

Editor's Mail Box

Question of Judgment

To The Examiner:

The incredible failure of Sen. Ted Kennedy and his advisors to call in an eminent forensic pathologist, to say nothing of having no autopsy in that tragic case, leaves me wondering whether they are capable of making sound judgments

Granted they may as lawyers have their good reasons, legal or political. It is for the protection of all concerned, however, that many states require autopsies in ALL unattended deaths, especially in that case where the circumstances are confused to say the least. . . .

The Kennedy family with their many tragic happenings, should be spared the unsavory (and sometimes vicious) questions which always arise in these circumstances, even if they appear to think their national stature places them above such things and above the law. A trained medical sleuth who asks himself all the unpleasant questions possible and follows them up routinely in all such cases . . . can readily put to rest any doubts, unfortunate implications or unfair accusations . . .

A U.S. Senator who allows himself to get into such a situation in the first place shows folly and immaturity quite unsuited for his office. Furthermore, it is amply evident that he is also unqualified for the Presidency of the United States.

DR. JOHN BERGHOUT
San Leandro

Our senator has proven that things other than guns can be loaded and deadly.

GREG HINES
San Francisco

Space Talk

After 48 years in radio as owner, manager, character, etc., I have marvelled at the advancement of communication in radio and "illustrated" but have a suggestion that will and increase further listener both mediums. I propose a mike cutoff from commercial space men in the fu'

San Francisco Examiner ED

Friday, July 25, 1969

The Cloud Over Ted Kennedy

AS IS ONLY NATURAL, the fatal automobile accident involving Sen. Edward M. Kennedy has stirred up a storm. The combination of a mixed drinking party, mystery and a new tragedy for one of the most potent names in American politics is automatic big news.

What is somewhat surprising is the extremity of some of the reactions. Political foes of the Massachusetts Senator gleefully and almost immediately proclaimed an end to his White House aspirations. The Democratic Party, they opined, has been thrown into terrible confusion with the obvious loss of its national leader.

Neither assumption is necessarily correct. Nor are the many innuendoes that are being cast both publicly and privately at this young man who has known far more than his share of trouble and pain. What is apparent is an unfortunate human tendency to delight in the Achilles heel of a leader—even without positive proof that there is one.

There certainly is no doubt that Sen. Kennedy is in serious trouble. Many grave questions about the drowning of the young girl in his car remain unanswered. Perhaps the most important of all is why a man who aspires for the Presidency acted the way he did under stress.

The point is that the questions must be answered definitely. Sen. Kennedy has yet to explain precisely what happened and is entitled to do so. He'll presumably get that chance tonight. He may be able to explain satisfactorily — or he may not.

Meanwhile, until the full story becomes known, it is contrary to all our principles of justice to pre-judge the case. And until all the facts are known, it is the height of wishful thinking by his opponents to believe that Sen. Kennedy's political career has been wrecked.