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THE INVESTIGATOR

* THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY *
in Search Of The Truth

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THE REAL TRUTH OF JOHN KENNEDY'S MURDER

By Harrison E. Livingstone

Within the past month, a Dr. David Mantik, a radiologist with some of the highest credentials in his profession--including a PhD in physics--determined that the X-rays in the National Archives of President Kennedy's skull are composites and not legitimate X-rays.

With the permission of the Kennedy family, Dr. Mantik used an optical densitometer for the first time on the autopsy X-rays in the National Archives.

His work follows closely that of Dr. Randolph Robertson, also a radiologist, who determined that the intersecting fracture lines on the X-rays clearly show that two bullets struck the President in the head, one from in front. Evidently, the fake X-rays were done in haste, and Dr. Mantik found that the large hole on the right side in the back of the head described in the autopsy report and by the Dallas medical witnesses was covered up in the X-rays. Other portions of the composite X-rays, made up from left and right lateral projections and pre-existing in vitro X-rays survived since the forgers did not believe that the above data could be detected.

Dr. Mantik's instruments, used for the first time on these particular X-rays, find that there is no entry hole in the back of the head near the cowlick. Previous reports contradicting the autopsy doctors and their report placed the entry four inches higher in the cowlick. The autopsy doctors have repeatedly denied that there was such a high entry wound, and denied it in last year's JAMA article. This means that the cone of metal fragments showing from front to back on the skull X-ray is so high in the head that it could only come from a second shot from in front, as Dr. Mantik and Dr. Robertson believe.

The tests indicate that some of the apparent metal fragments showing on the X-rays may not be metal at all, and are in the wrong places.

These startling (if not stupendous) findings might otherwise go unnoticed in a nation bombarded and jaded by many false stories with regard to the mystery of John Kennedy's murder. The above findings show clearly that there was an ambush involving more than one gunman, and a cover-up of the facts.

This year I located the missing British nurse, Diana Bowron, who has never before been interviewed. Nurse Bowron is in some ways the most important of all the Parkland Hospital witnesses, since she constitutes the vital chain of evidence from the time the body arrived in the limousine and she got into the back seat to take the President's pulse to the time she washed his back and hair and wrapped the body and put it into the coffin. She knows above all what the wounds looked like. Bowron viewed the autopsy pictures and blows the case sky high with her observations.

It is tragedy that the two most major attacks on criticism of the Warren Report and the autopsy report on President John F. Kennedy's wounds are an example in the past year of some of the worst and most dishonest scholarship in the history of the United States. Specifically, I refer to the series of articles in *The Journal of the American Medical Association* and to Gerald Posner's book *Case Closed*.

Posner, an attorney and newcomer to the Kennedy case, joined the list of Warren Commission loyalists covering up the true nature of the evidence in John Kennedy's murder. Part of a massive propaganda attack that began with *The Journal of the American Medical Association* in 1992, he tries to controvert or ignore the fast developing evidence of forgery of the medical

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evidence. As my latest book went to press, Posner issued his *Case Closed*, a book largely cooked from misstatement, inaccurate research, and outright misrepresentation. It would seem no coincidence that a major news magazine, *U.S. News and World Report*, would devote almost half an issue to his book in a huge and coordinated propaganda effort which required extensive pre-planning. Why would they go to such lengths on the thirtieth anniversary of Kennedy's death?

Posner has a close relationship with Dr. Lowell Levine who identified the alleged body of Dr. Joseph Mengele, the Nazi concentration camp monster. Levine authenticated the so-called official X-rays of John Kennedy and those of Mengele, and worked with Posner on his book about Mengele.

In his book on the JFK case, Posner ignored research which completely refuted various of the premises he needed to construct his lone assassin theory. We can judge the low level of his scholarship by those statements about me and my work which are completely false, part of a widespread attempt to build in the public eye a false image of me--the principal proponent of forgery and falsification at the moment when the third volume of my work reaches the country. Posner ignores fine points in the evidence and buries the real questions with simplistic generalizations. He fails utterly to prove his points in the medical evidence or for a lone assassin with his case on Oswald. Not an experienced investigator, he questions witnesses so that he gets the answers he wants, and ignores the truth.

