

**COWELL 103**  
**THE ALTERNATIVE THEORIES<sup>1</sup>**  
**OF**  
**THE ASSASSINATION OF**  
**PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY<sup>2</sup>**  
**&**  
**THE IMPLICATIONS OF EACH**  
**FOR OUR AMERICAN LEGAL & POLITICAL ORDER**  
**I**  
**INTRODUCTION**

The assassination of President John F. Kennedy<sup>3</sup> in Dealey Plaza in downtown Dallas, Texas at 12:30PM CST on November 22nd of 1963 stands as one of the watershed events in the consciousness of the American people. It is especially central to the consciousness of members of the largest and arguably most idealistic generation of Americans, the Baby Boomer generation, who, at that time, were just entering adulthood and attempting to understand and become participants in the legal and political order that they had been taught distinguishes our American constitutional democracy from other nations in history whose leadership and policies have been determined through violence and the force of arms.

Since that tragic day in our history, there have been “roughly 600 published (books) on the Kennedy assassination”<sup>4</sup> and multiple official government reports following investigations conducted on the assassination and associated circumstances and individuals.

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1 [https://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/JFK\\_Assassination](https://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/JFK_Assassination)

2 <http://www.archives.gov/research/jfk/>

3 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassination\\_of\\_John\\_F.\\_Kennedy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassination_of_John_F._Kennedy)

4 [http://www.nytimes.com/2012/09/12/us/gaeton-fonzi-76-investigated-kennedy-assassination.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/09/12/us/gaeton-fonzi-76-investigated-kennedy-assassination.html?_r=0)

The literally hundreds of books (and growing) and official investigations, committees, and review boards (none since ARRB<sup>5</sup> in 1998) have generated an entire spectrum of theories that have arisen in our land as to exactly what happened that day and who, exactly, was responsible for that terrible event.

*Official investigations*<sup>6</sup>  
**The Dallas Police Department Investigation**<sup>7</sup>

After arresting Lee Harvey Oswald<sup>8</sup> and collecting physical evidence at the crime scenes, the Dallas Police held Oswald at police headquarters<sup>9</sup> for interrogation. Oswald was questioned all afternoon about both the shooting death of Officer J.D. Tippit<sup>10</sup> and the assassination of the President. Oswald was not charged with the shooting of Governor John Connally<sup>11</sup>, who was seriously injured by a combined five entry and exit wounds that were initially publicly determined to be caused by one bullet by his surgeon<sup>12</sup>, Dr. Robert Shaw<sup>13</sup>; thus, the FBI and Warren Commission's "single bullet theory"<sup>14</sup>, nor was Oswald charged with the shooting of James Tague<sup>15</sup>, who received a flesh wound to his right cheek from a bullet ricochet, reported by Dallas sheriff detective, Buddy Walthers.<sup>16</sup> After Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested, Captain Will Fritz<sup>17</sup>, head of the homicide division, was put in charge of the interrogation. Oswald was questioned intermittently for approximately 12 hours between 2:30 p.m. on November 22, and 11 a.m. on November 24. Throughout these interrogations Oswald denied any involvement with either the assassination of President Kennedy or the murder of Patrolman Tippit.

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5 Assassination Records Review Board <http://www.archives.gov/research/jfk/review-board/>

6 Footnote references not on the same page are sources linked to and listed on [Wikipedia](#)

7 <http://texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/JFKDP/>

8 <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKoswald.htm>

9 <http://www.jfk.org/go/exhibits/dallas/dallas-police-headquarters>

10 <http://www.jdtippit.com/>

11 <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKconnally.htm>

12 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-a2iLZLjhCM>

13 <http://www.maryferrell.org/mffweb/archive/viewer/showDoc.do?docId=35&relPageId=94>

14 [http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/Single\\_Bullet\\_Theory](http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/Single_Bullet_Theory)

15 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Tague](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Tague)

16 <http://jfkassassination.net/russ/testimony/walthers.htm>

17 <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKfritz.htm>

Captain Fritz wrote a report<sup>18</sup> of the interrogations from notes he made afterwards. Also present during these interrogations were FBI agents, James Hosty<sup>19</sup> and James W. Bookhout, as well as T.J. Nully and David B. Grant (Secret Service), Robert I. Nash (United States Marshal), and Billy L. Senkel and Fay M. Turner (Dallas Police Department). Capt Fritz also did most of the questioning, but kept only rudimentary notes.<sup>20</sup> Several of the FBI agents wrote contemporaneous reports.<sup>21</sup>

For posterity's sake, other than Oswald's repeated television appearances, always proclaiming his innocence followed by requests for legal representation; there were no stenographic, audio or film recordings of the intermittent interrogations of Oswald.<sup>22</sup>

Supervising Sergeant H.F. Davis, assigned districts 80 and 90, was also dispatched to Dealey Plaza after the assassination. Sgt. Davis believed he had prepared stringent security precautions, in an attempt to prevent demonstrations like those marking the Adlai Stevenson<sup>23</sup> visit from happening again.<sup>24</sup> An anti-UN demonstrator, Cora Lacy Frederickson, assaulted U.S. Ambassador Stevenson, the previous month.<sup>25</sup>

The FBI and Secret Service were warned of potential threats in Chicago, Florida and Texas; to what extent specific Secret Service personnel knew of these threats and warnings is uncertain. Kennedy himself knew it, but told his brother, among others, he thought the Secret Service had the threats in hand.

Winston G. Lawson of the Secret Service, who was in charge of the planning, told the Dallas Police not to assign its usual squad of experienced homicide detectives to follow immediately behind the President's car. Agent Lawson drove the presidential motorcade's lead car. In a statement he made later, Lawson commented, "As the lead car was passing under this bridge I heard the first loud, sharp report and in more rapid succession two more sounds like gunfire. I could see persons to the left of the motorcade vehicles running away. I noticed Agent Hickey standing up in the follow-up car with the automatic weapon and first thought he had fired at someone. Both the President's car and our lead car rapidly accelerated almost simultaneously."<sup>26</sup>

Police protection was routine for both visiting presidents and for motorcades of other visiting dignitaries. Police Chief Jesse Curry later testified that had his men been in place,

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18 <http://www.maryferrell.org/mffweb/archive/docset/getList.do?docSetId=1101>

19 <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKhosty.htm>

20 <http://www.maryferrell.org/mffweb/archive/viewer/showDoc.do?docId=29103>

21 [http://www.aarclibrary.org/publib/jfk/wc/wr/html/WCReport\\_0318b.htm](http://www.aarclibrary.org/publib/jfk/wc/wr/html/WCReport_0318b.htm)

22 [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yg0f\\_QHNSUw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yg0f_QHNSUw)

23 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adlai\\_Stevenson\\_II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adlai_Stevenson_II)

24 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassination\\_of\\_John\\_F.\\_Kennedy#Criticism\\_of\\_Secret\\_Service](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassination_of_John_F._Kennedy#Criticism_of_Secret_Service)

25 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWXoAPMcVrE>

26 <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKlawsonW.htm>

they might have been able to stop the assassin before he fired a second shot, because they carried submachine guns and rifles.<sup>27</sup>

During the evening of November 22, the Dallas Police Department performed paraffin tests on Oswald's hands and right cheek in an apparent effort to determine, by means of a scientific test, whether Oswald had recently fired a weapon. The results were positive for the hands and negative for the right cheek. Because of the unreliability of these tests, the Warren Commission did not rely on the results of the test in making their findings. Oswald provided little information other than denials that he was involved in any shooting during his questioning.

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<sup>27</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassination\\_of\\_John\\_F.\\_Kennedy#Criticism\\_of\\_Secret\\_Service](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassination_of_John_F._Kennedy#Criticism_of_Secret_Service)

## PURPORTED AVOIDED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS<sup>28</sup>



### Purported Chicago attempt - November 2, 1963

Secret Service informed that Thomas Arthur Vallee, a right wing "alienated ex-marine" said to be a "loner, paranoid schizophrenic & gun collector" had made threats to kill JFK. Vallee had recently acquired employment in a warehouse where JFK's Chicago motorcade was scheduled to pass on his November 2 trip.

On October 30, Chicago Secret Service told by FBI that "four snipers planned to kill Kennedy with high-powered rifles". The name of FBI informer is "Lee".

On October 31, the landlady of a Chicago boarding house discovers rifles with telescopic sights in a room occupied by four individuals. She informs the FBI who then relay information to the Secret Service.

On November 2, JFK's Chicago trip is cancelled just hours prior to his expected arrival.



### Purported Florida Threat - November 18, 1963

Secret Service and Chief of Tampa Police have extreme concern for JFK's safety during his November 18 motorcade through Tampa, Florida. Threat said to be posed by "unidentified rifleman shooting from a window in a tall building with a high power rifle fitted with a scope".

Of most concern was the Floridian Hotel building, where "JFK's motorcade had to make a hard left turn", slowing the motorcade "to a crawl". Security is heightened and motorcade passes without incident.

Surveillance tape of the extremist Joseph Milteer saying that Kennedy knew "he was a marked man" and his assassination was "in the working". Captain Sapp of Miami's Police Intelligence alerts FBI & Secret Service. JFK travels by helicopter instead of motorcade.

#### Data Sources:

Douglass, James W. *JFK and the Unspeakable* (Orbis Books, 2009)  
Bolden, Abraham, *The Echo from Dealey Plaza* (Three Rivers Press, 2008)  
Waldron, Lamar & Hartmann, Thom *Ultimate Sacrifice* (Constable & Robinson Ltd, 2005)  
Summers, Anthony *The Kennedy Conspiracy* (Warner Books, 1996)

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Unfortunately, Dallas authorities were not able to complete their investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy because of direct pressure in the form of at least one phone call from President Lyndon Baines Johnson to Captain Will Fritz insisting that he stop the Dallas Police investigation and let the FBI continue the on-going investigation. Captain Fritz told the press, "I think the case is cinched."

President Johnson has subsequently become a target of conspiracy theorists because of his documented efforts to directly influence the investigations of the Dallas Police, JFK's autopsy doctors, Oswald's surgeon<sup>29</sup>, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover<sup>30</sup>, Chief Justice Earl Warren, and ex-CIA DCI, Allen Dulles, among others. The wide distribution of ex-CIA agent E. Howard Hunt's tell-all to his son concerning the JFK assassination<sup>31</sup>, as well as

<sup>28</sup> Source: ["That Park Near The Underpass - A Primer on the Assassination of President John Kennedy \[Kindle Edition\]"](#) by Jamie Schulz, July 23, 2012

<sup>29</sup> On 11/24/63, LBJ called Parkland Hospital and personally asked Dr. Charles Crenshaw to do his best to get a "death bed confession" from the accused assassin Oswald.

<sup>30</sup> Walkthrough: The Formation of The Warren Commission:  
[http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/Walkthrough - Formation of the Warren Commission](http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/Walkthrough_-_Formation_of_the_Warren_Commission)

<sup>31</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bD4611qW6R8>

the disclosures of Madeleine Duncan Brown, LBJ's mistress<sup>32</sup>, and to some extent, doubts about an "international influence" from President Johnson himself, has further raised suspicion of his complicity in, or knowledge of, a cover up of some kind, at the very least.<sup>33</sup>

Although the pre-9/11 mainstream press brought more empirical facts to light (e.g., improved acoustic analysis detected four bullets<sup>34</sup>, not three; "The Grassy Knoll Is Back", Time magazine, March 26, 2001<sup>35</sup>), the post-9/11 mainstream press suggests present and future reader's received opinion should stop all this conspiracy "fiction" and circle firmly back to the Oswald-only conclusion (e.g., "Separating Fact From Fiction", Time, undated<sup>36</sup>).

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32 [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79lOKs0Kr\\_Y](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79lOKs0Kr_Y)

33 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDWLSLjj6BU>

34 The Zapruder film with frames restored, enhanced with the Dictabelt recording, "hearing" four shots, not three: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=62sT13AAIag>

35 <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,103958,00.html>

36 [http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1860871\\_1860876\\_1861003,00.html](http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1860871_1860876_1861003,00.html)

## The FBI Investigation<sup>37</sup>

President Johnson was the driving force in determining and controlling exactly how the murder of President Kennedy was investigated. He instructed Director Hoover to collect the evidence, to take the criminal investigation from the Dallas police, and to simply write a report establishing Lee Oswald as the lone assassin.

The FBI was the first authority to complete an investigation. On November 24, 1963, just hours after Oswald was fatally shot, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said that he wanted "something issued so we can convince the public that Oswald is the real assassin."<sup>[10]</sup> On December 9, 1963, only 17 days after the assassination, the FBI report was issued and given to the Warren Commission. Then, the FBI stayed on as the primary investigating authority for the commission.

The FBI stated that only three bullets were fired during the Kennedy assassination; the Warren Commission agreed with the FBI investigation that only three shots were fired but disagreed with the FBI report on which shots hit Kennedy and which hit Governor Connally. The FBI report claimed that the first shot hit President Kennedy, the second shot hit Governor Connally, and the third shot hit President Kennedy in the head, killing him. In contrast, the Warren Commission concluded that one of the three shots missed, one of the shots hit President Kennedy and then struck Governor Connally, and a third shot struck President Kennedy in the head, killing him.

At no point was the United States Justice Department consulted on strategy or process. The FBI was to prepare the report at its own initiative, not to work as the investigative arm of the justice department in a criminal case role.

The point has been raised that the murder of a president was not legally a federal crime. There is no sign that Johnson ever inquired into that legal issue or that he was even aware of it. Certainly he never mentioned it, even as a justification for a Texas inquiry.

With advice from Fortas and possibly Judge Thornberry, Johnson constructed a scenario in which a Texas Court of Inquiry would validate the FBI report. Johnson promoted this concept with the media and maneuvered Carr into announcing the strategy. Carr went so far as to write his own internal memo saying that he had been instructed to coordinate his activities with the president through Abe Fortas, who had no legal standing in the matter.

