

Jean Hill review

Bottom page 2, penult line, insert: "Some expert <sup>S/</sup>shooters have alleged that shooting from that sixth-floor (TSB) window would have been easier had the motorcade been on Main Street because it would have proceeded in a straight line rather than twisting and turning and because the firing angle would not have been <sup>nearly</sup> as steeply downward."

I do not understand the sentence that follows. If she says what you say in it I think you should say that.

I would add as a new ending on page 4 something like

How tragic it is that well-intended people like Hill have been manipulated by those who for various reasons that, as with Stone, do not exclude commercialization and exploitation of this terrible crime, into remembering what did not happen and into saying what ~~conspiracy~~ <sup>conspiracy</sup> theorists and others

~~saying what~~ is not so thereby destroying what credibility they had in their contemporaneous accounts of details of essentially minor details of the assassination.

When the simply enormous outpouring of such faulty and mislead books as Hill's in the wake of the enormous attention to Stone's also <sup>and misleading</sup> faulty account of the assassination is considered they amount to an extensive disinformation that confuses the sorrowing nation even more and thus tends to exculpate <sup>both</sup> the actual killers and those in official roles who foisted off the unacceptable official "solution" to the crime and to a rewriting of our history.

Bill Sloan with Jean Hill: JFK. The last dissenting witness. (1992)

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Bill Sloan with Jean Hill. JFK. The Last Dissenting Witness.  
Foreward by Oliver Stone. Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing  
Co., 1992. Pp. 255. No index, no bibliography.

On November 22, 1963, Jean Hill and her friend Mary Moorman, stood on the south side of Elm Street less than ten feet from President John F. Kennedy at the moment the last bullet tore open his head. She had an excellent view of him and of the grassy knoll <sup>a short</sup> ~~in the~~ distance beyond him. The amateur photographer Abraham Zapruder, filming from the <sup>opposite</sup> ~~other~~ side of the street, caught her in his famous motion picture of the assassination while her friend Moorman snapped a Polaroid of the murder, with the knoll in the background. Working with the professional writer Bill Sloan, Hill sets down her story.

<sup>In it</sup> She claims to have heard four to six, "maybe more," shots, to have seen a man firing from the grassy knoll, and to have seen a man resembling Jack Ruby fleeing west from the Book Depository immediately after the shooting. Her account traces her experiences over the years with the case, detailing her rough treatment by the Secret Service, the FBI, and the Warren Commission. As she proceeds in her autobiographical reflections she weaves into the account an increasing amount of factual details surrounding the assassination, sometimes in the retelling of what others, including <sup>not only</sup> what her boyfriend on the police department, told her.

but also what she dug up on her own.

What can be said of this highly speculative effort? In the first instance difficulty arises with her <sup>Warren Commission (?)</sup> testimony. Her story changes. She explains her original comment that she thought she saw a dog sitting between JFK and his wife because she confused the light contrasting from the flowers with a supposition of an animal. Her failure to tell authorities of the component of Ruby fleeing until after she saw Ruby shoot Lee Oswald on television is also explained by her tough personality resisting police bullying and pressure. Similar variances occur between her later testimony and her <sup>assassination-</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> day statement to police, which agreed with her companion Moorman's ~~witness~~ statements. These, she says, arise from police re-writing of her initial comments. However, the ring of truth comes forward with her comment that the Secret Service agents interviewing that afternoon said they had three bullet cases and were going with only three bullets.

Liberally laced throughout her story are preposterous interpretations of the assassination, factual errors, and strange misconceptions of her own importance. <sup>π</sup> The motorcade turned from Houston Street <sup>or</sup> to Elm Street not as she states as part of the LBJ/Secret Service conspiracy to bring JFK under the assassins' guns but rather to avoid the concrete traffic-control barriers blocking access to Stemmons from Main Street, but not from Elm.

<sup>π</sup> Also, the assassination was a cinch from any spot around the perimeter of the tiny plaza, <sup>whether the motorcade was on</sup> ~~Main or Elm~~, <sup>where it was</sup> and location made little difference. <sup>^</sup> Neither LBJ nor the Secret Service withdrew the flanking motorcycles to behind the rear of the car, but JFK

himself for political purposes of permitting the crowd to see him and also to avoid their dinning roar.

Her great fear that she was about to be murdered by the persons who killed JFK is put into the larger context of the number of <sup>alleged</sup> witnesses who were <sup>allegedly</sup> killed. <sup>arrant nonsense. She says</sup> She was literally afraid and <sup>this</sup> it distorted her life. <sup>it</sup> her sincerity is clear. But what had she as a confused rejected witness to testify to that the killers of JFK <sup>to</sup> would want her dead? I cannot think of anything. <sup>made</sup> The Moorman Polaroid film is better evidence by far than <sup>Hill's</sup> her ever-changing <sup>versions</sup> testimony. Was Moorman killed? No. <sup>Does</sup> Did Hill's <sup>book</sup> explain the importance and history of that photograph? No. <sup>jeopardized the killers even</sup> The Zapruder film <sup>more,</sup> ~~too was~~ key. Was Zapruder killed? No. Governor John B. Connally disagreed with the official findings and was a central figure. Was he killed? No.

Among the murdered witnesses she lists Eddy Benavides who Hill claims first <sup>radioed the report of the killing</sup> ~~phoned in the death~~ of Police Officer J. D. Tippit. But why kill him, when he <sup>was</sup> did not first <sup>to Hill's</sup> phone in the <sup>his report?</sup> death, and <sup>But why kill him if he had been? No purpose was served. Moreover, she admits</sup> said he could not identify the killer. <sup>At the same</sup> ~~time~~ <sup>in addition</sup> the murder of Tippit is not related to the killing of President Kennedy (see, H. Weisberg, Whitewash; S. Meagher, Accessories). Not even in one's wildest whiskey dream was there the slightest reason to be conjured up for JFK conspirators to want <sup>Benavides</sup> him dead. <sup>and in truth, several minutes before Benavides, T. F. Bowley used</sup> Actually, ten minutes earlier T. F. Bowley had <sup>Tippit's radio to report his killing. This was at</sup> ~~phoned in the death~~, a time incompatible with Oswald having <sup>been his murdered.</sup> shot the officer. Why not shoot him, <sup>Bowley, then?</sup> the key witness? <sup>Hill's assassins</sup> But they did not and Hill <sup>reflects</sup> is not <sup>ness</sup> aware of his existence. <sup>and</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>it is</sup> so with all the rest. The mysterious murders concept is an assassination

syndrome, long dispelled by responsible critics <sup>as it can be</sup> and by anyone using commonsense <sup>This silliness</sup> that she believes ~~it~~ is valid is tragic; that she purveys it is wrong.

Toward the end of the book she describes her meeting and rapport with the corruptionists <sup>ers of history,</sup> Oliver Stone and Kevin Costner, <sup>she</sup> and traces the evolution of her small part in the JFK movie. <sup>for all the world as though it has any meaning other than to her.</sup> Her

animated account <sup>her</sup> of movement into minor fame as part of The Great

Event provides a glimpse into the modus operandi <sup>of Stone whose</sup> <sup>Stone's</sup> <sup>his</sup> ~~of Stone whose~~

preconceptions were heavily, personally, emotionally reinforced by

<sup>association with those corrupting. He is into in his joy and by</sup> his every step in the opiated air and by blue smoke and silver

mirror historians in the Never Never Land of Dallas and New

Orleans of which JFK. The Last Dissenting Witness is an

affirmation.