On page 310 of Posner's book, he writes that "*High Treason* asserts that some doctors examined the wound with a flashlight and that Dr. Jenkins picked the head up from the stretcher to show other doctors the extent of the rear wound." This statement implies that Jenkins shined the flashlight in, but I never wrote that, and anyone familiar with my book knows which doctor it was. The doctor did this when only a couple of people were present. Dr. Jenkins also picked up the head to show the extent of the wound to Dr. Dulaney. Although some doctors may not recall every detail of my recorded conversations many years ago when I went to see them, Posner's implication that I fabricated this is a lie, and to say so implies that everyone of the Dallas doctors was lying when they said the back of the head was missing. In addition, Posner's footnote at the bottom of the page again distorts what the Dallas doctors demonstrated on the 1988 Nova show. A photograph of each of them showing the placement of the large defect in the President's head is printed in my new book. All attempts to explain the undamaged scalp and head in the photographs of the back of the head fail. On the same page, Posner claims that the Zapruder film shows the large defect over the right ear. This is seen only in some copies and only one of the three sets of slides at the National Archives. The large hole is exactly where it is in the autopsy report and in the Dallas descriptions, but extending into the back of the head, which part is blacked out on some copies of the altered film before the public.

"*High Treason* asserts that Jenkins originally said JFK was shot in the chest. Jenkins laughed when the author read him the charge." (p. 312) I wrote nothing like this distortion. I asked Jenkins (p. 76, *High Treason*): "Have you ever changed any of your original opinions in connection with the wounds received by President Kennedy?" Jenkins responded: "I guess so. The first day I had thought because of his pneumo-thorax, that his wound must have gone--that the one bullet must have traversed his pleura, must have gotten into his lung cavity, I mean, and from what you say now, I know it did not go that way. I thought it did." Jenkins had written at the time that "...there was also obvious...chest damage" and I speculated that he might have been shot in the chest. Being shot in the back is being shot in the chest, in my book. Its all the thorax, and we all know that the bullet from behind hit him well down on the back. With reference to Posner's comments on the bullet fragments, this is again false, and is dealt with in my new book

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Killing the Truth.

In his zeal to demonstrate that the Dallas doctors were completely wrong in their original placement of the very large hole in President Kennedy's head, he not only seemingly gets them to move the hole, but ignores the placement of that hole by the autopsy report and the pathologists as extending close to the occipital protuberance, or bump on the back of the head. Posner fails to grasp the basic issues in conflict and ignores the fact that all the witnesses from both hospitals have described the wound nearly identically, extending to the side of the head to behind or above the right ear. To be sure, not everyone in Dallas saw the flap open above the right ear, which Mrs. Kennedy had evidently closed.

The importance of the issue relates to the possibility of a tangential shot from in front.

In writing about the medical evidence, Posner claims that in my first book, *High Treason* that I "devote more than thirty pages to highlighting this conflict between the Parkland and Bethesda descriptions of the head wound." There is no such thirty pages. I may have pointed out a discrepancy as part of the requirement for journalistic balance.

Posner, not a historian, systematically avoids the academic requirement of *total evidence*.

Posner fails to note that my primary findings are that there was *no change* in the wounds between Dallas and Bethesda (and therefore body tampering is a hoax) and that the pictures have to be fake. He completely ignores all that I discovered in many medical interviews to back that up. Posner perhaps means that there is a massive difference in what the *photographs* and *X-rays* show--rather than the essentially identical *descriptions* he mentions above from both hospitals and the autopsy report. In an oblique fashion, even the autopsy pathologists indicated that something is seriously wrong with this evidence, and dispute major aspects of the photographs and indirectly, the X-rays. This is the crux of the case now.

Finally, Posner writes. "Books like *High Treason* and *Conspiracy*, by Anthony Summers, charged that the CIA, or a rogue group of agents, was responsible for the assassination." (p. 458n) You will have to look for a long time for either myself or Summers to have written that the CIA as an institution killed President Kennedy. It is this sort of innuendo and misrepresentation that makes targets out of writers and falsifies the history of a great nation and its institutions. It is regrettable that works such as this masquerading as scholarship rely on word games for persuasion.

