

For immediate release

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January 27, 1969

O P E N L E T T E R

To Judge W. Preston Battle, Criminal Court, Memphis, Tenn.

concerning the J A M E S E A R L R A Y H O A X

by JOACHIM JOESTEN

Your Honor:

James Earl Ray did not kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

He was a paid decoy and as such deserves to be punished for his part in the conspiracy. But he did not fire the shot that killed Dr. King and, for all his criminal past, he, too, is entitled to justice.

Ray has been charged with murder by the State of Tennessee on the basis of a deliberately false and fraudulent FBI Report. The FBI KNOWS, and so does the State, that Ray did not commit the murder of which he has been accused. The felony of this false accusation is compounded by the hidden intent to shield, through the sacrifice of a scapegoat, the real assassin of Dr. King, whose identity is well known to the FBI.

I am making these charges on the basis of a careful and detailed study of the case. My findings and conclusions are laid down in a 45,000-word documentation, of which a copy is being airmailed to you under separate cover today. Copies are also being sent to the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, Head, Southern Christian Leadership Conference; to the American Civil Liberties Union; and to a select group of newspapers.

This documentation is not just a layman's brief for the defense of a man wrongfully accused. It is also a public indictment of his accusers, in particular J. Edgar Hoover, who personally supervised this frame-up.

I hereby declare and affirm that J. Edgar Hoover, wilfully, knowingly and with malice aforethought conspired with other felonious "law-enforcement officials" to bring about the judicial murder of James Earl Ray through trumped-up charges and doctored evidence.

Because Hoover knows that his false and fraudulent case will not stand up in court, extreme pressure is now being brought on Ray, a man virtually defenseless because of his long criminal record and his involvement in the conspiracy to kill King, falsely to plead guilty in return for a promise of leniency. Ray has been informed unambiguously that, if he defends himself against the murder charge, he will be convicted, sentenced to death and executed. On the other hand, he has been promised a recommendation of mercy, a comparatively light sentence and an early pardon if he accepts the role of a lone assassin.

That would obviate the inconvenience, for J. Edgar Hoover and the State authorities, of having to prove their false and untenable charges in court, but it would hardly serve the cause of justice in America.

I trust that you, the judge, will not tolerate this travesty of justice. The documentation which I am making available to Your Honor, will help you establish the truth.

Respectfully yours,

Joachim Joesten

As the Moment of Truth Dawns in New Orleans...

At long last, the historic process of establishing the truth about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy is under way. The trial of Clay Shaw in New Orleans is only a first step in that direction; others will follow soon. In the end, the process inexorably will lead to the unmasking of Lyndon B. Johnson as the power behind what was in effect the first coup d'état in American history (Nov. 22, 1963).

The time has come for thoughtful Americans to start thinking the

UNTHINKABLE -- because it is true.

As the truth gradually emerges in the courts, in the press and in public debate or private discussions, a careful compilation of all the available literature on the assassination and the Warren Report becomes an urgent task for historians, political scientists and librarians, for at least two reasons:

One, each and every book that has been published on the subject makes a contribution to the search for the truth -- some large, some small, but none is negligible.

And Two, some day students of history, pondering the era of breath-taking disclosures that is now ahead will ask in amazement: How did all this get started?

The Crime of Dallas was almost the perfect crime. Every precaution had been taken by its organizers to make sure that the truth would never come out. And then the Warren Report, this "gigantic fraud" (Garrison), all but sealed off the last avenues of truth-seeking.

Officialdom and the news media not only did nothing to help bring out the true facts, but they actively, and in concert, exerted every possible effort to obfuscate the truth and obstruct independent investigation.

BOOKS, and books alone, were the weapons of truth. District Attorney Jim Garrison himself has publicly acknowledged that it was through his reading of the published critiques of the Warren Report that he felt impelled to open an official investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy.

Now, it is a matter of record, easily to be verified, that the first book published in the United States which attacked the official version of the assassination as an unmitigated fraud was JOACHIM JOESTEN's Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy? (New York, June 1964). The same book, in its second edition (January 1965) contained the first critique of the Warren Report to come out between book covers.

Since then, JOACHIM JOESTEN has published seven more books about the assassination of President Kennedy which are not, however, generally available in the United States. They are "books-in-exile," published in England, Switzerland and France, because their outspokenness made them too "hot" for American publishers to handle.

However, these books - Oswald: The Truth; Marina Oswald; The Garrison Enquiry; How Kennedy Was Killed; Die Wahrheit über den Kennedy-Mord (Zurich); La vérité sur le cas de Jack Ruby; (Paris); and now The Dark Side of Lyndon B. Johnson are available at a fast increasing number of public and college libraries in America. They can be obtained by writing directly to the author: Joachim Joesten, 87-70 173rd Street, Jamaica 11432, New York City; or to his present address in Europe: Joachim Joesten, Munich 13, Griegstrasse 13, c/o Rahim, Germany.