

Disc Jockey Rapped

Wild JFK Rumor Squashed

By Hugh Hough

CHICAGO — (CST) — An incredible rumor — that John Kennedy is alive and languishing in a guarded Dallas hospital room — gained such wide circulation here that yesterday a key figure in the Warren Commission knocked it down and criticized radio disk jockey Howard Miller for spreading it.

Albert Jenner Jr., a Chicago lawyer who served as senior counsel for the commission, termed the Kennedy-is-alive story "preposterous."

Jenner also described as "pretty poor journalism" Miller's on-the-air readings of a letter which speculated that Kennedy did not die.

Misleading

"This could serve nothing but evil ends," Jenner continued. "It could only excite and mislead the people."

Soon after Miller's broadcast, the Kennedy-is-alive story became topic A for discussion in bars, beauty parlors and especially in the local high schools.

The mimeographed letter read by Miller during both his Thursday and yesterday morning shows was titled "Dead or Alive, by Truman Capote." Miller said he told his listeners he didn't believe that Capote, a nationally known author, wrote the tract. In New York, Capote's

publishers denounced the rumors.

Miller said he read the letter because a listener had forwarded it to him with a request that he give his opinion on it.

Bombarded

He read it again yesterday, Miller said, because the station was "bombarded" with phone calls from interested listeners on Thursday, and many wanted a repeat performance.

The letter read:

"Though Kennedy was incapacitated, he did not die. The Kennedys chose to allow the citizens of the world to believe he was dead and to carry on life in a normal manner . . . From 1963 to the present, JFK has remained in the Dallas hospital under heavy guard and visited regularly by his wife.

"The purpose of Mrs. Kennedy marrying (Aristotle) Onassis was to establish a new, more secure place for her husband to stay — for example, Onassis island — which leads me to believe that perhaps Onassis and Mrs. Kennedy are not married, but posing as married to have an excuse to be on the island most of the time.

"Unique though this theory may be, it is still possible."

Some persons who heard only part of the broadcast thought they had heard an announcement that Kennedy actually is alive.

Denied by Capote..

See this file 11 Apr 69.