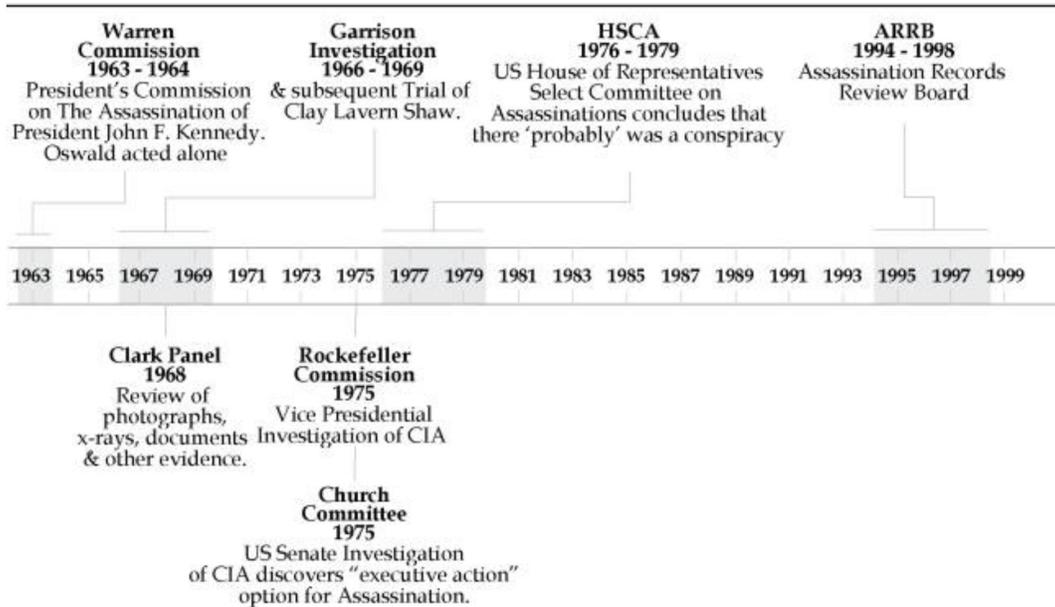
When the country as a whole began to respond negatively to Johnson's first proposal of a Texas Court of Inquiry, Johnson, in consultation with Abe Fortas, shifted to a presidential commission as the certifying body for the FBI report. Johnson and Fortas identified the potential commission members, with Johnson personally doing the recruiting. Members were told it was their duty to assist in avoiding any suspicions that might lead to a nuclear war, and that they would only have to validate an FBI report that was already virtually complete.

The new president responded as well with a series of actions that preempted any charges or discussion of conspiracy ensuring that the FBI presented Oswald as a "lone nut," and the creation of a presidential commission to approve an FBI report on Oswald's guilt, a

<sup>37</sup> [http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/JFK\\_Documents\\_-\\_FBI](http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/JFK_Documents_-_FBI)

report prepared after only approximately three working days of investigations into the American crime of the century.

## TIMELINE OF POST-FBI INVESTIGATIONS<sup>38</sup>



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<sup>38</sup> Source: ["That Park Near The Underpass - A Primer on the Assassination of President John Kennedy \[Kindle Edition\]"](#) by Jamie Schulz, July 23, 2012

## The Warren Commission<sup>39</sup>



The Warren Commission presents its report<sup>40</sup> to President Johnson President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy 26 Volumes of Hearings and Exhibits, referred as the Warren Commission, after its chairman Chief Justice Earl Warren, was established on November 29, 1963, by President Lyndon Johnson to investigate the assassination.<sup>[107]</sup> Its 888-page final report<sup>41</sup> was presented to President Johnson on September 24, 1964,<sup>[108]</sup> and made public three days later.<sup>[109]</sup> It concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in the killing of President Kennedy and the wounding of Texas Governor John Connally,<sup>[110]</sup> and that Jack Ruby also acted alone in the murder of Oswald.<sup>[111]</sup> As was no doubt expected, the Commission's findings have since proven controversial and been both challenged and supported by later studies. The Commission took its unofficial name—the Warren Commission—from its chairman, [Chief Justice](#) Earl Warren. According to published transcripts of Johnson's presidential phone conversations, some major officials were opposed to forming such a commission, and several commission members took part only with extreme reluctance.<sup>[112]</sup> One of their chief reservations was that a commission would ultimately create more controversy than consensus, and those fears proved valid.<sup>[112]</sup> The Commissions were printed off at Doubleday book publishing company located in Smithsburg, Maryland.<sup>[113]</sup>

## The Garrison Investigation<sup>42</sup>

The investigation by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison into the assassination of President Kennedy, which includes the Clay Lavern Shaw Trial Transcripts and Orleans Parish Grand Jury Transcripts, was conducted from 1966 to 1969.

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39 [http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/Warren\\_Commission](http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/Warren_Commission)

40 [http://www.aarclibrary.org/publib/contents/wc/contents\\_wr.htm](http://www.aarclibrary.org/publib/contents/wc/contents_wr.htm)

41 <http://www.archives.gov/research/jfk/warren-commission-report/>

42 [http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/Garrison\\_Investigation](http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/Garrison_Investigation)

Garrison was also notable for being among the first to assert that there were two conspiracies: The first conspiracy being the one which engineered the assassination of the president; the second conspiracy being the deliberate cover-up by the Warren Commission to hide the true facts of the assassination.<sup>[146]</sup>

Shaw was acquitted in March 1969, and the conspiracy movement was dealt a blow as Garrison's trial was widely seen as a debacle, with many researchers denouncing Garrison as a fraud and megalomaniac.<sup>[144]</sup> Further, as conspiracy theorist Robert Anson put it, because of Garrison, "bills in Congress asking for a new investigation were quietly shelved."<sup>[147]</sup> Nevertheless, the trial opened new avenues of investigations for the movement, particularly with previously unexplored New Orleans connections and links of others to Oswald.<sup>[144]</sup>

The movie by JFK by Oliver Stone was based on the story of the Garrison Investigation.<sup>43</sup>

### **The Rockefeller Commission<sup>44</sup>**

U.S. President's Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States, formed by President Gerald Ford on January 4, 1975, and headed by Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller, was known as the Rockefeller Commission.<sup>45</sup>

President Ford directed the Commission to determine whether or not any domestic CIA activities exceeded the Agency's statutory authority and to make appropriate recommendations. Part of the commission's work dealt with the Kennedy assassination, specifically the head snap as seen in the Zapruder film (first shown to the general public in 1975), and the possible presence of E. Howard Hunt<sup>46</sup> and Frank Sturgis<sup>47</sup> in Dallas.<sup>[115]</sup> The commission concluded that neither Hunt nor Sturgis were in Dallas at the time of the assassination.<sup>[116]</sup>

Other members were John T. Connor, C. Douglas Dillon, Erwin N. Griswold, Lane Kirkland, Lyman L. Lemnitzer, Ronald Reagan, Edgar F. Shannon, Jr. and David W. Belin, a former staff member of the Warren Commission, was named Executive Director. Named Senior Counsels were Harold A. Baker, Ernest Gellhorn, Robert B. Olsen, and William W. Schwarzer. Counsels were Marvin L. Gray, Jr., George A. Manfredi, James N. Roethe, and James B. Weidner. Ronald J. Greene served as Special Counsel. Staff members were R. Mason Cargill, Peter R. Clapper, and Timothy S. Hardy.

The Commission looked into all aspects of CIA operations within the United States. The Rockefeller Commission Report<sup>48</sup>, submitted to the President in June 1975, lists the following significant areas of investigation: Mail intercepts; Intelligence Community coordination; "Operation CHAOS"<sup>49</sup> (collecting information on dissidents) protection of

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43 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JFK\\_\(film\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JFK_(film))

44 [http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/Rockefeller\\_Commission](http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/Rockefeller_Commission)

45 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_President's\\_Commission\\_on\\_CIA\\_activities\\_within\\_the\\_United\\_States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_President's_Commission_on_CIA_activities_within_the_United_States)

46 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E.\\_Howard\\_Hunt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E._Howard_Hunt)

47 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank\\_Sturgis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank_Sturgis)

48 [http://www.aarclibrary.org/publib/contents/church/contents\\_church\\_reports\\_rockcomm.htm](http://www.aarclibrary.org/publib/contents/church/contents_church_reports_rockcomm.htm)

49 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation\\_CHAOS](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_CHAOS)

the Agency against threats of violence; other investigations by the Office of Security; involvement of the CIA in improper activities for the White House (including Watergate) domestic activities of the Directorate of Operations; domestic activities of the Directorate of Science and Technology; CIA relationships with other federal, state, and local agencies; indices and files on American citizens; and allegations concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. The Commission also looked into the legal authority of the CIA and its internal and external controls.

The Commission investigated allegations that the CIA was somehow involved in the assassination of President Kennedy. Specifically, it looked into allegations that E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis were CIA agents and were present in Dallas ("the derelicts") at the time of the assassination and could have fired the alleged shots from the grassy knoll. It also investigated claims that the CIA had relationships with Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby.

The Commission heard testimony, taped interviews, took depositions, consulted experts in forensic pathology and ballistics, examined photographic evidence, and requested documents from various intelligence and law enforcement agencies. The Commission concluded that the findings of the Warren Commission regarding a lone assassin were correct and that Hunt and Sturgis were not the derelicts. No concrete evidence was presented to link Oswald or Ruby to the CIA; the Commission concluded that the allegations were "farfetched speculation."

One area on which the Commission collected evidence, but did not include in its report, was the role of the CIA in assassination plots against foreign leaders. The study focused on plots against Fidel Castro of Cuba and Rafael Trujillo of the Dominican Republic among others. The Commission was primarily interested in seeing if these plots involved any domestic illegal activities, such as connections with organized crime, as had been alleged. The report states that the Commission did not have time to complete the study, so it simply turned the materials over to the Ford White House.<sup>50</sup>

### **The Ramsey Clark Panel<sup>51</sup>**

In 1968, a panel of four medical experts appointed by Attorney General Ramsey Clark<sup>52</sup> met in Washington, D.C. to examine various photographs, X-ray films, documents, and other evidence pertaining to the death of President Kennedy. The Clark Panel determined that President Kennedy was struck by two bullets fired from above and behind him, one of which traversed the base of the neck on the right side without striking bone and the other of which entered the skull from behind and destroyed its upper right side.<sup>[114]</sup> Ramsey Clark became more critical of the results in subsequent interviews over the years, saying, "I think when you start being secretive about information, you inherently distort it. The only thing that's going to bring out the truth is the sunshine. You've got to just lay it out there. Let everybody see it. Then we can debate about it."<sup>53</sup>

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50 <http://memory.loc.gov/service/mss/eadxmss/eadpdfmss/2011/ms011054.pdf>

51 <http://www.jfkclancer.com/ClarkPanel.html>

52 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramsey\\_Clark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramsey_Clark)

53 [http://spot.acorn.net/jfkplace/09/fp.back\\_issues/31st\\_Issue/rclark\\_intv.html](http://spot.acorn.net/jfkplace/09/fp.back_issues/31st_Issue/rclark_intv.html)

## The Senate Select (Church) Committee<sup>54</sup>

The Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, known as the Church Committee, after its chairman Frank Church, was a U.S. Senate committee to investigate the illegal intelligence gathering by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) after the Watergate incident.<sup>55</sup> It also investigated the CIA and FBI conduct relating to the JFK assassination.

Their report concluded that the investigation on the assassination by FBI and CIA were fundamentally deficient, and that many facts which greatly affected the investigation, had not been forwarded to the Warren Commission by the agencies.<sup>56</sup>

It also found that the FBI, the agency with primary responsibility on the matter, was ordered by Director Hoover and pressured by unnamed higher government officials to conclude its investigation quickly.<sup>[117]</sup> The report hinted that there was a possibility that senior officials in both agencies made conscious decisions not to disclose potentially important information.<sup>[118]</sup>

## The House Select Committee on Assassinations<sup>57</sup>

The House of Representatives Select Committee on Assassinations Investigation of John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Jr., and the shooting of Governor George Wallace,<sup>58</sup> referred to as HSCA, 95th Congress, 2nd Session, includes the report from staff members Dan Hardaway and Edwin Lopez Oswald, the CIA, and Mexico City referred to as the Lopez Report (1976). Convened as result of increasing public pressure caused partly by the finding of the Church Committee, the HSCA was established in 1976.

The committee was both controversial and divided amongst themselves: The first chairman, [Thomas N. Downing](#) of Virginia retired in 1977 and was replaced by [Henry B. Gonzalez](#) on February 2, 1978; Gonzalez sought to replace Chief Counsel Richard Sprague; eventually both Gonzalez and Sprague resigned and [Louis Stokes](#) became the new chairman; [G. Robert Blakey](#) was then appointed Chief Counsel.

The Committee investigated until 1978, and in 1979 issued its final report, concluding that President John F. Kennedy was probably assassinated as a result of a conspiracy.

[House Select Committee on Assassinations](#) reviewed the 1963 murder investigation of the FBI in 1979. The congressional Committee concluded:

- The Federal Bureau of Investigation adequately investigated Lee Harvey Oswald prior to the assassination and properly evaluated the evidence it possessed to assess his potential to endanger the public safety in a national emergency.

