

MISC

Facts Bow To Theory

OSWALD: ASSASSIN OR FALL GUY? By Joachim Joesten. New York: Marzani & Munsell. \$3.95.

By HUGH AYNESWORTH

This account of the "real" happenings of last November would be highly amusing if it were not for the tragic realm into which this "free lance" author delves.

Once again, it is the story of a man with a preconceived theory who must find enough facts to corroborate same. Joesten brews a potent mixture of intrigue, innuendo, slander and outright untruths in his effort to prove a conclusion only fools should believe.

IF YOU WOULD listen to this one, he would have you thinking that Lee Harvey Oswald was a polite little misunderstood youth who just got mixed up in the wrong company.

That wasn't a gun he carried to work that fateful Friday morning. It wasn't this noble youth who killed Officer J. D. Tippit either.

Oh how terrible, says Joesten (an ex-German who became a U.S. citizen in 1948 and must wonder why), poor little Lee Harvey was the victim of a ruthless plot headed by Dallas police leaders, Dist. Atty. Henry Wade and his staff and a few "bad guys" from the FBI.

Joesten further states that Oswald was an agent of both the FBI and the CIA (how's that for a 24-year-old who couldn't spell 'wrist'?).

It's the same old tripe with some new flavoring. Joesten claims there were several "accomplices," that additional shots came from the overpass ahead of the President's motorcade, that Tippit was slain by still another accomplice and so on.

THE TIP-OFF is the foreword, wherein Joesten dedicates his book to "Mark Lane . . . The brilliant and courageous New York attorney . . ." Lane is the troublemaker who spent two days in Dallas in January on his "investigation" and now pretends to be an expert on all aspects of the weird tragedy.

Joesten has nothing but ridicule for all the official bodies concerned with the assassination. J.

The Dallas Morning News

Book News

Edited by ALLEN MAXWELL

Edgar Hoover, he says, "has been one of the most maleficent forces in American public life." He points ridicule at District Attorney Henry Wade, Police Chief Jesse Curry, Asst. Dist. Atty. William Alexander, even Oswald's boss at the Texas School Book Depository, Roy Truly.

There are scores of inaccurate "facts" in the book. The author has lifted, without permission, many of the things written by this reviewer in copyrighted articles, and twisted even them into questionmarks.

His research must have been done entirely from newspaper clippings, for he lacks even the most rudimentary understanding of the overall picture. But apparently this didn't bother Joesten.

MONTHS BEFORE his book came out Joesten flooded bookstores with a mimeographed letter announcing his forthcoming work in these words:

"I am not writing this for the general public which has been securely lulled into uncritical acceptance of the preposterous Oswald Hoax. My report is destined for the few discerning and independent minds who have sensed all along that something was terribly wrong in the official version but who had no way of getting at the facts. More power to these earnest truth-seekers!"

Then in a tone that would have made Patrick Henry sound like a flagburner, Joesten added, "Notice to the Assassins: You can kill me, too, but you can no longer stop the truth. Every fact that will be brought out in the present report, every name that will figure in it, every hidden aspect uncovered therein, is already contained in my 320-page book manuscript due to be published soon in Paris. Numerous copies of it have been placed in safe hands throughout Europe. Anything that may happen to me will only enhance the worldwide repercussions of my expose."

JUST FOR THE RECORD, Mr. Joesten, your times used in tabulating Oswald's escape route were far off, your "investigation" of the Texas School Book Depository found at least 70 too many employees working there, your idea that the motorcade should have gone down Main Street all the way to Stemmons is ludicrous.

And it is too bad you wrote your book before you had a chance to get the April, May, June and July clippings. You would have been much more informed.

And for the record, this small segment of what you called the "supine, cowardly press" would challenge you to provide one piece of proof for any of the filth written in this book.

It is one thing to criticize this nation and its agencies—this reviewer has pointed out shortcomings of the FBI on occasion—but it is another to blend conjecture, lies and half-truths into a "documentary" that will be gobbled up by an "intrigue-loving" world.

Freedom to print the truth is a very sacred privilege, one we must retain at any cost, but there should be a law to deal with this kind of freedom.