

Frank on Long John 4/3/72

Before 9-covered Hoover on appearance before women's correspondents assn, saying he said (JEH said) King had interest in ladies. What JEH said is that King is the country's most notorious liar. Had to cover Hoover, because that is one of his sources.

"There are no legal reasons for the case to be opened." GF

Never really thought of what would have happened if he had not dropped gun. "There was nothing to tie him to that rooming house". Repeated. No prints.

Discussed contents of trunk without mentioning clothing not Rays.

Only thing that ties Ray to crime is rifle. And if that doesn't?

How do fibres tie him to shooting? Fibres in room and car do not show who shot.

Hero jazz. Be on FBI's ten most wanted.

"There had not a single eyewitness. They had circumstantial evidence, which is better than human evidence," because people err.

Stephens not dependable witness and there is no other, admitted. Wouldn't hold up (!)

Host described as "which is the true story of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr."

How can you tell me that that is what really happened? This turns out to be what King's friends were thinking. "Obviously, I'm a non-fiction writer."

The whole thing is a claue. Nothing on the other side.

LJ! We are talking about a book I personally recommend you get a copy of. It is the true story", etc.

Asks Frank's account of events. Beginning 6 o'clock.

Frank: Describes man but fails to say it is Ray or that Bessie Brewer did not identify and refused to. He selected room with no lock. "He looked out the window. He had a perfect view". How does he know the first and is the second true? It is not. Moving of dresser (without prints)? How does he know? Used to block tramps from coming in without saying. Parked car about 60 feet behind restaurant. How does he know?

Stood in tub-perfect shot. Did he try it? Shuttled back and forth between bathroom. How does he know?

Keeps calling Rev. Samuel B. Kyles "Billy".

"At six o'clock Dr. King went out on the balcony." Railing three feet from door.

Talks about blood coming from jaw alone.

Question of whether King talked to Abernathy!

Ray sitting in chair at one minute of six. Dashed into the bathroom! (Suppose someone into it. Had only one bullet because no time for more!. Ray stepped into tub and rest rifle on windowsill. (And how does he know that when all the testimony, also false, is against it.

Said Charlie Stephens heard shot. Did he interview?

Long John "Describing in great detail what actually happened...without a doubt..."

"Please remember the title of the book ~~again~~ that I highly recommend to you...you must get a copy of..." Nebel.

Nebel! Ray had fired that single bullet."

Said Ray saw three police cars around ~~turn~~. Said shop looked empty and door close, empty.

So he dropped bundle to keep cops from seeing rifle. But rifle allegedly hidden by wrapping.

"Canipe went to the door and opened it."

One of 12 cops in firehouse saw package (Sgr Gornley). Used walkie-talkie to call in. Says Canipe identified as white Mustang.

12 physicians and surgeons working on a dead man in four minutes. (He has autopsys pix).

Boy amateur rushed to him ham rig-which is different than CB.

Gave false story about gun "because he didn't want to be humiliated" Virtually of of this is all new material-unpublished. " Guest says if audience "you would actually feel that Gerold Frank was there".

Kenneth Meegan and David both lawyers.

"This one here is a real special. It is the true story of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr." Nebel.

David; Read only Hueie book. "Completely comprehensive".

"I've been in correspondence with him" Fading.

False identities from graveyards or birth notices. Starvo.

He did it for money, for racial attitudes, etc.

having earlier said that the choice was between execution and 99 years, he said at 10:45 that he knew no white man had been killed for killing a black in the south. All three bo conspiracy and to believe in them is sheer fantasy. Frank attended Shaw trial. Says if someone out either up to it not conspiracy, complicity. Says there was an alarm out. Ray at once got lost for a long time yet got out before roadblocks.

David Cole Gordon?

"The true Story of the assassination" by Nebel after 11 p.m break again. Every break. "I am not a fan of Mr. Weisberg. I think he does a good job raising chicknes." "We're not talking about Frame-up" and cuts off. It is on sibject. mevel Frank "The bullet ...struck king, lodged in backbone." However, the shell and bullet were purchased by Ray.