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54 <http://www.intelligence.senate.gov/churchcommittee.html>

55 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Watergate\\_scandal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Watergate_scandal)

56 [http://cisupa.proquest.com/ksc\\_assets/catalog/102545.pdf](http://cisupa.proquest.com/ksc_assets/catalog/102545.pdf)

57 <http://www.archives.gov/research/jfk/select-committee-report/>

58 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_House\\_Select\\_Committee\\_on\\_Assassinations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_House_Select_Committee_on_Assassinations)

- The Federal Bureau of Investigation conducted a thorough and professional investigation into the responsibility of Lee Harvey Oswald for the assassination.
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation failed to investigate adequately the possibility of a conspiracy to assassinate the President. For example, In El Paso, Texas, U.S. counterintelligence agent Richard Case Nagell walked into a bank and fired two pistol shots into a plaster wall just below the ceiling. He waited outside to be arrested, and tells the FBI, “I would rather be arrested than commit murder and treason.” Also, in Washington, on Nov 18, 1963, the Soviet Embassy receives a crudely typed, badly spelled letter dated nine days earlier and signed by “Lee H. Oswald” of Dallas. The letter seems to implicate the Soviet Union in conspiring with Oswald in the assassination of President Kennedy that will occur four days later. Soviet authorities recognize the letter as a forgery or provocation and decide to return it to the U.S. government, whose FBI agents had already opened and copied the letter on its way into the embassy.<sup>59</sup>
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation was deficient in its sharing of information (such as the above) with other agencies and departments.<sup>[102]</sup>

Furthermore, the Secret Service did not properly analyze information it possessed prior to the assassination and was inadequately prepared to protect the President.<sup>60</sup> The HSCA concluded, "the Secret Service was deficient in the performance of its duties," saying specifically:

- That President Kennedy had not received adequate Secret Service protection in Dallas.
- That the Secret Service possessed information that was not properly analyzed, investigated, or used by the Secret Service in connection with the President's trip to Dallas.
- That the Secret Service agents in the motorcade were inadequately prepared to protect the President from a sniper.<sup>[105]</sup>

The HSCA specifically noted: No actions were taken by the agent in the right front seat of the Presidential limousine [Roy Kellerman] to cover the President with his body, although it would have been consistent with Secret Service procedure for him to do so.<sup>61</sup> The primary function of the agent was to remain at all times in close proximity to the President in the event of such emergencies.<sup>[106]</sup>

Although the HSCA concluded that President Kennedy was "probably" assassinated as the result of a conspiracy it did not offer the name of any person or group it thought had conspired with Oswald. Instead the HSCA listed several organizations that it did not think were involved, including the governments of the [Soviet Union](#) and [Cuba](#), [organized crime](#) groups and anti-Castro groups<sup>62</sup>, but noted that it could not rule out the involvement of any individuals of these groups.

<sup>59</sup> See Appendix III of this document, “FBI and CIA Documents & Agency Communications Re: Lee Harvey Oswald”

<sup>60</sup> <http://www.jfklancer.com/pdf/secret.pdf>

<sup>61</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roy\\_Kellerman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roy_Kellerman)

<sup>62</sup> <http://www.larry-hancock.com/documents/names.pdf>

Four of the twelve committee members wrote dissenting opinions.<sup>[119]</sup> [Chris Dodd](#) did not think that Oswald fired all three shots from the depository and wanted more investigation into the matter. Three other members did not think there was a second shooter or a conspiracy. According to [Robert W. Edgar](#) the committee was swayed at the last minute by the introduction of acoustic analysis of a Dictabelt recording of radio transmissions made by the Dallas Police Department.<sup>63</sup>

Prior to that a draft of the committee's report said, "The available scientific evidence is insufficient to find that there was a conspiracy." The final report said: "Scientifically, the existence of the second gunman was established only by the acoustical study, but its basic validity was corroborated or independently substantiated by the various other scientific projects."<sup>[120]</sup> Three dissenters, Edgar, Devine and Sawyer, were not convinced by the Dictabelt analysis. Subsequent examinations of the recording by the [National Academy of Sciences](#), by the FBI, and by the [Justice Department](#) disputed the Dictabelt evidence, and in turn the NAS's analysis was contested by Donald Thomas, see [Dictabelt evidence relating to the assassination of John F. Kennedy](#).

The HSCA made several accusations of deficiency against the Secret Service, the Department of Justice, the FBI, the CIA and the Warren Commission.<sup>[102]</sup> The accusations encompassed organizational failures, miscommunication, and a desire to keep certain parts of their operations secret. Furthermore, the Warren Commission expected these agencies to be forthcoming with any information that would aid their investigation. But the FBI and CIA only saw it as their duty to respond to specific requests for information from the commission. The HSCA found the FBI and CIA were deficient in performing even that limited role.

The House Select Committee on Assassinations was conducted mostly in secret. They issued a public report but much of its evidence was sealed for 50 years under Congressional rules.<sup>[121]</sup> In 1992, Congress passed legislation to collect and open up all the evidence relating to Kennedy's death, and created the Assassination Records Review Board to further that goal.<sup>64</sup>

## **The "Sealing" of The Assassination Records**

All of the Warren Commission's records were submitted to the [National Archives](#) in 1964. The unpublished portion of those records was initially sealed for 75 years (to 2039) under a general National Archives policy that applied to all federal investigations by the executive branch of government,<sup>[122]</sup> a period "intended to serve as protection for innocent persons who could otherwise be damaged because of their relationship with participants in the case."<sup>[123]</sup> The 75-year rule no longer exists, supplanted by the [Freedom of Information Act](#) of 1966 and the [JFK Records Act](#) of 1992. By 1992, 98% of the Warren Commission records had been released to the public.<sup>[124]</sup> Six years later, at the conclusion of the [Assassination Records Review Board](#)'s work, all Warren Commission records, except those records that contained [tax return](#) information, were available to the public with only minor [redactions](#).<sup>[125]</sup> The remaining Kennedy assassination related documents are scheduled to be released to the public by 2017, twenty-five years after the passage of the JFK Records Act. The Kennedy autopsy photographs and X-rays were never part of

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63 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dictabelt\\_evidence\\_relating\\_to\\_the\\_assassination\\_of\\_John\\_F.\\_Kennedy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dictabelt_evidence_relating_to_the_assassination_of_John_F._Kennedy)

64 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassination\\_Records\\_Review\\_Board](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassination_Records_Review_Board)

the Warren Commission records and were deeded separately to the National Archives by the Kennedy family in 1966 under restricted conditions.<sup>[126]</sup>

Several pieces of evidence and documentation are described to have been lost, cleaned, or missing from the original chain of evidence (e.g., limousine cleaned out on November 24, <sup>[127]</sup> Connally's clothing cleaned and pressed,<sup>[128]</sup> Oswald's military intelligence file destroyed in 1973,<sup>[129]</sup> Connally's Stetson hat and shirt sleeve gold cufflink missing).

Jackie Kennedy's blood-splattered [pink and navy Chanel suit](#) that she wore on the day of the assassination is in climate controlled storage in the National Archives. Jackie wore the suit for the remainder of the day, stating, "I want them to see what they have done to Jack"<sup>[130]</sup> when asked aboard Air Force One to change into another outfit. Not included in the National Archives are the white gloves and pink pillbox hat she was wearing.<sup>[131]</sup>

## The Assassination Records Review Board<sup>65</sup>

The [President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992](#) created the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) as an independent agency to re-examine for release the assassination-related records that federal agencies still regarded as too sensitive to open to the public. The Board finished its work on September 30, 1998, issued a [final report](#), and transferred all of its records to the National Archives and Records Administration. The ARRB was not commissioned to make any findings or conclusions. Its purpose was to release documents to the public in order to allow the public to draw its own conclusions. From 1992 until 1998, with the bulk of the work done 1994-1998, the ARRB gathered and unsealed about 60,000 documents, consisting of over 4 million pages.<sup>[132][133]</sup> All remaining documents are to be released by 2017.

The publication of *Inside The Assassination Records Review Board* by Douglas P. Horne has been a boon to JFK assassination researchers and exposed potential problematic issues with respect to the chain-of-custody of evidence, particularly evidence of a possible cover-up autopsy, JFK's body's removal from the casket that Jackie and RFK thought they were riding with upon arrival at the hospital, and even the original "gold standard" of early conspiracy theorists, the Zapruder film.<sup>66</sup>

The books Appendices alone are a treasure of original source material.<sup>67</sup> The ARRB materials will continue to be a source of investigations for years to come, possibly decades, or longer.

We are going of 50 years of ever more informed speculation. It won't end until either enough information is released, verified, or a theory that fits all the relevant facts is widely accepted, including by the sitting president of the US at the time, or the people seeking the truth give up. So far, neither has occurred, but the former seems to be getting closer and closer.

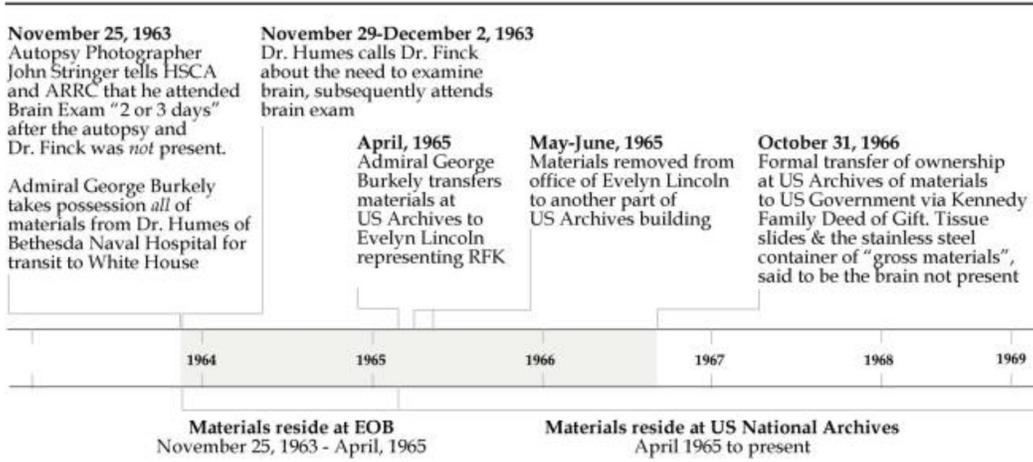
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65 <http://www.archives.gov/research/jfk/review-board/>

66 <http://www.amazon.com/Inside-Assassination-Records-Review-Board/dp/0984314431>

67 <http://www.maryferrell.org/mffweb/archive/viewer/showDoc.do?docId=145280>

# JFK MEDICAL EVIDENCE CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY<sup>68</sup>



**Data Sources:**

Horne, Douglas P. *Evidence of a Government Cover-Up: Two Different Brain Specimens in President Kennedy's Autopsy Murder in Dealey Plaza*, ed. Fetzer, James. (Catfeet Press, 2004)

Mantik, David W. & Wecht, Cyril H. *Paradoxes of the JFK Assassination: The Brain Enigma The Assassinations*, ed. DiEugenio, James & Pease, Lisa (Feral House, 2003)

Design ©Jamie Charles Schulz 2012.

68 Source: ["That Park Near The Underpass - A Primer on the Assassination of President John Kennedy \[Kindle Edition\]"](#) by Jamie Schulz, July 23, 2012

## THE ALTERNATIVE THEORIES<sup>69</sup>

In the wake of these investigations, an entire spectrum of “theories” have been set forth, each one asserting either a slightly different version of what happened or, in some cases, a dramatically different set of conclusions as to what happened from those set forth in the initial Dallas Police Department Report and the F.B.I. Report. Seemingly strange is that Wikipedia, normally edited and moderated by enough people to obviously see when a topic is one of hot dispute, seems to go along with the Oswald as single shooter theory.<sup>70</sup> But the one topic sure to set off debate, even with respect to its complete authenticity is the Zapruder film.

### The Zapruder Film: Gold Standard or Alloy?<sup>71</sup>



#### Assumes Zapruder Film authentic

1. Abraham Zapruder’s 8mm film records JFK’s head recoil **8.5 inches in 0.4 seconds**, a velocity of **0.54 metres/sec**. Using limousine as axis, JFK’s head recoil is at an approximate **45 degree** angle.

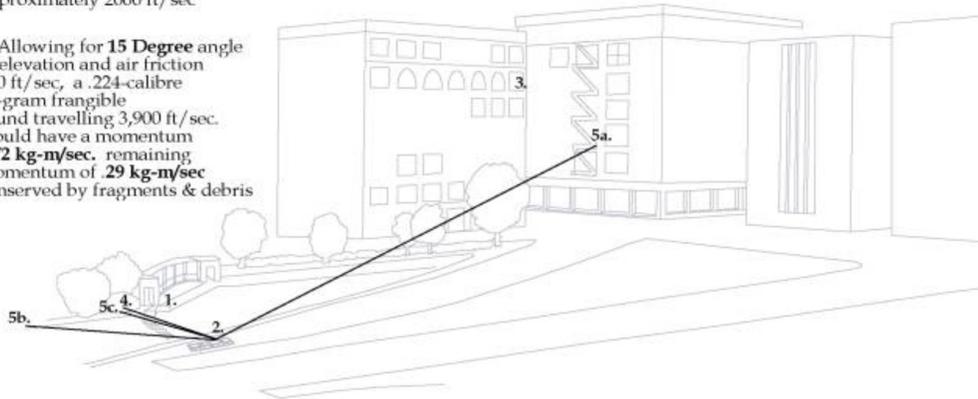
2. Mass of JFK’s head estimated to be **6.36 kilograms**. Head recoil momentum then is **3.43 kg-m/sec** ( $m=6.36 \times v=.54$ ).

3. Headshot a high-velocity round. The larger .26-calibre Mannlicher-Carcano is a medium-velocity weapon travelling at approximately 2000 ft/sec

4. Allowing for **15 Degree** angle of elevation and air friction 100 ft/sec, a .224-calibre 50-gram frangible round travelling 3,900 ft/sec. would have a momentum **3.72 kg-m/sec**. remaining momentum of **.29 kg-m/sec** conserved by fragments & debris

#### Assumes Zapruder Film non-authentic

5. **Two shots** were “fired nearly simultaneously” from the front right of the limousine (**5b. & 5c.**); with a rear shot fired “just prior” to this from the Daltex Building (**5a.**). The shots from the front struck in the right temple region and in the area above the president’s right ear



#### Data Sources:

Chambers, G. Paul *Head Shot: The Science Behind the JFK Assassination* (Prometheus Books, 2010) pg. 207-218

Horne, Douglas P. *Inside the Assassination Records Review Board Volume IV* (Douglas P. Horne, 2010) pg. 1147-1150

Design ©Jamie Charles Schulz 2012.

