

since that was the only day when Bush met with Truman at the White House, and Forrestal was there.

It should be stressed that Forrestal and Bush met quite often sometimes more than once a week during 1947-1948. So their meeting was not unique at all. They even played tennis together on occasions, and judging by their correspondence, it is perfectly obvious that they knew each other very well and trusted each other. It is certainly true that Bush in his oral history, written many years later, mentions that in a sense Forrestal was the wrong man for the job as Secretary of Defence because he was not really a strong believer in service unification. He had been Secretary of the Navy. But there's no question that they served together, that they liked each other, they worked with each other, and that they were cordial to each other.

One of the most serious charges made by Klass towards the end of 1989 and in early 1990 was that the signature on the Truman-Forrestal (TF) memo is identical to that on a brief letter from Truman to Bush (TB) on October 1, 1947. The reasoning is that no two signatures are identical. If they are, one is a forgery of the other. In some of his writing, he admits that the Truman-Forrestal signature is 3.2% longer (hardly identical) than that on the Truman-Bush memo, but explains it away on the basis that it would have taken three xeroxings to get the fake done. In a Skeptical Inquirer article (Ref.17) he shows part of each memo even including the measurements of the lengths of different portions of the signature as done by William L. Moore, but only for the Truman-Forrestal memo. He doesn't show the ones for Truman-Bush nor the top portions of either which include the letterhead markings of White House, Washington, and he also doesn't include the date on Truman-Forrestal.

Frankly this is deceptive on Klass' part because, if he had included the measurements on Truman-Bush and the ratios of the lengths on the Truman-Forrestal to those on the Truman-Bush signatures, the reader would know that Klass had apparently misrepresented the facts:

(1) The signatures are clearly NOT identical. Klass says hold up to the light. I did. They DO NOT MATCH.

(2) The ratio of the lengths of the "Harry" portions is only 1.012 while it is 1.032--1.04 for the Truman portions and most important, exactly 1.000 for the letterhead portions.

(3) Clearly, xerox stretching has to be by the same ratio on all parts of a sheet of paper.

(4) Klass provides no comparisons or even a claim that a comparison had been made between other pairs of Truman signatures. Clearly, Truman would have signed a great many letters, memos, etc. If there are other pairs equally similar, then the similarity between the Truman-Forrestal and Truman-Bush signatures means nothing.

(5) Klass makes a big deal about the slip of the fountain pen to create a little extra line at the upper right portion of the "H" on both signatures though of different thicknesses. He doesn't bother to point out that there are at least three other signatures