Nebel "We're talking about the true story about the assassination..."

Frank called "hollow-nosed bullets".

"All the rooms on the Lorraine have balconies." Frank

"This is really the definitive book on the subject" Nebel.

"He has brought all of the facts." Nebel.

Nebel would like Frank back again-same side repeated. After trip.

Frank: "I began with the assumption that there was a conspiracy". But then visualized only Peking, etc. as source of possible conspiracy.

One guest said "you know that I am a fan of yours."

Spent four years, every day, day and night, seven days a week, investigating-Frank.

"Every one of your books has been just great" Nebel.

Not one questioned asked by panel on other side. And he cut off those that tried.

"He admitted he killed King" Nebel.

When listener asked a question about how tracing a rifle to a phoney name led to Ray.

Franks say he does n't know Abernathy's views on conspiracy. Well publicized.

~~SayxxxxxxxxxxxxRaygotintozyardxxxxxx~~

"You keep emphasizing that this is the true story." "I do, sir".

Asked about the Esquire lawyers. "Ray has never been able to produce Raoul"! Wehn a listener tried to raise a question from Esquire. "ebel, "Sir, Esquire magazine is not the final word" and cut listener off.

Nebel says this is superior to Boston Strangler.

Gives each guest 30 seconds to speak of book. Plugs

(Cpuld'n't even pronounce Canipe's name (Can ih-pea)

"It's the true story of the assassination", Nebel's last words on show.

4/4/72

Dear Jerry,

When you phoned last night I got a small set on which I know I can get WNBC because I had before, started listening, and then the battery pooped out. I put in a fresh one and heard the rest of the show, except for occasional fading...You simply must tell the phone company to do something about your bad line when you call talk shows!

As a matter of record, I would appreciate Robert's cassette taping. The quality of the signal here is such that I could not do it. When it was good it was not good enough for taping. I would like the full tape as a matter of record. I missed most of the first hour. I made notes on the rest that I did hear.

As you now know, exactly what I told you he would do is what Frank did in answer to your question on the spectro. However, his response to what I suppose was Robert's needle about Dwyer may be helpful in court. He is too sharp for the Approach Jim asked you to take, and if you'd known the subject well enough or been careful enough in listening, you'd have spotted how careful he was to cover Hoover personally. He did not tell the truth, for example, about what Hoover told the women correspondents.

Some of it was pretty far out. There is a big favor you and Robert together can do me on this if you can get together over a weekend soon. You could do what I will not be able to, prepare short excerpts on individual cassettes. I can then snap each into my little recorder and play them to his face if he shows and instead of him, his voice, if, like Foreman, he doesn't. I can ruin him with some of it, and I think he knows it and although he has agreed to a confrontation, will not show. For this purpose, and because it means a tougher tape that can be used more, I'd appreciate it if Robert would get some 15 minute cassettes/ Sony makes them. One came with the machine that was given me a year ago. Each one can be used for two items, one on each side. If they are not numbered, and if you can do this, please put no mark on them. I will then play them and tape the excerpt I want on each face and paste that on. I will be asking to get on the Long John show, relatively unimportant as it is, and would also want to do this there. I may want to make other uses on the air, so the 15 minute, tougher cassettes can be important. There is at least one case where I'll ask you to go back and put a second excerpt on the same side, where he gave different versions.

These two can appear on one side, with a short break in between: "There are no legal reasons for the case to be opened." (This is where he was talking about Ray's appeals, I think. Then the question about suppose he had not dropped the gun, etc. Include the question and his answer. I think he said he had never thought of that. I know he said "There was nothing to tie him to that Rooming house." He repeated this and said there were not prints init. I don't think the repetition is necessary, for in such uses the shortest possible excerpts is vital. but I think he also said there are no prints to tie him to the house, and that should be included on that cut. Perhaps if it is a single sentence, that too should be included. It is where he said the only thing that ties Ray to the crime is the rifle. Maybe it would be better to put this on the second side and with it another short excerpt, because I am looking for short things to throw at him to avoid possibility of host objection or his filibuster (I'll time each side when I label the way I want). Then on this second side include, "They had not a single eyewitness. They had circumstantial evidence, which is better than human evidence", because humans err.