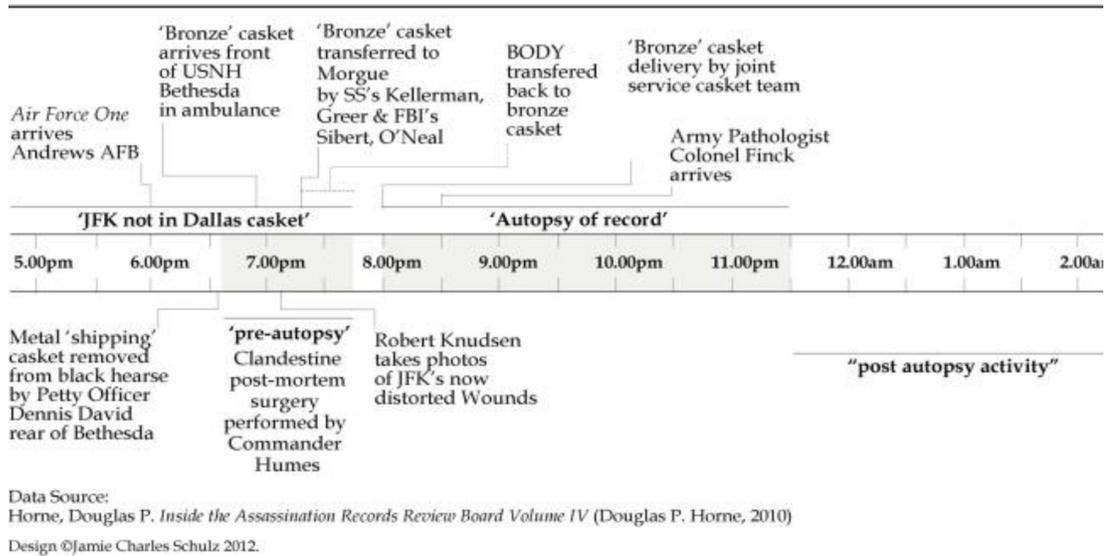
<sup>69</sup> See Appendix V, A Primer of Assassination Theories

<sup>70</sup> [http://www.ctka.net/2011/wiki\\_pt2.html](http://www.ctka.net/2011/wiki_pt2.html)

<sup>71</sup> Source: “[That Park Near The Underpass - A Primer on the Assassination of President John Kennedy \[Kindle Edition\]](#)” by Jamie Schulz, July 23, 2012

Another topic that never seems to go away, with good reason, is the autopsy, or autopsies?<sup>72</sup>

## Douglas Horne's "Inside The ARRB" JFK Pre-Autopsy Theory<sup>73</sup>



72 <http://www.amazon.com/Inside-Assassination-Records-Review-Board/dp/0984314431>

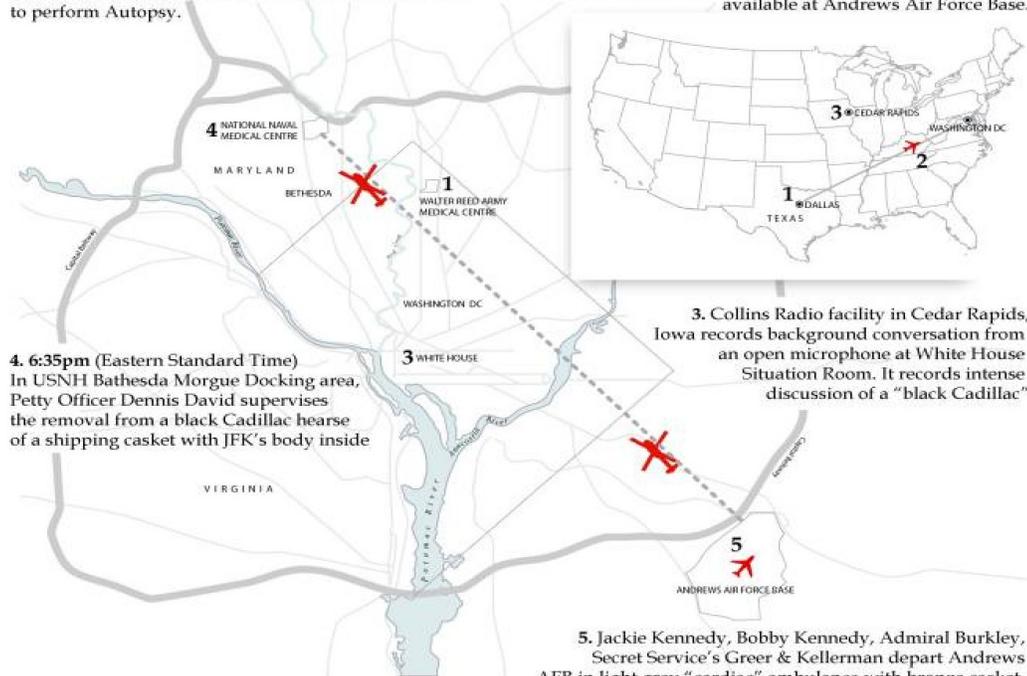
73 Source: ["That Park Near The Underpass - A Primer on the Assassination of President John Kennedy \[Kindle Edition\]"](#) by Jamie Schulz, July 23, 2012

## Pre-Autopsy Theory Summary<sup>74</sup>



1. After departing Dallas at **2:47pm** (Central Standard Time), initial plan was for Kennedy's casket to be transported by helicopter from Andrews Air Force Base to Walter Reed Army Medical Centre. Jackie Kennedy & "everybody else aboard" to be helicoptered directly to White House south grounds. Jackie Kennedy nominates National Naval Medical Centre at Bethesda to perform Autopsy.

2. Aboard *Air Force One*, General Ted Clifton instructs Secret Service Special Agent in Charge Gerald Behn at White House Situation Room to have "mortuary-type ambulance" available at Andrews Air Force Base.



4. **6:35pm** (Eastern Standard Time)  
In USNH Bethesda Morgue Docking area, Petty Officer Dennis David supervises the removal from a black Cadillac hearse of a shipping casket with JFK's body inside

3. Collins Radio facility in Cedar Rapids, Iowa records background conversation from an open microphone at White House Situation Room. It records intense discussion of a "black Cadillac"

5. Jackie Kennedy, Bobby Kennedy, Admiral Burkley, Secret Service's Greer & Kellerman depart Andrews AFB in light grey "cardiac" ambulance with bronze casket. This grey Pontiac cardiac ambulance was standing-by because of a rumour LBJ had suffered a heart attack. They arrive at front entrance of USNH Bethesda at **6:55pm** (Eastern Standard Time).

**Hypothesis:** JFK's body was covertly helicoptered to National Naval Medical Centre at Bethesda, transferred into a black Cadillac hearse and taken to the rear of the USNH Bethesda building where the morgue dock is located some twenty minutes **BEFORE** Jackie Kennedy arrives with the bronze Dallas casket in a grey Pontiac 'cardiac' ambulance. Dr Humes commences work on JFK and alters head wounds well before the commencement of the formal Autopsy of Record that begins at **8:00pm**.

#### Data Sources:

Lifton, David *Best Evidence: Disguise & Deception in the Assassination of President Kennedy* (Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc., 1980)

Horne, Douglas P. *Transcript of Key Air Force One Radio Conversations from November 22, 1963* (Douglas P. Horne, 2012)

Fetzer, James & Horne Douglas P. *What happened to JFK's body? A cover-up "on the fly"* (<http://jamesfetzer.blogspot.com.au>, March 23, 2012)

Design ©Jamie Charles Schulz 2012.

74 Source: ["That Park Near The Underpass - A Primer on the Assassination of President John Kennedy \[Kindle Edition\]"](#) by Jamie Schulz, July 23, 2012

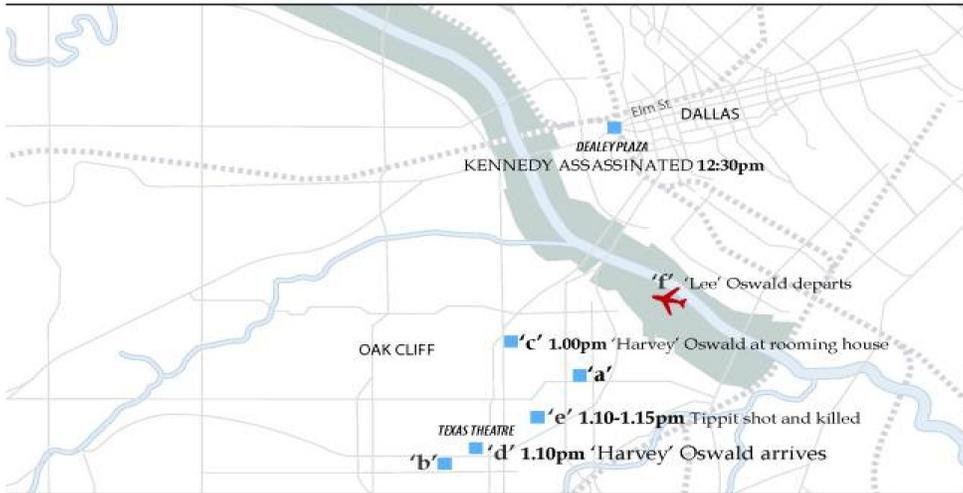
Another controversial topic, largely brought on by the interaction of the CIA and FBI with respect to a purported visit by Oswald to Mexico City the month before the assassination, including a visit to the Soviet Embassy to request going back again to the Soviet Union.<sup>75</sup> This theory culminates in the “Two Oswalds” assassination theory.

### **The “Two Oswalds” Theory<sup>76</sup>**

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75 [http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/The\\_Mexico\\_City\\_Tapes](http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/The_Mexico_City_Tapes)

76 Source: [“That Park Near The Underpass - A Primer on the Assassination of President John Kennedy \[Kindle Edition\]”](#) by Jamie Schulz, July 23, 2012



location 'a'  
**12.54pm**  
 Police Officer Tippit answers dispatcher reporting he is at 8th & Lancaster

location 'e'  
**1.10-1.15pm**  
 Tippit is shot and killed by 'Lee' oswald with accomplice. Leaves wallet at the scene with a Texas drivers licence

location 'b'  
**1.00pm**  
 Tippit stops at top ten record store to make phone call getting no answer

location 'd'  
**1.35pm**  
 'Lee' Oswald slips into Texas Theatre & goes up to balcony

location 'f'  
**3.30-4.00pm**  
 'Lee' Oswald departs Dallas in old Douglas C-54 clandestine flight



location 'c'  
**1.00pm**  
 'Harvey' Oswald arrives at rooming house 1026 north beckley. Police car drives slowly by & honks horn

location 'd'  
**1.10pm**  
 'Harvey' Oswald arrives Texas Theatre goes up to balcony **BEFORE** Tippit is killed

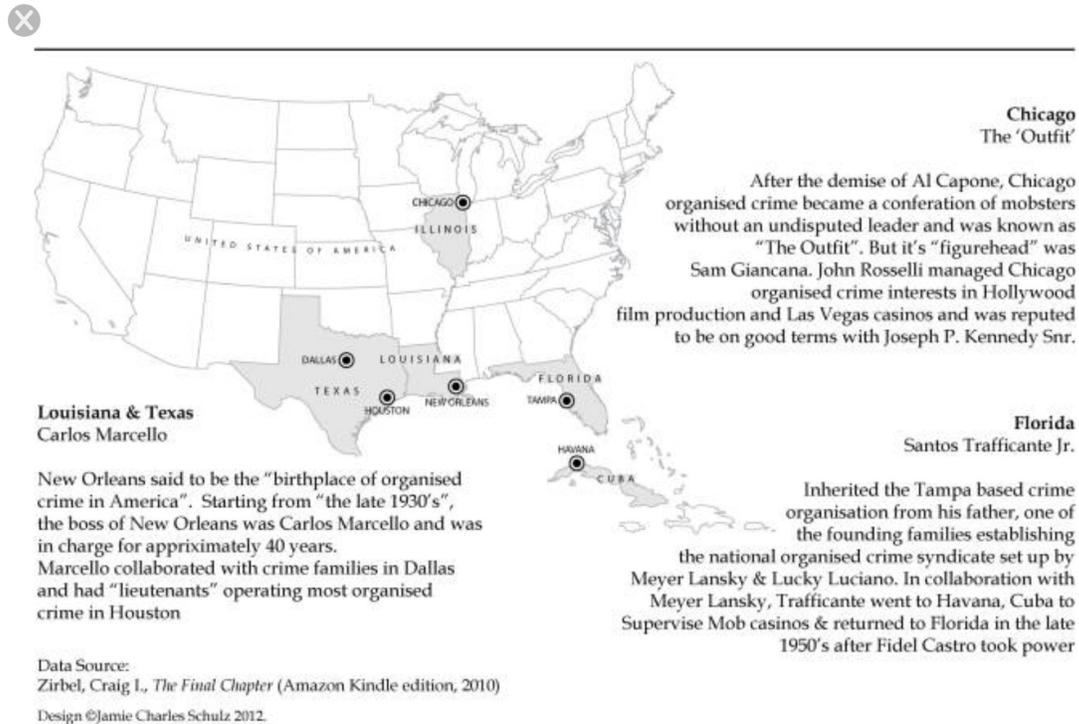
location 'd'  
**1.40pm**  
 'Harvey' Oswald is arrested on lower level of Texas Theatre

Data Source:  
 Armstrong, John *Harvey & Lee: The Case for Two Oswalds. The Assassinations* ed. DiEugenio, James & Pease, Lisa (Feral House, 2003)  
 Johnston, James P and Roe, Jon *Flight from Dallas* (Trafford Publishing, 2005)

Design © Jamie Charles Schulz 2012.

And there is always The Mob connection to the CIA via Operation Mongoose<sup>77</sup> and the pressure RFK's Department of Justice brought to bear on organized crime figures and implicated union bosses, such as Jimmy Hoffa.<sup>78</sup> Leading to a variety of theories directly and indirectly linking the Mafia to the assassination itself. After all, they were clearly operating in every city known to have an assassination attempt or a success (e.g., Chicago, Miami, Dallas).

