saw that, Dr. Charles Carrico, the only doctor in the trauma room when the gurney was pushed in. ^(3H361-2; Post Mortem) Before any other doctor got there, under his direction, two emergency room nurses, Henchcliffe and Bowron, in the usual emergency procedure, ^{it's knot} cut the tie off, leaving ^{et} that nick and, as Harold Weisberg sets forth in Post Mortem () from Carrico's personal account to him, caused the two slits (that, incidentally, do not coincide) in the neckband. While they were doing this Carrico inserted a stethoscope to see if he could detect a heartbeat.

"Dr. Malcolm Perry ^{had} reached the trauma room before Crenshaw did, as Crenshaw himself recounts, and was well at his futile work. Crenshaw's later-comers function was to make one of the cut-downs on a leg through which the President was given fluids.

"Supporting Carrico's testimony is that of Dr. Perry. He stated that before he entered the trauma room the clothing had been cut off by the nurses under Carrico's direction. (3H377)"

I'd make the first sentence in the last graf on 3 into two with some changes. "Crenshaw writes that the head wound and this one in the throat were both from the front. While this alone makes the official solution impossible because that mythology has Oswald firing all three shots from above and behind, it is not at all new in the responsible assassination literature, as distinguished from the theorized solutions."

Then a new graf

"What is of an importance he does not state (check me on this!) is ~~that~~ his writing that on the next day, November 23, when Doctor Perry got to the hospital he looked exhausted. He explained this by saying he had been kept up most of the night by telephone calls from the Bethesda Navy pathologists ~~xxxx~~ who performed the autopsy."

"Last line I am sure "evening" is wrong. It was the next morning, as I recall 11 a.m. Throughout Crenshaw makes reference to "men ^{Wear} wearing suits" without identifying them. What else do men wear if not uniforms? He appears to be referring to the Secret Service." (Dave- second graf on 4) His account, confirmed by nobody else's of all the people in and around that trauma room, is that they flaunted their pistols. It also makes no sense at all. There was no such need. If not the exaggeration or embroidering of his memory it is his childish gilding of his imagined lily."

line 10, change "asked" to "ordered." Next line, "this" to "any such." and in the next line, "with the time, patience and knowledge required to "(and I think you might go back to what I said was required to get a Secret Service man located and directed. I'd omit the FBI, but maybe not, and there were no SS other than the inspector ^{Pelley} at the police building that I recall.

6 up, change "student" to "resident." Follow with something like "LBJ certainly would not

have known the name and asked for the most junior of the doctors working over Oswald, Crenshaw, Crenshaw's pointed statement. He would have wanted the man in charge, the senior surgeon." (Dave-- what possibility of phonecall being overheard? I'd omit that.

Moreover, in Crenshaw's account, one of those "men in suits" also ^falunting his weapon, was already there, ~~xxxxxxx~~ to take the confession LBJ allegedly demanded. This means that no purpose was served by the alleged phone call from LBJ. The man he allegedly had there, ^{confirms} ~~and~~ all that need only have said that LBJ sent him and reported LBJ's instruction.

"In addition, dispatching one to hear a confession violates all recognized practise. There are two so that there is corroboration. Crenshaw ^{aw} mentions only one."

"All calls of all presidents are logged carefully and the logs are preserved. When Crenshaw's ¹ book ^{many people} appeared Dallas Area critic Gary ~~back~~ phoned the LBJ library at Austin, ^{12/6} He asked that the logs be searched to see if any such call is recorded. ^{all were} He was told ~~xxxxxx~~ that none was.

(^{6/20/68} Gary can confirm, ^{having} and maybe Gerry has checked. he said he would, I'll know soon.)

5, top "Crenshaw undermines his own credibility by including in the book of which he is represented as the author giving an account of personal knowledge ^{by} including what he could not possibly know. Even if it ^{were} true, as often it isn't. Thus he writes, for all the world as though he had been at Bethesda rather than in Dallas, that the President's body reached the Navy hospital in a cheap gray coffin. This is a conspiracy-theorists invention. Two FBI agents, Sibert and O'Neill, were with the casket from the time AF1 landed and they helped remove the body from the casket at the hospital ^{according} to their report, available from the National Archives or the FBI and reprinted in facsimile in

Post Mortem. They are explicit in stating that the casket is the one into which the body was placed in Dallas, a bronze casket that is covered by receipts and other ^{records} because it had not been paid for."

Perhaps ^{not} and certainly check: "Crenshaw, again putting his name and his reputation on conspiracy-theorists inventions, says the body was wrapped in plastic. It was not. Plastic was ~~used~~ used to protect the casket lining from the blood and other body fluids."

line 7 Crenshaw further undermines what little credibility he has not already vaporized by citing eyewitnesses he did not interview. He picked this ^{important} ~~xxxxxx~~ business of the kidnapped corpse and the switched casket from the nutty assassination conspiracy-theory literature.

"Crenshaw did not have enough to say -- witness: the skinpiness of the book with all that was done to take up ^{space} ~~space~~ to make it seem longer. So he turned to this nuttiness for what he said about the assassination and surrounding circumstances, about which he ~~xxxxxx~~ had no personal knowledge at all.

"He would not have achieved even his spectacular skinpiness without presenting as

as of his own knowledge what he got from the conspiracy theorists who on their own confabulate, invent, improvise and merely imagine what they do not invent and then they present it as evidence, which Crenshaw also does.

5 6 up Insert "what he says" is" before "truth."

~~Maen~~ and ^{noted} Gery not here yet. He will be soon so I'll let reading and correcting q wait until after they return home. 5/3/92 2:35 a.m.!