

"All the News That's UNEFT to Print"

Joachim Joesten's

" TRUTH LETTER "
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An Antidote to Official Mendacity and Newsfaking in the Press

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Editorial: Fine - But don't forget what Rucsay Clark did to Jim Garrison!

News ... news ... News ...

Dr. Wecht to View Kennedy Autopsy Materials!

From two different sources - one of them highly authoritative - TRUTH LETTER has learned that Dr. Cyril Wecht's long-standing application for permission to inspect the JFK autopsy materials at the National Archives has at last been granted by Burke Marshall. The inspection is supposed to take place about the 25th of August, 1972. Dr. Wecht is, as TL readers are well aware, one of America's leading forensic scientists and currently President of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. He has also written extensively about the Kennedy autopsy and has been strongly critical of the performance of the three military pathologists - none of them a qualified forensic expert - who were appointed by LBJ to conduct what Dr. Wecht has called "probably the most important autopsy of the century." In his "Critique of President Kennedy's Autopsy" which was published as "Appendix D" in Josiah Thompson's book "Six Seconds in Dallas," Dr. Wecht called this performance "appalling" and spoke of the "incomplete and flawed character of the whole autopsy."

This could be a breakthrough, then, but I'm not sure. It could also be another feint, another sham, another deception. Perhaps Burke Marshall, the "Keeper of the House of Lies" (see TL, Feb. 15, 1972) attached to his permission conditions that would make it impossible for Dr. Wecht to operate independently or effectively. Or else it could be that Dr. Wecht, in the meantime, succumbed to the kind of presidential appeal to his "sense of patriotic duty" that turned the once great Earl Warren into a pathetic liar. Or again, the newsmongers stand ready to suppress, like a man, whatever honest findings Dr. Wecht may come up with. Well, we'll see.

News... News... News ...

Dr. Nichols' Suit Goes to the Supreme Court

Dr. John Nichols, whose dogged fight for permission to inspect the JFK autopsy materials has been reported repeatedly and at length in TL, isn't going to take "no" for an answer either. On August 7, 1972, his lawyers filed with the Supreme Court of the United States for a Writ of Certiorari, which means that the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit which turned down Dr. Nichols' appeal on May 12, 1972 (see TL, June 1, 1972) is to be compelled to forward its records of the case to the Supreme Court. But, of course, there is a long way from "certiorari" to a favorable decision. It looks like Dr. Wecht chose the quicker way to success...

News... News... News ...

Her Pathback for Garrison

On Aug. 1, 1972, the Federal Appeals Court for New Orleans refused to allow District Attorney Jim Garrison to pursue the John F. Kennedy case any further through the

prosecution of Clay Shaw on perjury charges. The appeals court said Garrison's argument of bias and prejudice of the trial judge (Christenberry) "is totally without merit." Well, all one can say to that is that President Kennedy's assassins, who still rule supreme in Washington, D.C., have the federal court system firmly in hand.

On the same day, Garrison formally announced as a candidate for the Louisiana Supreme Court. Good luck, Jim!

News... News... News...

"A Heritage of Stone" in Paperback

The case of the weak-kneed publisher (see TL July 1 and 15, 1972) is getting curiousest and curiousest. Even as a fourth TL reader - this one in Belfast, Ireland - informs me that he was having trouble getting his order for "A Heritage of Stone" filled (see below), I received from a lady in Texas a letter saying in part: "I think it would be interesting to you and all your readers to know that 'Berkley Editions Books', Berkley Publishing Corp., 200 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016 is printing Jim Garrison's 'A Heritage of Stone' in paperback edition, 22141, at \$1.29. A friend, who frequently goes to New Orleans, brought me some, but not enough! Once, when he came there, a customer had bought the entire stock! I hope it was for distribution! Anyway, it should be much easier to send abroad and around here..."

What makes this story particularly interesting is the fact that Berkley Publishing Corp. is an affiliate of G.P. Putnam's Sons, publishers of the original hardcover edition of "A Heritage of Stone." One can only conclude from this that Putnam's still are pushing the "subversive" book, despite all efforts by the Government to suppress it. For, as my correspondent correctly observes, it must be fairly easy to get around the illicit embargo by shipping the paperback edition, the more so as it bears an innocuous imprint. On the other hand, that remark about a customer buying up the entire stock sounds alarming. This looks very much like taxpayers' money again being spent to keep people from buying and reading a book that reveals some uncomfortable truths about the maladministration in Washington. Also, I wonder, is Jim Garrison's own bailiwick the only place in the U.S. where the paperback edition of his book is on sale?