## The Mob Did It!<sup>79</sup>



The plethora of alternative full and partial JFK assassination theories, well represented by the mid-60s, continually grow, refine, and expand to both reasonable and ridiculous heights. Peruse Appendix V, A Primer of Assassination Theories in this document, which was based an extended two-part article in Esquire magazine in Dec 1966 and May 1967. Many, if not most, of those same theories are being pursued today; some with more success than others as more and more classified information is released. What is very clear is that if the Dallas Police, the Warren Commission, the FBI, and the CIA, among

<sup>77</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuban\\_Project](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuban_Project)

<sup>78</sup> <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,956397,00.html>

<sup>79</sup> Source: "[That Park Near The Underpass - A Primer on the Assassination of President John Kennedy \[Kindle Edition\]](#)" by Jamie Schulz, July 23, 2012

others, are so convinced it's Oswald, then why has every subsequent official investigation found evidence of a criminal conspiracy, only to be defunded or otherwise hampered, shutdown, or made impotent to follow up on who really did what with respect to the most troubling murder in American public life since President Lincoln's assassination. Of course, Lincoln's assassination demanded credit, immediately.

## WANTED FOR TREASON<sup>80</sup>



Main article: [John F. Kennedy assassination conspiracy theories](#)

From the day of the assassination, many Americans suspected that a [conspiracy](#), and not a lone gunman, was responsible for President Kennedy's death. Polls taken that day through November 27, 1963 by [Gallup](#) showed 52 percent believing "some group or element" was behind the assassination.<sup>[134]</sup>

Before the Warren Commission issued its report that concluded Oswald acted alone, several books had already been published suggesting a conspiracy was behind the assassination.<sup>[135]</sup> Within a few months of the assassination, lawyer [Mark Lane](#), who had been hired by Oswald's mother Marguerite to represent Oswald's interests before the Warren Commission, had formed his Citizens' Committee of Inquiry on the assassination and was speaking in the [United States](#) and [Europe](#) in early 1964, challenging the work of the Warren Commission, even before it had published its findings.<sup>[136]</sup>

Upon the publication of the Warren Report in September 1964, only a minority 31.6 percent of Americans rejected the conclusion that Oswald had acted alone, with 55.5 percent accepting the Report's conclusion.<sup>[137]</sup> But since then, public opinion has consistently shown majorities, often large majorities, believing a conspiracy had been in

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<sup>80</sup> A [handbill](#) circulated on November 21, 1963 in Dallas, one day before the assassination of John F. Kennedy

place.<sup>[138]</sup> In 1966, Lane's [Rush to Judgment](#) was published, spending six months on [The New York Times](#) best-seller list.<sup>[139]</sup> The book accused the Warren Commission of "being biased towards its conclusions before the facts were known,"<sup>[140]</sup> and cited evidence found within the 26 volumes of the Warren Report and in his interviews with witnesses which seemed to suggest bullets coming from multiple directions striking the president and hence a conspiracy. The [Freedom of Information Act](#) was also passed that year, which had the effect of permitting researchers greater access to once-secret government files, particularly those connected to the Warren Commission.<sup>[141]</sup>

Many researchers were now investigating the assassination, most of whom believed the official version of the assassination was at best inaccurate and at worst a lie. In July 1966, in commenting on [Edward Jay Epstein](#)'s book *Inquest*, which focused on the inner workings of the Warren Commission, [Richard N. Goodwin](#) became the first of Kennedy's inner circle to publicly call for a review of the Warren Report.<sup>[142]</sup> That November, former assistant to the president and Pulitzer-prize winning author [Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr.](#) called on [Congress](#) to initiate a new inquiry.<sup>[143]</sup> That same month, [Life](#) magazine called for a new investigation as did [The Saturday Evening Post](#) the following January. The [New York Times](#), in an editorial dated November 25, 1966, did not call for a re-investigation, but said that the Warren Commission and its staff should address "the many puzzling questions that have been raised... There are enough solid doubts of thoughtful persons."

In 1967, *Six Seconds in Dallas* by Josiah Thompson was published. The book was the first to focus on many technical aspects not previously discussed by other authors, such as [firearms](#), [bullet](#) trajectories, medical and photographic evidence. Thompson, who was a consultant to [Life](#) magazine, had unique access to a first-generation print of the Zapruder film and was the first to suggest that President Kennedy was struck by two near-simultaneous bullets to the head, one from the rear, the other from the right front.<sup>[143]</sup> That March, [New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison](#) announced he would prosecute local businessman [Clay Shaw](#) for the murder of President Kennedy, and, galvanized, many Warren Commission critics descended on New Orleans.<sup>[144]</sup> Public interest in the trial was high, with a [Harris](#) poll that May showing nearly two of three Americans saying they were following the investigation. The same poll indicated 66 per cent believed there was a conspiracy, compared to 44 percent who believed that in a Harris poll done in February.<sup>[145]</sup> Shaw was acquitted in March 1969, and the conspiracy movement was dealt a blow as Garrison's trial was widely seen as a debacle, with many researchers denouncing Garrison as a fraud and megalomaniac.<sup>[144]</sup>

The year 1973 saw the release of the film [Executive Action](#) starring [Burt Lancaster](#), the first [Hollywood](#) depiction of events surrounding the assassination.<sup>[148]</sup> In the film, three gunmen shoot President Kennedy in a conspiracy led by right-wing elements and military/industrial interests. That year also saw the formation of the Assassination Information Bureau. The influential group spoke to ever-growing audiences at hundreds of colleges throughout the United States, urging a reopening of the investigation, and was ultimately instrumental in the realization of that goal in 1977.<sup>[148]</sup>

In March 1975, *Good Night America* broadcast, for the first time, the Zapruder film, with an audience of millions watching.<sup>[148]</sup> Almost immediately, with the film showing a backward snap of President Kennedy's head, indicating to many a shot from the right front and hence a conspiracy, there were new demands for a re-investigation.

The findings of the Rockefeller Commission that year and the Church Committee the next year added impetus to calls for a new inquiry, which was realized by the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) from 1977 to 1979. That investigation concluded President Kennedy "was probably assassinated as a result of a conspiracy."<sup>[6]</sup> While the HSCA's conclusion was welcomed by many in the conspiracy community, the HSCA's inability to name any players in the conspiracy they identified, and their actions in sealing much of their documentation, left many in the community frustrated.<sup>[148]</sup> Numerous books, television shows and articles continued to appear. Writing in 2007, [Vincent Bugliosi](#) said, "close to one thousand books" had been published on the subject of the assassination,<sup>[149]</sup> of which "over 95 percent" were pro-conspiracy.<sup>[150]</sup> Some notable books to 1990 were Anthony Summer's "Conspiracy," [David Lifton](#)'s best-selling *Best Evidence*, both published in 1980, and Henry Hurt's *Reasonable Doubt* in 1985. They remain prominent in the conspiracy community to this day.<sup>[151]</sup> The Summer and Hurt books recite many of the prominent conspiracy theories to that time, while Lifton argues that President Kennedy's wounds were altered before the autopsy to frame Oswald. [Jim Marrs](#) published *Crossfire* in 1989, the same year *High Treason*, by [Robert J. Groden](#) and Harrison Livingstone was published. The latter book argued the autopsy photos were altered to give the appearance that wounds were caused by shots from a single gunman.

By the late 80s, interest in the subject among the general public was waning.<sup>[151]</sup> One theory for this from writer [Pete Hamill](#) was that by 1988, "an entire generation had come to maturity with no memory at all of the Kennedy years."<sup>[152]</sup> In 1991, [Oliver Stone](#)'s film *JFK* introduced the subject – and many of the attendant conspiracy theories – to a new generation of Americans. The sudden renewed interest in the assassination led to the passage by Congress of the [JFK Records Act](#) in 1992.<sup>[151]</sup> The Act created the Assassination Records Review Board to implement the Act's mandate to release all sealed documents related to the assassination. Thousands of documents were released between 1994 and 1998, providing new material for researchers.

In the early years of the 21st century, a new wave of authors and critics has emerged, including [James H. Fetzer](#), Drs. Gary Aguilar, David Mantik, and [Gaeton Fonzi](#), who re-released his [“The Last Investigation”](#) (May 30, 2008) with updated information, and gave ringing endorsements to two new JFK assassination researchers and authors that continued Fonzi’s dogged pursuit of the truth with the benefit of Fonzi’s HSCA insights and 40+ years of accumulated research and new declassified materials via the ARRB, namely [James W. Douglas](#), who wrote, [“JFK And The Unspeakable: Why He Died And Why It Matters”](#) (October 19, 2010), directly endorsed by Fonzi, who wrote, “With penetrating insight and unswerving integrity, Douglass probes the fundamental truths about JFK’s assassination. If, he contends, humanity permits those truths to slip into history ignored and undefined it does so at its own peril. By far the most important book yet written on the subject,” as well as [Larry Hancock](#) and his [“Someone Would Have Talked”](#) (November 1, 2010), also strongly endorsed by Fonzi, who wrote, “Among the most respected researchers of the JFK assassination, an awesomely comprehensive and impressive work of compelling validity. A must-read in the field.”

The publication of [“Inside The Assassination Records Review Board”](#) by [Douglas P. Horne](#) exposed a possible cover-up pre-autopsy as well as JFK’s body’s removal from the casket that Jackie and RFK thought they were riding with upon arrival at the hospital, in addition to providing evidence of tampering of the Zapruder film, likely by Life magazine, under the direction of CD Jackson.<sup>81</sup>

To date, there is no consensus on who, among many players, may have been involved in a conspiracy to kill President Kennedy. Those often mentioned as being part of a conspiracy include Jack Ruby<sup>82</sup>, organized crime as an organization or organized crime individuals, the CIA, the FBI, the Secret Service, the KGB, right-wing groups or right-wing individuals, President Lyndon Johnson, pro- or [anti-Castro Cubans](#), the military and/or industrial groups allied with the military.

The objective of this course will to undertake a sound and responsible evaluation of the different “theories” as to what occurred in Dealey Plaza and in its immediate aftermath and to illuminate the implications of the most sound and responsible such theories for our American legal and political order.

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81 <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/USAjacksonCD.htm>

82 Robert McKeown was a Texan who had participated in the transportation of weapons into Cuba. McKeown was repeatedly contacted by Jack Ruby, who wished introductions to elements within Cuba to facilitate his own sales activities, and to help gain releases for certain friends from Cuban imprisonment. Those friends had formerly been involved in the casino business there, a business which saw a great deal of reorganization and government control under Castro. In 1963, McKeown was reportedly contacted by Lee Oswald, who was in the company of one of Prio Soccares associates; an individual named Hernandez, whom McKeown had worked with earlier in the Castro gun smuggling. The weapons were purchased by Carlos Prio Soecares for use by Fidel Castro’s forces. McKeown organized the transport of these weapons and was active in Texas, Florida, and Cuba. Eventually he was arrested for arms smuggling, and in 1963 was living outside Houston, Texas and on probation. Earlier he had gained media visibility when Fidel Castro visited Houston and asked to meet with his old friend, offering him a position in Cuba.

## II

### **The Structure of The Course**

Cowell 103 will be taught in Crown 208, in two Plenary Sessions, one on Tuesdays and one on Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., with a Section Meeting on Thursdays, also in Crown 208, from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

The Instructor of this course will be Attorney Daniel Peter Sheehan, the previous Visiting Instructor of the U.C.S.C. 2012 Spring Quarter Course entitled: “Eight Cases That Changed America”; the former Caesar Chavez Visiting Lecturer at U.C. Santa Barbara of the Course entitled: “The Hidden History of America: The History of the Covert Operations of the United States C.I.A. from World War II to the Present” and the former Constitution Law Instructor at Antioch School of Law in Washington, D.C.

The number of Undergraduate Students who will be officially enrolled for credit in this 5 credit Course will be 20. Preference will be given to Seniors and Juniors from Cowell College who are Government or Politics Majors for official enrollment in this course and selection will be made through personal interviews conducted by Attorney Sheehan. However, up to 20 additional U.C.S.C. Undergraduate students will be permitted to “audit” this course, giving them preference to be officially enrolled in this course if and when it is repeated in subsequent Spring Quarters. Thirdly, up to 20 older citizens of Santa Cruz who are officially enrolled in the Life-Long Learning Program at U.C.S.C. will also be allowed to “audit” this course, thereby “maxing out” the physical capacity of Crown 208. This Course will be conducted, in effect, as a “Thesis Seminar.” Since other Instructors at UCSC might well be interested in attending these Sessions...and local and regional political office-holders might well wish to attend these Sessions as well... these elder Auditors may well be able to serve as “Resource Persons” to one or more of the Officially-Enrolled Undergraduate Seniors and Juniors in the course in the preparation of their “Thesis Paper.”

Ten of these twenty 105-minute “Plenary Sessions” held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. will be devoted to a 70-minute Presentation by Attorney

Sheehan of one of the TEN “Alternative Theories of The Crime of The Century”, with 30 minutes of questions and answers from the Officially Enrolled Students only in response to that Presentation. These Questions will be in the form of “Challenges” to the Thesis presented in that previous hour.

Four of the Initial Plenary Sessions will be devoted to General Issues regarding The Assassination. Seven of the ten weekly 105-minute “Section Meetings” on Thursday from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. will be ALL Questions & Answers and discussion, with three of those 105-minute Sections being devoted to “Presentations” made by the Officially-Enrolled Students of their respective “Thesis Positions” with no further “Presentations” by Attorney Sheehan.

All Questions & Answers (in the form of “Challenges”) in those three Sections will be directed, instead, toward the “Thesis” that will be being analyzed and written about by the students, as compared and contrasted with the Thesis that will eventually be explicated by Attorney Sheehan, which will also be the subject of his up-coming book that he is co-authoring with Richard Billings, the Chief Staff Writer of The House Select Committee on Assassinations to be published by Counter-Point Press of Berkeley, California entitled: RULERS OF THE REALM, scheduled in November of 2013.

Six of the 20 Plenary Sessions will also be devoted to such two-student Presentations, with Questions & Answer period devoted to “Challenges” to the Thesis presented in that Plenary Session.

