



The very first call was from a close friend who simply told me that perhaps Robert Kennedy knew more about the assassination of his brother than most of us had suspected.

But on January 28, 1971, I said that my original information revealed that the accused assassin, a 26-year-old, had been photographed in front of a CIA building in Washington.

Edwin Washington, President Hoover's special representative and special commission chairman for peace in America,

in San Francisco, Eric Hoffer, one of the men appointed to that commission, stated that all the talk about violence in America was unfounded in fact, and that the collective guilt theory was nonsense.

From his Sacramento office, Governor Ronald Reagan said that anti-gun legislation was not what was needed in America, and the assassination of Robert Kennedy was the culmination of a general disrespect for law and order in America.

George Puhman said that we cannot tolerate anarchy and disrespect for the law.

I was at Mike Blodgett's house at the time drinking wine and watching it all unfold in front of us. I was not shocked and this time I didn't cry.

For many months now, I have taken the position on the air as well as in print that the most vital issue facing this nation today is not the war in Vietnam or white racism. I have maintained that the issue that must take first priority in the minds and hearts of every conscientious citizen is the assassination of John F. Kennedy, the Bayou Voodoo Commission cover-up and the all-encompassing investigation of New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison.

One cannot truly understand the reason for Vietnam or the oppression of minority groups or the ever increasing number of political assassinations in this country or any of the other ills that plague this nation without a clear understanding of the subterfuge and implications of Dallas in November of '63.

Everything else is a side issue. Everything else might be valid as a separate entity but relatively meaningless in terms of comprehending the whole.

It is incredible to me that the only national issue to arise from this recent tragedy will be a debate about the pros and cons of a car buying a gun. Where has ever one been for the past sixty years? More people have been killed in this country by abortion since the turn of the century than the total number of Americans killed in all the wars since the Revolutionary War.

The United States represents over 700,000 people. More than 17,000 people a year are shot to death in America.

Bobby Kennedy was shot down on Kennedy territory. He was not making an anti-war speech in Orange County at a fourth of July anti-Communist party before the local chapter of the John Birch Society; he was with friends on the eve of a sweeping victory, and now he's dead.

And the liberals blame it on the guns, and the conservatives on the moral breakdown in America, and both groups are wrong... dead wrong.

You see, even when we support that collective guilt theory about mass participation, we somehow tend to lose sight of the real culprit. It's too easy to blame it on 'American society' or this group or that, depending upon your own political persuasion.

But, when you get down to the nitty gritty of where it's at, in the final analysis, you killed Bobby Kennedy.

You killed him by indifference. You killed him by losing faith. And you killed him by not contributing to the efforts of those who have been telling you that political assassination is like a cancer that spreads over the body of this nation and eventually becomes terminal in nature if not arrested in its very early stages.

Mark Lane, Mort Sahl and Jim Garrison assessed the patient's condition a long time ago and they told you the prognosis was very poor and that the disease had to be halted at once.

When we allowed the murderers of John Kennedy to get away with their crime, we told the federal government as well as the people of this nation that a new form of protest is now in fashion in America. It's O.K. to fire away, and chances are you'll get away with it. When justice was not served in the case of our late President, it established a legal precedent.

And your indifference has contributed to the psychosis of violence which culminated in the kitchen corridor of the Ambassador Hotel last week. How many deaths will it take before we realize that war which is being fought 10,000 miles away is the same war that was born on the streets

of Dallas in Nov. of '63? John Kennedy had already taken the first step to withdraw our forces from Vietnam in the weeks prior to his death.

The problem with the American people is that they are all hung up with the symptoms and nobody seems to give a damn about the causes. Anti-gun legislation is like treating internal bleeding with a band-aid.

The real tragedy is the fact that you are probably still not convinced. It may be necessary to lose a Dick Gregory or a Eugene McCarthy or a Jim Garrison before you look in the mirror and realize that your apathy killed before, and it will kill again...

ELLIOT MINTZ BROADCASTS  
SAT. & SUN. NIGHTS 8:15 PM  
OVER KPFK (90.7) FM.