Maybe it would be a good idea to have one cassette on Stephens. At about this point in the sequence he said that Stephens is not a dependable witness and wouldn't hold up. To this could be added the part where he talks about what Stephens allegedly saw and the part about the bathroom and Gracie's need for it.

Keep this for a blank side. I don't want to run the cost up. But it could make a beautiful coup de grace: "Obviously, I'm a non-fiction writer."

This is an aside for your information: years ago I did this with Liebler. short, timed excerpts in his own voice and it was wow! oh radio and TV.

When Nebel asked for that deathless account of what happened beginning at 6 p.m. (sorry, I'm having to use other than a Hermes ribbon, one for an IBM machine that was given to me and it doesn't fit and sometimes jams) there is a line that goes "He looked out the window. He had a perfect view". This relates to the bedroom. With this, on the same side, with a short break, should be that wierd account of his running back and forth to the bathroom, so I can ask why with a "perfect view" he had to run to the bathroom to make the shot. Either on this if it is short enough or on a separate side, the bit about Ray standing in the tub for the shot. This immediately precedes, I thin, the bit about the bedroom-bathroom shuttle. I think it is worth a separate side if I get to confront him to have a second version, where he says that at one minute to six Ray was sitting in the chair in the bedroom and then dashed into the bathroom. I have two purposes, so you can understand of so that Robert, if he can borrow your machine and tape, which would permit him to do this alone, can understand. First of all it was physically impossible to see anything sitting in the chair. I was there. Second, why the shuttling back and forth. and third, suppose Gracie was in there. It might be a good idea to repeat the second version on a second side, and have this on a single cassette, the part about Gracie's need for the bathroom. I'm surprised Frank gave two different, illogical accounts of the same thing. He is sharp. Here also he says Ray stepped into the bathtub and rested the rifle on the windowsill. The part about the resting the rifle on the sill is important, so this version may be better than the earlier one. I would like a single side saying this, so I can say, "Did you try it. Mr. Frank"? I have my own pictures now and I did and it is impossible.

What is really insane is the part where he says Ray had only one bullet in the rifle because he had no time for more. Maybe he said it twice. If he did, then the part that has Frank saying that there was a clip and he could have put more bullets into the clip later but he had to put this one bullet in by hand is vital. I will then hand him the rifle and ask him to do what he said. It is really tough to put a bullet into a pump gun. Just this description of the putting the single bullet in and the provision for the clip, as short as it can be excerpted, is really important. So you can understand, a pump gun is completely encased. It is not like a bolt-action rifle. I'll blow him in St. Louis on this and as soon as I can expect the man I gave my rifle to to sell for me is awake I'm phoning him to get it back. It is worth it for this one think on TV! Especially if we can get more than a single show on this. Separate side, the part where Frank says the shop looked empty, dirty windows, door closed. As brief as possible. Then add the part where he uses Canipe's name (he mispronounced it so I'm sure he didn't interview him) and has him going to the door and opening it. Just these two on a side as briefly as possible. I'll then hand him the picture I got by suing Justice, with the door open and the pack projecting inside the open door. I think his exact words are short from my notes, "Canipe went to the door and opened it."

At one point where it faded, so I can't be sure, Frank said he'd been in correspondence with Ray. If this is so, I'd like that one side of a cassette so I can read the correspondence. It is nothing like the impression Frank seeks to give. He offered Ray \$5,000 an hour for an interview in which he guaranteed to ask nothing about the crime. It is important not to talk about this at all. The part where he talks about false identifications, short as possible, the reference to gravestones and to birth notices only, so I can show him the "Starvo" signature and ask him if the signature came from either. Separate side, natch. Not as important but helpful for a single cut, a single side, would be two different versions of one thing: Before this point in the sequence he had said that Ray faced a choice between execution and 99 years and then, forgetting this, he said that "Ray knew that no white man had been killed in the south for killing a black man. Earlier, what could be helpful, he says that Sgt Gormley broadcast on his walkie-talkie about a white Mustang fleeing the scene. This is where he talks about the 12 cops at the firehouse. Then he says Ray got lost and made many bad turns (yet he never talked to Ray) and then he says he was gone before any roadblocks. I know what he is confusing here and it has to come from Huie, so the two things, the Gormley walkie-talkie broadcast on the