The two-hour period assigned for The Final Exam will be devoted to the final two-student Presentation and Challenges. Also, the THESIS of each student will due at that time.

## The 20 Two-hour Plenary Sessions

1. Plenary Session #1, Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>: PANEL DISCUSSION OF VARYING STANDARDS & METHODOLOGIES FOR ASCERTAINING "FACTS"

2. Plenary Session #2: Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>: INSTRUCTOR'S OVERVIEW OF THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION & ITS PLACE IN AMERICAN HISTORY

SECTION DISCUSSION #1, Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>

3. PLENARY SESSION #3, Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>: THESIS #1: LEE HARVEY OSWALD ACTED ALONE: THE "LONE GUNMAN THEORY OF THE CRIME";

4. Plenary Session #4, Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>: THE UNDISPUTED "FACTS" CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION

SECTION DISCUSSION #2, Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>

5. Plenary Session #5, Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>: THESIS #2: THE APPARENTLY CREDIBLE FACTS THAT "CHALLENGE" THE WARREN COMMISSION'S "SINGLE BULLET THEORY" EXPLANATION - THE C.I.A. ASSASSINATED J.F.K.

SECTION DISCUSSION #3, Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>

7. PLENARY SESSION #7, Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>: THESIS #3: THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS "PROBABLE" CONSPIRACY THEORY + BLAKEY & BILLINGS: The Mob Killed J.F.K. Using the Previous Trafficante-Connected [ANTI-CASTRO](#) CUBAN EXILES;

8. PLENARY SESSION #8, Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>: THESIS #4: JIM GARRISON'S ON THE TRAIL OF THE ASSASSINS; THE TRIAL OF CLAY SHAW

SECTION DISCUSSION#4, Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>

9. PLENARY SESSION#9, Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>: THESIS #5: THE CUBAN "BACKFIRE" CONNECTION OF JOHNNY ROSELLI THEORY - FIDEL CASTRO KILLED J.F.K.

10. PLENARY SESSION #10, Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>: THESIS #6: THE WATERGATE BURGLARY CONNECTION: SANTOS TRAFFICANTI'S "THE S-FORCE" KILLED J.F.K. as Presented to Attorney Sheehan (Alternative Presented by Attorney Frank Ragano)

SECTION DISCUSSION #5, Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

11. PLENARY SESSION #11, Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>: THESIS #7: DAVID LIFTON'S THE BEST EVIDENCE: "THE FLOODGATES OPEN"

12. PLENARY SESSION #12, Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>:

THESIS #8: (SEVEN DAYS IN MAY) COPA JOHN JUDGE - AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF CURTIS LeMAY & THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF: A MILITARY COUP KILLED J.F.K.

SECTION DISCUSSION #6, Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>: THESIS #9: THE K.G.B. KILLED JFK

13: PLENARY SESSION #13, Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>: THESIS #10; DANIEL SHEEHAN'S & RICHARD BILLINGS' NEW THESIS: THE RULERS OF THE REALM

14. PLENARY SESSION #14, Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>: DISCUSSION OF THE LEGAL & POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF VARIOUS THESES

SECTION DISCUSSION # 7, Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

15. Plenary Session #15, Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>: FIRST PRESENTATION OF TWO-STUDENT THESIS & THESIS DEFENSE

16. Plenary Session #16, Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>: SECOND PRESENTATION OF TWO-STUDENT THESIS & THESIS DEFENSE

SECTION MEETING #8, Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>: THIRD PRESENTATION OF TWO-STUDENT THESIS & THESIS DEFENSE

17. Plenary Session #17, Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>: FOURTH PRESENTATION OF TWO-STUDENT THESIS & THESIS DEFENSE

18. Plenary Session #18, Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>: FIFTH PRESENTATION OF TWO-STUDENT THESIS & THESIS DEFENSE

SECTION MEETING #9, Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>: SIXTH PRESENTATION OF TWO-STUDENT THESIS & THESIS DEFENSE

19. Plenary Session #19, Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>: SEVENTH PRESENTATION OF TWO-STUDENT THESIS & THESIS DEFENSE

20. Plenary Session #20, Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>: EIGHTH PRESENTATION OF TWO-STUDENT THESIS & THESIS DEFENSE

SECTION MEETING # 10, Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>: NINTH PRESENTATION OF TWO-STUDENT THESIS & THESIS DEFENSE

14. FINAL EXAM DAY - Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>: TENTH PRESENTATION OF TWO-STUDENT THESIS & THESIS DEFENSE; ALL WRITTEN THESES DUE TODAY.



## **20 KEY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION:**

**1. DID LEE HARVEY OSWALD SHOOT JFK?**

**2. WAS THERE A "SHOOTER" ON THE GRASSY KNOLL/**

**3. WAS JFK'S AUTOPSY 'MANIPULATED" AND 'FALSIFIED" and WERE HIS "WOUNDS" ALTERED?**

**4. DID JACK RUBY SHOOT & KILL OSWALD JUST BECAUSE HE WAS PERSONALLY UPSET?**

**5. WERE ANY OF THESE "OTHER PLAYERS" IN DEALEY PLAZA AT THE TIME OF THE SHOOTING?**

- a.) E. Howard Hunt;
- b.) Frank Sturgis/Frank Fiorini;
- c.) Charles V. Harrelson;
- d.) David Sanchez Morales;
- e.) Raphael Chi Chi Quintero;
- f.) Edward Lansdale;
- g.) William "Rip" Robertson;
- h.) Greyson Lynch;
- i.) James Braden;
- j.) Rolando Martinez;
- k.) Raul, Jorge & Raphael Villaverde;
- l.) Felix Rodriguez/ (aka Max Gomez)
- m.) Felipe Vidal;
- n.) Ricardo Chavez;
- o.) Reno Corvo;
- p.) Luis Pasada Carriles(aka Ramon Media)
- q.) Jore Gonzales;
- r.) Joaquin Sanjenis;
- s.) Alvero Cruz;
- t.) Frederico Saenz;

**6. Was Lee Harvey Oswald was a "Numbered" F.B.I. Informant or Intelligence Operative?**

Was Lee Harvey Oswald assisting the Lake Pontchartrain site with right wing Guy Bannister?

Were there "false" Oswald "doubles" in Mexico & at The Shooting Range?

**Was Oswald's Palm Print "Placed On" The Manlicher Carcano Rifle?**

**Was The "Backyard Photo" of Oswald With the Manlicher "Photo-Shopped"?**

**7. Were J.F.K. and Governor Connelly Shot With a "Single Bullet"?**

**8. Who were "The Three Tramps" Taken From the Railroad Yard Box Car?**

**9. What is Edward Lansdale's Background With Regard to The Black Eagle Trust & Executive Order 11111 & J.F.K.?**

**10. Is the Man "Tipping His Hat" To J.F.K. Just before The shots William "Rip" Robertson & Where Did Those Photos Come From?**

**11. THE ZAPRUDER FILM: WAS IT "ALTERED".... IN ADDITION TO ITS FRAMES BEING REVERSED BY LIFE MAGAZINE?**

**12. What Role, If Any, Did William D. Pawley Play in Planning, Authorizing &/or Planning The Assassination?**

**13. Who is Boris Pash and What was he doing with LBJ coming our of the Parkland Hospital?**

**14. What were the strengths & the weaknesses of Jim Garrison's case against Clay Shaw, et. al.?**

**15. What is the evidence that Major General Curtis LeMay ordered the assassination - and was present at the Autopsy?**

**16. Did Robert Kennedy believe that J.F.K. was assassinated by a conspiracy? And what, if anything, did he plan to do about it?**

**17. Are there any credible "Theories of The Crime" other than the TEN that we have identified? What are they? How credible are they?**

**18. What did witnesses say who were NOT included in "Official Reports"? Who were they? How many were there? What did they say?**

**19. What was REALLY believed about The Assassination by important people such as: LBJ; Richard Helms & The C.I.A.; J. Edgar Hoover; Richard Nixon; George H.W. Bush; Ben Bradley of The Washington Post; The New York Times; Dan Rather & Others?**

**20. What are the modern "technologies" that are now available - or which may become available - that could answer key questions (such as infra-red "heat signature" identification of the paths of the bullets on The Zapruder Film or other footage; additional acoustics analysis; the use of Psychological Stress Evaluators on witnesses; etc.)? What additional steps can conceivably be taken to definitively "answer" certain "Key Questions"?**

### III

## The Assignments & Grading of The Course

Because of the proposed number of hours to be spent in Plenary Sessions and Section in this Course, the Written Assignments will be kept to a minimum. However, this is intended to be a participatory Course. Other than this source document and what will be covered in each class, the Readings for the Course will be self-determined by the student with the assumption that before each Plenary Session, each student will be responsible for arriving with a preliminary “familiarity” with the principal thinking pertaining to each “THEORY.”

#### VERY IMPORTANT

1. Each student will be required to develop her or his own “Thesis” as to who killed President Kennedy – and why & how.
2. Each student can, of course, choose to adopt any one of the Ten (10) Alternative Theories set forth in the course, or develop another Thesis – so long as the student can explain and justify their adoption of that Theory.
3. Each student will be required to WRITE her or his own “Thesis” for submission and grading.
4. Each student will be required to make an Oral “Presentation”, with one other student as to their jointly-shared “Thesis” to the entire class (and, potentially to Visiting Instructors and Community Members who have attended more than one-half of the Plenary Presentations and Sections.) That “Presentation” will answer:
  - (1) TWO closely-related questions from among the “20 Key Questions” ...
  - (2) Explicate what the adopted “THESIS” is and how their “Answers” to those two Key Questions “fit.”
5. The students will be graded:
  - (1) 5% on their attendance at the Plenary Presentations and Sections;
  - (2) 25% on their participation in the Plenary Presentation Question Periods and Sections (including, very importantly, the quality of, and the informed nature of, their “Challenges” made to each Thesis presented during the TEN Presentations made by the two-student Teams AND during the TEN Presentations made by Attorney Sheehan: Each will be presented by Attorney Sheehan as an ADVOCATE of that Thesis.
  - (3) 50% on the quality of their “WRITTEN Thesis” (25-to-50 pages)

(4) 20% on the quality of their Oral Presentation.

## APPENDIX I

### SELECTED CHRONOLOGY (ASSUMPTIONS)

1. Where specific day dates cannot be authenticated, the first day of the month is used.
2. FIRST hyperlinks to organizations referenced are to the official web site of the organization where possible.
3. Some hyperlinks do not resolve properly from Microsoft Word in all browsers, particularly links to pages within government intelligence organizations' web sites. In that case, simply hover your mouse over the hyperlinked word, right click to select Edit hyperlink, Copy it, and then Paste it into your browser directly. WARNING: Simply click Cancel to leave Edit mode to avoid changing the hyperlink. Often right clicking and selecting Copy does not always work. The above procedure always works.
4. FIRST hyperlinks to persons who went on record with respect to an alternative assassination theory are to each person's direct testimony, be it under oath or not, and preferably in video or audio form over text, as long as the person's identity is unquestionably clear.
5. FIRST hyperlinks to persons who publicly agreed with or never disputed the Warren Commission's conclusions are to a mainstream source of biographical information (e.g., Time magazine obituary, undisputed Wikipedia article, etc.)
6. ALL SUBSEQUENT HYPERLINKS attached to a person, place, organization, event, etc. are selected for relevance to the date in question as first priority.
7. Unless otherwise noted, there are at least two corroborating sources for every dated entry in this Selected Chronology, most of which can be found in three well-researched, well-documented, and well-reviewed books:
  1. "[The Last Investigation](#)" (May 30, 2008) by [Gaeton Fonzi](#), the majority of the Selected Chronology is based on the HSCA investigation and this HSCA researcher's subsequent work. Formatted entries for #1 below follow "07/26/47—" dating convention.
  2. "[JFK And The Unspeakable: Why He Died And Why It Matters](#)" (October 19, 2010) by [James W. Douglas](#), directly endorsed by Gaeton Fonzi, who wrote, "With penetrating insight and unswerving integrity, Douglass probes the fundamental truths about JFK's assassination. If, he contends, humanity permits those truths to slip into history ignored and undefined it does so at its own peril. By far the most important book yet written on the subject." Formatted entries for #2 below follow "January 17, 1961:" dating convention.
  3. "[Someone Would Have Talked](#)" (November 1, 2010) by [Larry Hancock](#), also endorsed by Gaeton Fonzi, who wrote, "Among the most respected researchers of the JFK assassination, an awesomely comprehensive and impressive work of compelling validity. A must-read in the field." Formatted entries for #3 below follow "January 17, 1961—" dating convention.

## SELECTED CHRONOLOGY

07/26/47—[Congress](#) establishes the [National Security Agency](#) to advise the [President](#) on intelligence matters. It also creates the [Central Intelligence Agency](#) with a [director](#) “[subject to no supervision, control, restriction, or prohibition](#)” from the military [Joint Chiefs of Staff](#). The leadership of the new CIA is composed largely of former members of [World War II](#)’s [Office of Strategic Services](#).

03/10/52— [General Fulgencio Batista](#)’s military forces take the Columbian army camp in [Havana](#) at dawn and depose [Carlos Prío](#) from the presidency of [Cuba](#).

11/04/52—Having resigned as supreme commander in Europe, General [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#) is elected president of the United States.

07/26/53—[Fidel Castro](#) opens his military challenge against Batista by personally leading the charge against the [Moncado army barracks in Santiago](#). It fails and he is captured, but the date goes down in modern Cuban history. At his trial Castro proclaims: “[History will absolve me!](#)”

01/14/54—At a meeting of President Eisenhower’s [National Security Council](#), it is agreed “[that the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency \[Allen Dulles\], in collaboration with other appropriate departments and agencies, should develop plans, as suggested by the Secretary of State \[John Foster Dulles\], for certain contingencies in Indochina.](#)” Subsequently the CIA created the [Saigon Military Mission](#) designed to expand its clandestine operations in Vietnam.

