

Criticism Of WDEA

Dear Sir:

It seems that a few comments about our media are in order. I was refused permission to be on Diane Green's interview program on WDEA radio. As I will be speaking about the suppressed facts of the John Kennedy assassination on July 21 at a meeting of the Ellsworth League of Women Voters, I thought it appropriate to ask for air time and discuss the pertinent evidence — and arouse public interest in the problem. Mr. Harvey DeVane said the topic was not in the public interest. I offered to present the evidence I have accumulated in three years of study — all documented. He replied that he could think of fewer things that had less interest for him. So, without even scanning any of the available proof that we have not been told the truth by our government, Mr. DeVane decides it is of no interest to local citizens to hear some of the established facts of the case. (Obviously there are many cranks around who claim all sorts of things about this case — such as a best seller by an author who states he spoke with a self-proclaimed assassin of JFK, without a scintilla of evidence, naturally, to back up his assertion.)

If it could not be on Mrs. Green's program, I asked that another time be assigned — to no avail. Items of local interest, but very insignificant in terms of history, are allotted time, but not the covering of the facts of a President's murder! Very strange priorities, indeed.

One also wonders how public interest is supposed to accumulate when radio stations refuse to give time to present the facts — without checking them, of course. As the station must also receive a license renewal from the Federal Government, questions must be asked as to how much they will air in opposition to that Government.

One wonders if Herr Goebbels got his start in a similar situation. If this happens on a local level, one can only imagine what news we never get from the major networks!

By the way, where ARE the newsmen and reporters who will dig for the truth no matter where it is buried — and even if they find it, what station or paper will consistently air or print it? Woodward and Bernstein are the exception, not the rule, and Watergate, too, was thought absurd. If the digging had not continued, we would still be blissfully ignorant probably shouting "Hell Nixon!"

Theresa Garnett
Ellsworth

And WDEA's Response

Dear Sir:

Thank you for the copy of the letter which was sent to The Ellsworth American and for the opportunity to respond to it.

I shall not presume upon your kindness, nor upon the patience of your readers by relating a

telephone conversation between Theresa Garnett and myself. The points of importance and the matters of fact appear to me to be the following.

Ms. Garnett did ask to be interviewed on WDEA-Radio on the subject of President Kennedy's assassination. As general manager of the station, I declined to honor her request for two principal reasons. First, on the basis of our discussion it did not appear that she had done any original research nor that she was in possession of any new information. In short, despite her intense interest in the subject, I felt she lacked any particular expertise. Secondly, WDEA was scheduled to broadcast a production of *Face The Nation* on Sunday, June 27th, and again on Monday, June 28th, on which United States Senator Richard Schweiker was to be questioned about the same subject matter. Senator Schweiker had just participated in Senate hearings concerning the government's handling of the various assassination investigations.

WDEA-Radio will, as I told Ms. Garnett, publicize at no charge her appearance before the League of Women Voters. In that manner, WDEA listeners who find the subject of interest and who feel that she may have something of importance to say will become acquainted with this opportunity to become enlightened.

Harvey E. DeVane
General Manager,
WDEA-Radio

Harvey E. DeVane - mid July '76