one hand

one hand, followed by the part about Ray getting away before the roadblocks could be set up on the major highways, bracketed with Ray's getting lost, will sound, if properly excerpted, like Kafka and could be good. This reminds me of something he said elsewhere that is short and I'd like on a separate side, where he talks about all of his book being new and unpublished. It could be dynamite right after this, for this comes from Huie's notes and I have a letter I can show from Huie showing that he gave all his stuff to Frank who is using it. That short bit and this Huie letter can, if I correctly estimate Frank's emotions, drive him crazy.

Not important for use against Frank but of possible value to me on a separate cassette, with nothing on the second side except maybe a few on the many cases where Nebel describes this as the book to end all books, describes it as the true story of the "ing assassination (one place easy to get is the close of the show, but it was on every break,), is where I think Robert tried to ask about Frame-Up, which is the only book on the other side. I think that Jerry can understand the possible relevance of this in the fairness doctrine. On the one hand he has two sycophants as guests, then he has this notion that the Frank book is the most, and then when a listener wants to ask about the only book on the other side or to refer to something cited in the only book on the other side, Nebel said, "I am not a fan of Mr. Weisberg. I think he does a good job of raising chickens." Big, but Robert off. I think, am sure, that he also said "We're not talking about Frame-UP" before the cut-off, and that should be included in what despite the above will be a brief cut. It shows the one-sidedness and the bias. (It is true he is not my fan. Nobody has ever taken him apart as I did in the summer of 1966. I'll never forget me.)

Perhaps not important, perhaps so, I can't tell until I hear it, is the part where Frank discusses the shot and what it did to "fig. "The bullet struck King...Lodged in the backbone." and then he says the bullet couldn't be traced to the rifle but that Ray bought the bullet and the shell. Perhaps as a separate thing right after this, the short part where Frank says this was a "hollow-nosed bullet". If so, leave a short space in between, maybe 7-8 seconds, because it wasn't a hollow-nosed bullet.

Separate side again, where Frank says he began with the assumption there was a conspiracy. I am pretty certain I have a quote saying the opposite, from long before he started, when the contract was announced. It would be good to include, even if it means leaving a bit out to have it short, that he then visualized only a Peking or Havana conspiracy!

The fairness-doctrine thing above should be on a separate cassette, for it is not for use against or face-to-face with Frank. I have tried to keep these few. If doing the above leaves a blank side, then one or both of two things, with a short interval between them could go on the blank side. I would not ask a separate cassette on them because of cost, which I want to keep minimal. Frank gives this great description of his investigation, he spent four whole years investigating, day and night, seven days a week, etc. I know he didn't interview any single important witness from Ed. The second could be where I listener asked how the rifle led to Ray and Frank's answer that didn't make sense, that it led to a false name not connected with Ray. He goes into the serial numbers, etc., and that is not important. Reduce it to the question and the answer that Ray bought the rifle using a fake name.

Oh, yes, something of which I did not make a note and now remember (it is early a.m. after a short night so I can mail this when I take Lil to work), his great account of Ray's inquiry into the trajectories at the gunshop, which one carried further. Make this a full or fairly full excerpt because it is just backward. The first rifle has the longer range and the flatter trajectory. I'll hand him the manufacturers list when I play that.

Excuse haste and no correcting errors, but I'm trying to get this to you as fast as possible in the hope that Robert can do this for I not only won't have time but one of my machines is on the fritz and I can't do it anyway. It could be something, though, for any confrontation. Thanks to both, whether or not you can do. regards to Chris.