06/01/54—To protect the interests of the [United Fruit Company](#), the CIA succeeds in disposing of democratically elected President [Jacobo Arbenz](#) in Guatemala. [David Atlee Phillips](#) and [E. Howard Hunt](#) are Allen Dulles’s key operatives in running the Agency’s psych warfare and psychological campaigns. One of Phillips’s covert operatives is [David Sanchez Morales](#).<sup>83</sup>

07/01/55—Lee Harvey Oswald, fifteen, joins the New Orleans Civil Air Patrol commanded by David Ferrie, an Eastern Airlines pilot and former seminarian who, in 1961, would be twice arrested for “indecent behavior” with juveniles. He would later become an investigator for former FBI agent Guy Banister, with offices at 544 Camp Street.

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<sup>83</sup> David Morales was officially an Army NCO and a State Department employee. He had worked out of the U.S. Embassy in Havana (while David Phillips was working as an under cover contract employee for the CIA in Havana), and had earlier participated in the highly successful CIA PB/SUCCESS operation (along with David Phillips), which deposed a leftist leaning Guatemalan leader. After Havana, Morales assumed the responsibility for training and organizing an exile intelligence/security operation in support of the 1962 effort against Castro. Following the Bay of Pigs disaster, he was placed in charge of “secret war” operations run out of the JM/WAVE complex in Miami, reporting to Theodore Shackley. All operational penetration teams were under his supervision, and one of his major penetration leaders was Rip Robertson, who had also worked in the Guatemalan coup. David Morales also provided operational support for the Task Force W assassination operations conducted by William Harvey and Johnny Roselli.

11/01/55—CIA agent David Sanchez Morales is assigned to work undercover as a State Department political officer at the American embassy in Caracas, Venezuela.

10/26/56—Lee Harvey Oswald reports for duty at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California.

01/20/57—Eisenhower is sworn in to his second term as president.

09/12/57—Oswald arrives at the U-2 spy airplane base at Atsugi, Japan, and is assigned as a radar operator.

01/01/58—David Atlee Phillips establishes a public relations business in Havana as a front for covert CIA operations.<sup>84</sup>

05/01/58—David Sanchez Morales is assigned to the American embassy in Havana and, according to the embassy's U.S. Information Agency rep, Paul Bethel, is in charge of the CIA's "dirty tricks" section.

11/02/58—At the end of a thirteen-month tour of duty in Japan, Oswald heads back to the U.S. and is assigned to Marine Air Control Squadron Nine in Santa Ana, California.

01/01/59—Military dictator Fulgencio Batista flees Cuba under the pressure of rebel forces of the 26th of July Movement, led by a young attorney named Fidel Castro, sweeping down on Havana.

02/01/59—Nineteen-year-old Marita Lorenz, a captain's daughter, meets Fidel Castro when he welcomes her father's German cruise ship as it anchors in Havana harbor. She later becomes Castro's mistress and then is recruited by Frank Sturgis in a plan to kill Castro with poison pills.

02/25/59—Oswald takes a Marine Corps proficiency examination in the Russian language. He scores well enough to indicate he had to have begun studying while still in

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<sup>84</sup> David Phillips began his career as a CIA officer as a contract employee, and spent virtually his entire career assigned to combat communist influences and oppose Fidel Castro throughout the hemisphere. Phillips worked covertly for the CIA in Havana in 1959. Later, he was attached to the Cuba Task Force in support of the Bay of Pigs operation, charged with propaganda and media relations for the Cuban Revolutionary Council. Afterwards, he was moved to Mexico City and placed in charge of covert operations and counter-intelligence for the CIA station there. He advanced rapidly in this position, receiving a promotion in the fall of 1963, eventually becoming Chief of Cuban Operations, and finally Chief of Western Hemisphere. At that time he held the rank of CS 18, the highest position in the CIA not requiring executive appointment. At that rank and before retirement age, David Phillips chose early retirement. Shortly thereafter, he became involved in founding an association of retired intelligence professionals devoted to opposing media coverage, articles, books, and other vehicles which were negative towards the CIA. Eventually, Phillips wrote his own autobiography, *The Night Watch*, as well as other books including one titled, *The Caries Contract*, dealing with a contract political assassin. One of the major characters in the latter book was clearly patterned on Phillips' long time co-worker and associate, David Morales.

Japan, but none of his Marine friends ever saw him learning the language.

03/19/59—Oswald, soon to be discharged from the Marines, applies to the Albert Schweitzer College in Switzerland. He claims a proficiency in Russian.

09/11/59—Oswald is released from the Marine Corps after requesting a hardship discharge on the claim that his mother needs his support.

10/16/59—After leaving New Orleans on September 20, and traveling by way of London, Le Havre, and Helsinki, Oswald arrives in Russia and tells an Intourist guide that he intends to become a Russian citizen.

11/01/59—The “Movimiento de Recuperacion,” led by [Dr. Manuel Artime](#) (AM/BIDDY-1)<sup>85</sup>, becomes the first [anti-Castro action group](#) to widely organize elements in Cuba.<sup>86</sup>

12/11/59—CIA Director Allen Dulles approves “thorough consideration be given to the elimination of Fidel Castro.”

01/18/60—Richard Bissell, Deputy Director for Plans of the CIA and developer of the U-2 spy plane, meets with top-ranking Agency colleagues and announces that CIA boss Allen Dulles has appointed him to organize a “typical Latin political upheaval” in Cuba. It will be based on the “Guatemala model,” the CIA’s first successful military intervention scheme. Bissell selects E. Howard Hunt and David Atlee Phillips to be among his top field operatives.

03/17/60—President Eisenhower authorizes the CIA to organize, train, and equip Cuban refugees as a guerrilla force to overthrow Castro.

05/01/60—Francis Gary Powers’s U-2 spy plane is shot down over the U.S.S.R. The incident plays a major role in sabotaging Eisenhower’s efforts to begin a peace initiative

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85 Manuel Artime, also known as AM/BIDDY-1, was one of the early counter-revolutionary leaders (MRR party - Movement for the Recovery of the Revolution) inside Cuba. After fleeing to the U.S., he became one of the exile leaders playing a major role in successive U.S. organized exile movements. Artime and other leaders including Tony Varona, Aureliano Arango, and Jose Cardona met with Senator John Kennedy as early as the Democratic National Convention in 1960. In 1963, Artime was sanctioned, along with Harry Ruiz Williams, to be a major leader of a new Kennedy Administration’s autonomous group offensive against Fidel Castro. The CIA crypt for the Artime focused project was AM/WORLD. Artime was given far more autonomy than had been previously associated with U.S. backed efforts; in return his charter was to operate totally outside the continental U.S. and to engage in a wide variety of public activities which would make his U.S. sponsorship totally deniable. Newly released CIA documents show that the Artime effort was highly compartmentalized and isolated, even from other “secret war” operations within the CIA.

86 This CIA autonomous group project was part of a larger Kennedy Administration multi-agency effort to produce a coup within Cuba, which would internally remove Fidel and Raul Castro, replacing them with a new provisional government in which exile leaders would play a key role. The CIA was not in charge of this effort, but was limited to supporting Artime’s military build-up off shore and other related political actions, including helping him establish contacts and infrastructure in a number of Latin American countries. CIA officers playing key roles in this project included Henry Hecksher and Carl Jenkins.

with Khrushchev. There's speculation that Oswald may have provided the Russians with information enabling it to bring down the U-2.

06/03/60—J. Edgar Hoover sends a memo to the State Department reporting that an imposter may be using Oswald's birth certificate in Russia.

08/01/60—Antonio Veciana, comptroller in Havana's Banco Financiero, is approached by deep-cover CIA agent "Maurice Bishop" to work with him in anti-Castro activity.<sup>87</sup>

09/24/60—CIA Operational Support Chief James O'Connell meets with asset Robert Maheu, a former FBI and CIA agent working for millionaire Howard Hughes, and Mob representative John Rosselli<sup>88</sup> to discuss involvement of organized crime in attempts to assassinate Castro. Later, O'Connell would be introduced to Mob bosses Sam Giancana and Santos Trafficante who would recruit Miami Cubans for the operation.

10/25/60—U. S. State Department sends a list of defectors to the CIA and requests any information it may have. The name of Lee Harvey Oswald is on the list.

12/09/60—CIA opens a 201-file on Oswald. Agency later tells Warren Commission it was opened as a result of the State Department's request of October 25.

01/01/61—The U.S. embassy in Havana is closed.

01/01/61—Dallas petroleum engineer and CIA asset George de Mohrenschildt arrives in Guatemala with his wife Jeanne. They remain in Guatemala for four months while the CIA is training [anti-Castro](#) Cubans there in preparation for the Bay of Pigs invasion.

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<sup>87</sup> Antonio Veciana had an established and successful accounting business in Cuba, with connections to numerous Cuban professionals and businessmen. However, Veciana was firmly opposed to Castro's turn to communism and eventually left Cuba to become one of the chief organizers of Alpha 66. Veciana traveled widely and served as the public spokesman for Alpha 66. He has made it clear that most of the group's strategy and plans were directed by a very secretive American. Veciana went on to work with this American in a variety of efforts, including assassination attempts directed against Castro. Veciana described one of these attempts (in Chile) as being very similar to the Kennedy assassination.

<sup>88</sup> John Roselli spent a lifetime within organized crime, eventually becoming one of the best connected and most respected "fixers," with connections to Chicago, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, New Orleans, and Miami. Roselli first obtained success and prominence within the LA movie industry and then went on to become a key "facilitator" for gambling related deals in Las Vegas, and later in Havana, Cuba. He was a key organizer of the "skim" from Vegas casinos to syndicate heads in Chicago and the Midwest. When the CIA decided to go to the gambling syndicate to find someone who could use the established syndicate network inside Cuba for the assassination of Fidel Castro, Johnny Roselli was recommended. Roselli was involved in Castro assassination attempts both before the Bay of Pigs and afterwards, when the project was reactivated under William Harvey. One of his consistent resources in the Castro efforts was Antonio "Tony" Varona. Varona was a well-respected exile leader, but also a man with syndicate connections to the Trafficante organization within Cuba. Santo Trafficante Jr. headed most crime syndicate activities in Florida and Cuba. He was imprisoned by Fidel Castro after Castro began to take major control over the Havana casinos.

January 17, 1961: Congo leader [Patrice Lumumba](#), known for his support of African nationalism, is assassinated by the Belgian government with the complicity of the CIA in the Congo's secessionist province of Katanga, three days before the presidential inauguration of John F. Kennedy. On the same day, President Dwight D. Eisenhower delivers his Farewell Address, warning U.S. citizens of the rise in power of "[the military-industrial complex](#)," the "conjunction of an immense military establishment and a large arms industry [that] is new in the American experience . . . We must never let the weight of this combination endanger our liberties or democratic processes."

January 19, 1961: During his last day in the White House, President Eisenhower gives President-elect Kennedy a transitional briefing. When Kennedy raises the possibility of the United States supporting a coalition government in Laos that would include Communists, Eisenhower says it would be far better to intervene militarily with U.S. troops.

01/20/61—John F. Kennedy is inaugurated president of the United States.

January 20, 1961: President Kennedy delivers his Inaugural Address, balancing Cold War statements with the hope "that both sides begin anew the quest for peace, before the dark powers of destruction unleashed by science engulf all humanity in planned or accidental self-destruction."

02/05/61—Oswald writes to Richard Snyder at the U.S. embassy in Moscow and expresses his desire to return home. He adds: "I hope that in recalling the responsibility I have to America that you remember yours in doing everything to help me since I am an American citizen."

02/13/61—The CIA's Technical Services Division records indicate that a box of Castro's favorite cigars treated with a lethal poison were delivered to an unidentified asset. The records do not disclose whether an attempt was made to pass the cigars to Castro.

02/13/61—CIA Support Chief James O'Connell delivers poison pills to Mob liaison John Rosselli who later claims to have given them to a Cuban official close to Castro. The pills are reportedly later returned after the official lost his position.

03/01/61—At President Kennedy’s direct order the Frente<sup>89</sup>, the umbrella group of [anti-Castro](#) organizations organized by the CIA’s political liaison E. Howard Hunt, is replaced by a more liberal Cuban Revolutionary Council, called JURE. It now includes Manolo Ray, whom many consider a democratic socialist. [Amador Odio](#), [Silvia \(or Sylvia\) Odio](#)’s father, was one of the key backers of Ray’s JURE. Hunt terms Ray’s politics Fidelissimo sin Fidel (Fidelism without Fidel). Hunt was outraged at the appointment, and (either) resigns or is dismissed from his job as the CIA’s political action officer for the Bay of Pigs operation.<sup>90</sup>

March 23, 1961: Over the opposition of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the CIA, President Kennedy changes policy on Laos by ending U.S. support of anti-communist ruler General Phoumi Nosavan, whose government was installed by CIA-Pentagon forces under Eisenhower. At a news conference Kennedy says the United States “strongly and unreservedly” supports “the goal of a neutral and independent Laos” and wants to join in an international conference on Laos.

04/15/61—The CIA launches the Bay of Pigs invasion. It is over within two days. The Agency-trained forces of Brigade 2506 lose 114 men on the beaches; 1,189 are captured and imprisoned until December 1962 when the U.S. pays a ransom of \$53 million worth of food and drugs.

April 15—19, 1961: A Cuban exile brigade, trained and commanded by the CIA, invades Cuba at the Bay of Pigs. As the Cuban army led by Premier Fidel Castro surrounds the

<sup>89</sup> A list of the armed exile military organizations groups potentially most dangerous to Fidel Castro in the early 1960’s would likely begin with Unidad Revolucionario/UR, formed within Cuba in 1960 and composed of participants from 27 independent groups, including Movimiento Liberation, MRD, MRR, Rescate, and 30th of November. Rafael Diaz Hanscomb of the MRR initiated this effort at unification, even after being advised against doing so by Antonio Varona, the leader of the **Frente**. Varona would later become the leader of the CIA-sponsored Cuban Revolutionary Council/CRC. Early in 1961, Diaz made a trip from Cuba to the United States to obtain external support via contacts at Sinclair Oil. During meetings with U.S. Government officials and the CIA, the UR was given pledges of supplies and a plan to establish and staff an office in Miami was developed. At this point the chief leaders of Unidad were Diaz Hascomb (Cuban General Coordinator), Andrews Zayas (Civil Coordinator), and Major Son Martin (Military Coordinator.) The first materials to be provided from the U.S. arrived in Cuba in late February, 1961 and by mid-March the CIA thought Unidad had developed into a significant [anti-Castro](#) movement, having penetrated Cuban police and military forces. Unidad was preparing plans for coordinated uprisings, a rebellion within the Cuban Navy, and other operations. But UNIDAD advised the CIA that it was not yet ready to support any actual military action against Castro. It also advised its own Cuban network of that position. The CIA did not warn UNIDAD about the impending Bay of Pigs invasion. As a result, it was not only unable to provide any support, but its members were surprised and its network extensively damaged by the Castro round-ups.