Meanwhile, that reader in Belfast informs me: "... Incidentally, your recent exposé on 'A Heritage of Stone' has me worried, too. I have had a copy ordered and paid

for through Blackwell's of Oxford (one of England's foremost bookshops as regards foreign publications) since March 29 last. So far no comment of any nature..."

That makes a total of five TL readers - including the lady on the West Coast who ordered a copy almost two years ago and never got it - who have been thwarted in their efforts to secure copies of the hardcover edition. Considering the fact that TL is not exactly a mass circulation magazine, the total number of frustrated would-be buyers of Jim Garrison's book must be staggering.

Dr. Lattimer of UCLA University (ctd.)

Asortalso as it is in nearly all other respects, Dr. Lattimer's pseudo-scholarly fabrication in "Resident and Staff Physician" (May 1972) does contain a few interesting bits of information. On p. 45 of the journal, Lattimer, reviewing the restricted materials he has been given the privilege to inspect, notes: "There was also a roll of '160' film which had been spoiled by unrolling it in the light and a notation that this had been done unliberally by one of the agents present. (emphasis added - Ed.) There was no explanation of why the agent had done this, and one could only speculate that either the agent did not realize that photographs were being taken to assist in preparing an accurate autopsy report or that he thought the photographer was not authorized to take such pictures."

Read that again and over it. Is Dr. Lattimer playing naive, is he really - and extraordinarily - stupid, or is he just simply an dishonest and hypocritical as his boss Richard Nixon who undoubtedly has a hand in getting this colossal fraud staged?

Visualize the situation. The President of the United States has been assassinated. Now an autopsy is being held, at a military facility, under strict military control, by three military doctors. Besides the military personnel, only some "agents" (FBI and Secret Service) are present. And then there is a photographer, an outside cameraman who by chance had wandered into the autopsy room and was bent on taking snapshots as he pleased? Dr. Lattimer pretends to think that such a thing could have been possible for he "speculates" that the agent maybe thought the photographer "was not authorized to take such photographs." Or else, he "speculates", maybe the agent did not realize what the purpose of a photographer being there was.

What kind of hair-raising, nonsense is this? Isn't it obvious, under the circumstances, that the unidentified photographer must also have had military, or at least official, status and that there could be no question, at any time, about his being authorized to take "such photographs?" And, can one imagine an FBI or Secret Service agent being so stupid he doesn't realize that photographs are taken at an autopsy "to assist in preparing an accurate autopsy report?" Impossible!

Dr. Lattimer's "speculation" is nothing but deliberate double-talk designed to hide his embarrassment. For here he was confronted with prima facie evidence of official fraud. Here he had before his eyes the most striking proof that the material evidence had been tampered with and that, therefore, there was an official conspiracy to suppress the truth about the assassination. If that agent, acting on the spur of the moment, instantly destroyed a roll of film, he did so because he had been instructed to prevent from getting into the official record, even for a brief moment, anything that might throw doubt on the official version of the shooting. That roll of film must have shown something truly explosive, revealing either a number or a direction of shots incompatible with the official version, otherwise a simple agent would certainly not have dared destroy part of the autopsy records without at least checking with his superiors! The circumstances in question clearly indicate that the agent had the authority - and firm orders - immediately to destroy any photo that could not be brought into harmony with the Oswald fraud.

And it wasn't just that one roll of "120" film that had to be spoiled in a hurry! For, we further learn from Dr. Lattimer's article that "there was also one 4 x 5 transparency which had been spoiled by overexposure, but with no clue as to what it was supposed to show. There was also one surplus film-pack of color film which appeared to be unexposed and unused." All in all, a nice job of cleaning away the incriminating evidence in the "Crime of the Century." But that wouldn't make a Lattimer even blink.