Posner has given us a massive distortion of the evidence at a key moment in this nation's political history. Posner, in his inadequate research, never examined my second volume, *High Treason 2*, which decisively defeats many of Posner's main arguments. The rest of *Case Closed* isn't worth bothering with.

Ultimately the tragedy of Posner's misplaced energy in his benighted book is what it represents: A terrible failing in American intellectual life in recent years. The reliance is on style rather than substance. *The New York Times'* critic, Christopher Lehmann-Haupt attempts to sum up why he promotes Posner's book: it's *elegance!* The critic ends his review of "*Case Closed*" by saying "the result is more satisfying than any conspiracy theory because at every step its explanation is clearer and more elegant." Never mind that the facts are often distorted, or lied about, or ignored.

That is, the proof of a lone assassin, no conspiracy, and Oswald's guilt is to be found in empirical presumptions about Oswald's background which in fact merely *indicates* that he had a propensity to violence and mental instability. Even then, the evidence for this is seriously distorted, if one understands the premises Posner accepts.

This is really all Posner has, after he lies to himself and throws away solid physical

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evidence controverting the *theory* he supports (the theory of the Warren Commission) with the vicious character assassination for certain medical doctors who are in fact deeply religious men, truthful and kindly to a fault, and dismisses out of hand massive evidence of forgery and a fabricated case. How could any reasonable person dismiss the testimony of 33 medical witnesses that there was a large hole in the back of the head merely because the photographs don't show it?

Posner, an apologist desperately protecting his own New York friends who seemingly helped cover-up the case once more in the 1970's, is like those critics of the Warren Report who cannot face forgery of the autopsy photographs and X-rays or of the Zapruder film because they need those materials to prove their particular theories. They become wedded to materials which they are then forced to insist are authentic. Posner is forced to insist Oswald was a violent lone nut *in order to be* an assassin when all the evidence is to the contrary. They are like General McClelland who was too rigid to change his plans and meet changing conditions.

The bottom line of all this is that the alleged photographs and X-rays of the President's body are fake. They'll always be fake, and in the end, this will be the verdict of history. Someday the body of President Kennedy will be exhumed--perhaps long after we're dead and gone--and there they will get the biggest shock of their lives. For if it is President Kennedy's body in that grave at Arlington National Cemetery, the one thing sure will be my discovery that the X-ray cannot correspond to the skull.

Posner engages in the most personal vituperation and vicious character assassination against several of the Dallas doctors whom he feels raise issues and observations which controvert the story he wants to tell. Posner makes personal judgements only about those doctors he disagrees with, never criticizing in a like manner those he agrees with. Those same doctors whom he accepts have been open to criticism on political grounds, that they are right wingers and distorting the evidence themselves.

The Kennedy assassination could have been solved a long time ago if the gang of "critics" who seized control of the case had been seen for what they were and other, more competent and sincere investigators replaced them, and if the X-rays and photographs of the body had not been kept secret and instead widely distributed in medical journals at the very least. If the American Medical Association's *Journal* had been on the job and not run by former military men protecting the hospital pathologists who conducted the autopsy, pushing out of the way Dr. Robert Carnei and those who should have done it, we would not still be grappling with this terrible mystery. We are defeated by our own superstitions, one of which is the fear of photographs of the dead and the violence we as a nation feed on. We don't want to see the results of our own acts and dark side.

The fake X-rays and photos were flashed at Chief Justice Earl Warren in order to trick him, and it worked. But the cover-up is collapsing and we who are knocking it down will have the last word for history in spite of the desperate and dishonest efforts of the apologists.

Clearly, there are or were very powerful people in the land who greatly feared the truth of that ambush November 22, 1963, and who have made sure that the public does not have access to the truth. The truth of a *coup d'état* and a living conspiracy is too awesome and too threatening.

Obviously it took very powerful people to be in a position to fake the evidence in the assassination, to forge, plant and steal a great deal of evidence from the National Archives. Does this nation now have the courage to face the real truth?

* Harrison Edward Livingstone is the author of *Killing the Truth, Deceit and Deception in the JFK Case*, just published, and two previous best sellers *High Treason*, and *High Treason 2*.