As liars usually do, Lattimer openly contradicts himself in his fabrication. First, on p. 50, he goes through all kinds of mental contortions to accredit his thesis of a "bump-up" of clothes on the back of the President's neck and at the same time to get around the embarrassing two-holes issue, he writes:

"The jacket also had a second tiny penetrating hole just at the lower edge of the collar, through both jacket and lining, directly above the hole through which the bullet obviously entered. There was no such second hole in the back of the shirt at this higher location. The back of the shirt had a single hole. Whether the other 'second' hole at the lower margin of the coat collar was a tangential wound of the cloth, due to a downward folding of this portion of the cloth, could not be determined, although this did at first seem possible. Why the shirt did not have a corresponding second hole, was not clear, however. On further inspection, it seemed probable that the second hole in the jacket was the site from which a 'control' sample of cloth had been removed by FBI laboratory man Frasier, when the margins of the bullet hole in the coat were analyzed."

Yet, in his "Summary" on p. 62, Lattimer, in describing once more the supposed trajectory of the bullet, writes, "it made two holes in the overlapping strips of his shirt..." (emphasis added throughout - J.S.)

Just a thought: The CIA must be slipping... Can't even shoot down a king's plane into the sea correctly any more. Poor Gufkar - he was such a loyal agent.

The Shame of Jacqueline Kennedy Chastis (ctd.)

"His boss, Treasury Secretary Douglas Dillon, awarded him the Department's citation for 'exceptional bravery' the day after the assassination when his performance was still fresh in the minds of those who had witnessed it. The reports at the time just said he ran between the two speeding cars to protect Mrs. Kennedy with his own body; nothing was said about pushing her back into the car.

WHAT DID MRS. KENNEDY SAY TO THE WARREN COMMISSION ABOUT BEING OUT ON THE BACK OF THE CAR AND ABOUT AGENT HILL GOING TO HELP HER?

"Do you remember Mr. Hill coming to try to help on the car?"

"I don't remember anything. I was just down like that... you know, then there were pictures later on of me climbing out the back, but I don't remember that at all."

WHY DID MRS. KENNEDY SCRAMBLE ONTO THE BACK OF THE CAR?

"All evidence, both visual and verbal -- as will be shown below -- points to the conclusion beyond a reasonable doubt that she was trying to save her own life by getting out of the motorcade.

WHERE DID LIFE MAGAZINE GET THE INFORMATION THAT JACKIE WAS OUT ON THE TRUNK OF THE CAR 'PATHETICALLY CRAWLING FOR HELP'?

"From Downers. They just made it up in their editorial offices. They didn't get it from Mrs. Kennedy because she said she remembered nothing. (Three years later, however, she explained why she went out on the back of the car and it wasn't for Life's reason, as will be seen later.) They didn't get it from Agent Hill, as will be seen below from his testimony before the Warren Commission. They didn't get it from Presidential aide David Powers, who saw it all from the follow-up car, as will be seen below from his testimony.

"Since Life magazine owned the assassination film they had time to study it and select those frames -- all of them out of sequence -- that best supported their explanation that Jackie was out on the trunk of the car seeking help. Since Agent Hill approached the car from the left (see picture D) the trick was not to publish those frames which showed Jackie turning toward the right rear of the car because, of course, that would not be the direction she would take if she were crawling toward the Agent for help. The next step was to write the caption for picture D -- 'Jackie Crawled for help' and then the accompanying text about her 'pathetic search for help.' Life's explanation of this picture was the last word and the only word.

HOW DID TIME MAGAZINE A WEEK LATER REPORT JACKIE'S PERFORMANCE UNDER FIRE?

"They went all out. By this time there was considerable whispering about Jackie out on the car. So on December 6 this sister magazine of Life re-ran picture D along with three other pictures -- see pictures E, F and G. Under "D" it said 'Jackie seeks help'; under E it said 'crawls toward the Secret Service Agent'; under F it said 'car speeds up'; and under G it said 'she pulls the Agent aboard.' Then, aware that many readers might think 'it looks to me as if she were getting the hell out of there', they stretched this line: 'Never for an instant did she think of flight.'

How did they know what she was thinking of?

"These four pictures look to be in sequence to the innocent viewer -- but they are far from it. There were at least seventy-two frames, maybe more, showing Mrs. Kennedy getting out of her seat and onto the back of the car, covering a period of four or five seconds. Very few of these frames have ever been published and none in sequence. Those frames showing Jackie out on all fours and lunging for something coming off the right rear of the car (more about this later) are totally deleted to provide the neat little action strip that Time wanted for its captions and accompanying text. The biggest deception was to say under picture C that Jackie's outstretched hand was in Agent Hill's outstretched hand to help him, when it was the other way around -- her hand was in his so that he could help her and push her back into the seat.

(to be continued in the next issue)