<sup>90</sup> JURE, organized by Manual “Manolo” Ray, was socialist-democratic in its politics and generally viewed by other groups, and the former Batista associated politicians, as being too left wing in its views. Many exiles, especially those from the commercial and landed social classes, viewed it virtually as “Castroism without Castro.” Ray and JURE were also not trusted by many CIA officers, including Howard Hunt, Ted Shackley, and David Morales. In one memo out of JMIWAVE, Ray’s group is suspected of spying on JM/WAVE/CIA operations. Many of the JURE members were outside the United States, and Ray himself spent a good deal of time in Puerto Rico. JURE had been part of the original consolidated exile movement.

invading force, President Kennedy refuses to send in U.S. combat forces. The exile brigade surrenders, and more than one thousand of its members are taken prisoner. President Kennedy realizes he has been drawn into a CIA trap designed to force him to escalate the battle by ordering a full-scale invasion of Cuba by U.S. troops. Kennedy says he wants “to splinter the CIA in a thousand pieces and scatter it to the winds.”

June 3—4, 1961: At a summit meeting in Vienna, John Kennedy and Nikita Khrushchev agree to support a neutral and independent Laos—the only issue they can agree upon. Khrushchev’s apparent indifference to the deepening threat of nuclear war shocks Kennedy.

July 20, 1961: At a National Security Council Meeting, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and CIA director Allen Dulles present a plan for a preemptive nuclear attack on the Soviet Union “in late 1963, preceded by a period of heightened tensions.” President Kennedy walks out of the meeting, saying to Secretary of State Dean Rusk, “And we call ourselves the human race.”

08/23/61—David Phillips is made chief of covert action in Mexico City.<sup>91</sup> He maintains the position until October 1963 when he is promoted to chief of Cuban operations.

August 30, 1961: The Soviet Union resumes atmospheric testing of thermonuclear weapons, exploding a 150-kiloton hydrogen bomb over Siberia.

09/01/61—In a unilateral move to isolate Cuba from its allies, the United States announces it will stop assistance to any country that assists Cuba.

September 5, 1961: After the Soviet testing of two more hydrogen bombs, President Kennedy announces he has ordered the resumption of U.S. nuclear tests.

September 25, 1961: President Kennedy delivers a speech on disarmament at the United Nations in which he states: “The weapons of war must be abolished before they abolish us. . . It is therefore our intention to challenge the Soviet Union, not to an arms race, but to a peace race—to advance together step by step, stage by stage, until general and complete disarmament has been achieved.”

**September 27, 1963**—John Martino on speaking tour to New Orleans and Dallas.<sup>92</sup>

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91 Gilberto Ugarte Alvarado was a Nicaraguan intelligence informant who went to CIA officials in Mexico City with a detailed story of having observed Lee Oswald inside the Cuban Embassy, receiving money for a Cuban sponsored assassination. Alvarado’s story was initially strongly endorsed by local CIA officers; David Phillips was a leading proponent of Alvarado’s information.

92 John Martino was a casino employee in Havana, specializing in electrical installations. He left Cuba during the Castro take over, but continued to make trips back, possibly serving as a courier. During one such trip he and his young son were arrested. The son was returned to the United States. John Martino was imprisoned by Castro for several years. After his release in late 1962, he wrote a book (*I Was Castro Prisoner*), which was published in 1963. The book related the failure of the U.S. State Department to support him while in prison, as well as a host of terrible information about the Castro revolution and government. The book mentioned many individuals Martino met in prison and also named David Morales,

September 29, 1961: Nikita Khrushchev writes a first confidential letter to John Kennedy. He smuggles it to the president in a newspaper brought by a Soviet intelligence agent to Kennedy's press secretary Pierre Salinger. In the letter Khrushchev compares their common concern for peace in the nuclear age "with Noah's Ark where both the 'clean' and the 'unclean' found sanctuary. But regardless of who lists himself with the 'clean' and who is considered to be 'unclean,' they are all equally interested in one thing and that is that the Ark should successfully continue its cruise."

10/03/61—An assassination attempt against Castro instigated by Maurice Bishop fails and Veciana is forced to flee Cuba. Reynol Gonzalez, one of Veciana's coconspirators, is later arrested hiding on the estate of Amador Odio, a wealthy industrialist and father of Silvia Odio. Gonzales, the elder Odio, and his wife are arrested.<sup>93</sup>

October 16, 1961: Kennedy responds privately to Khrushchev, writing: "I like very much your analogy of Noah's Ark, with both the 'clean' and the 'unclean' determined that it stay afloat. Whatever our differences, our collaboration to keep the peace is as urgent—if not more urgent—than our collaboration to win the last world war."

October 27—28, 1961: After a summer of U.S.—Soviet tensions over Berlin culminating in Khrushchev's August order to erect a wall between East and West Berlin, General Lucius Clay, President Kennedy's personal representative in West Berlin, provokes a sixteen-hour confrontation between U.S. and Soviet tanks at the Berlin Wall. Kennedy sends an urgent, back-channel appeal to Khrushchev, who then initiates their mutual withdrawal of the tanks, prefiguring the resolution of the Cuban Missile Crisis one year later.

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a U.S. Embassy employee who had impressed Martino. Martino was credited with trying to warn the U.S. Government about Castro's communist leanings. In 1963, Martino promoted and personally participated in the Bayo-Pawley mission into Cuba. This mission was staffed with Alpha 66 personnel, with military coordination by Rip Robertson, who worked for David Morales at JM/WAVE. Robertson had debriefed Martino after his return from Cuba.

<sup>93</sup> Silvia (or Sylvia) Odio was the daughter of wealthy Cuban businessman, Amador Odio; both her father and mother ended up imprisoned by Fidel Castro for providing aid and comfort to revolutionary activities against Castro. Sylvia and her father were both politically affiliated with Manolo Ray's relatively liberal JURE party. Sylvia and her children eventually moved to Dallas, Texas in early 1963 to join other members of her family. While not active with the local JURE organization herself, Sylvia remained in contact with Ray and attempted to locate weapon sources for JURE. Her younger sister, Santa, a college student in Dallas, was associated with individuals who were active DRE members.

11/01/61—Maurice Bishop contacts Antonio Veciana in Miami and instructs him to establish an [anti-Castro](#) organization. The organization is later called Alpha 66.<sup>94</sup>

11/01/61—Presidential Advisor Richard Goodwin and CIA Deputy Edward Lansdale recommend the creation of Operation Mongoose as a coordinated effort to depose Castro's government.<sup>95</sup>

11/16/61—CIA Deputy Director for Plans Richard Bissell directs Cuban Task Force head William Harvey<sup>96</sup> to apply the ZR/RIFLE assassination program to Cuba. Harvey reestablishes the Agency contact with Mob liaison John Rosselli.

November 22, 1961: While refusing the Joint Chiefs' recommendation that U.S. combat troops be deployed to defeat an insurgency in Vietnam, President Kennedy orders the sending of military advisers and support units—the beginning of a steady military buildup in Vietnam during his presidency.

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94 Tony Cuesta had been a businessman in Havana, but after going into exile he became one of the most aggressive exile raiders, operating first with Alpha 66 and then with Commandos L (Liberty). Cuesta led his first mission into Cuba in September of 1962, shortly before the Cuban Missile Crisis. However, he became a very visible and public figure primarily due to *LIFE* magazine's coverage of a raid he led into Cuba in the spring of 1963. Cuesta led a Commandos L team (a spin off group from Alpha 66) the raid resulted in the sinking of the Russian merchant ship, *Baku*, and received major media visibility as part of *LIFE*'s photo journalism support for the exiles and their efforts. A *LIFE* photographer accompanied Cuesta and his crew on the mission.

95 The Mongoose project was the follow-on Kennedy Administration response to the disaster at the Bay of Pigs. That project had actually originated under President Eisenhower. Mongoose was to be the Kennedy response; it originated in a memorandum from President Kennedy in November of 1961. The memorandum went to multiple agencies and called for all designated parties to follow the lead of Major General Edward Lansdale. Lansdale, designated Mongoose project leader, was to "use our available assets to help Cuba overthrow the communist regime." These assets were to be largely operated out of the CIA station in Miami known as JM/WAVE, and run by station chief Theodore Shackley. Lansdale would run the planning and oversee the grand strategy of Mongoose, while William Harvey was assigned to be in charge of the CIA elements known as Task Force W. Lansdale's decisions and planning were to be overseen by a special group of senior administration personnel in Washington, including Robert Kennedy.

96 William Harvey was a senior CIA officer who was placed in charge of Task Force W (CIA operations) within the multiple agency, Kennedy Administration, [anti-Castro](#) project named Mongoose. Mongoose was charged with the overthrow of the Castro regime. Project Mongoose and Task Force W operated out of the same facilities and used the resources of the giant JM/WAVE CIA station on the south campus of the University of Miami. Harvey was ordered by Richard Helms to reactivate the joint CIA-Roselli assassination project in 1962. Helms apparently did this without the knowledge of either the Kennedy Administration or the director of the CIA, John McCone. This effort had originally been organized prior to the Bay of Pigs, using syndicate "fixer" Johnny Roselli and remaining gambling syndicate connections in Cuba, which had been part of the Trafficante network. Harvey and Roselli engaged in several efforts to poison or otherwise remove Fidel Castro during 1962, and although the project was officially terminated at the end of that year, the two men continued a close personal association throughout 1963. This association continued even after Harvey was removed from Task Force W and reassigned to Italy. William Harvey had earlier been assigned by Richard Helms to organize and recruit personnel for an overseas CIA Executive Action capability designated ZR/RIFLE. This project was to give the CIA the capability to remove foreign leaders through the use of criminal assets. Recent document releases also show this project remained active during 1963, after Harvey's removal from Task Force W, Mongoose and his reassignment.

11/29/61—President Kennedy fires CIA Director Allen Dulles and his deputy Richard Bissell as a result of the Bay of Pigs debacle; Kennedy appoints an “outsider,” John McCone, an industrialist and former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, as head of the Agency.

11/30/61—President Kennedy writes memo to Secretary of State Dean Rusk recording his decision to start Operation Mongoose. A presidential advisory group, headed by Robert Kennedy and called Special Group (Augmented), is to control it. The CIA’s branch of Operation Mongoose, Task Force W, is headed by William Harvey, boss of the Agency’s ZR/RIFLE “Executive Action” section. Miami’s JM/WAVE station is the CIA’s operational center for Mongoose. Headed by Theodore Shackley, its chief of operations is David Sanchez Morales, David Phillips’s close associate. With an official staff of more than three hundred and with fifty-four front corporations, the Agency becomes one of Florida’s largest employers.

November 30, 1961: President Kennedy authorizes “Operation Mongoose,” a covert-action program “to help Cuba overthrow the communist regime.” He appoints counterinsurgency specialist General Edward Lansdale as its Chief of Operations.

02/19/62—Richard Helms replaces Richard Bissell as the CIA’s deputy director for Plans, in charge of all covert operations.

April 13, 1962: President Kennedy, backed by overwhelming public support, forces the leaders of the steel industry to rescind a price increase that violates a Kennedy-brokered agreement to combat inflation. Kennedy’s anti-business statements and beginning cancellation of the steel companies’ defense contracts make him notorious among the power brokers of the military-industrial complex.

April 25, 1962: As authorized by President Kennedy, the United States sets off the first of a series of twenty-four nuclear tests in the South Pacific.

May 8, 1962: Following President Kennedy’s instructions, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara orders General Paul Harkins at a Saigon conference “to devise a plan for turning full responsibility [for the war in Vietnam] over to South Vietnam and reducing the size of our military command, and to submit this plan at the next conference.”

05/21/62—CIA Technical Services Division gives poison pills to Cuban Ops chief William Harvey to pass to Mob contact John Rosselli who in turn will pass pills on to the same Cuban contact involved in the pre-Bay of Pigs attempt to poison Castro. The Cuban contact would later claim the opportunity to use the pills never came up.

06/13/62—Oswald, with his Russian wife and baby daughter, disembark from the SS Maasdam in Hoboken, New Jersey. The CIA claims it took no interest in the returning defector, but the Oswalds are met by Spas T. Raikin, a caseworker with Travelers Aid in New York. Raikin is a member of American Friends of Anti-Bolshevik Nations, a staunch

anticommunist group. Late the next day, the Oswalds fly to Fort Worth where they will temporarily stay with his brother Robert. Oswald's mother Marguerite later said he had sent her a letter from Moscow saying he would stop in Washington on the way home. According to Legend author Edward J. Epstein, a CIA psychologist code-named Cato interviewed a Russian defector who resembled Oswald at the Roger Smith Hotel in Washington on the evening of June 13.

June 13, 1962: With his Russian wife, Marina, and infant daughter, June, Lee Harvey Oswald returns to the United States with a loan from the State Department, after his highly publicized October 1959 defection to the Soviet Union and two and one-half years living as an expatriate in Minsk. As the Oswalds settle in Fort Worth, Texas, Lee Oswald begins to be shepherded by intelligence asset George de Mohrenschildt, at the instigation of Dallas CIA agent J. Walton Moore.

06/20/62—Oswald is befriended by Peter Paul Gregory, a petroleum engineer teaching Russian language courses at the Fort Worth library. Gregory begins introducing the Oswalds to his friends in the White Russian community in Dallas. Among them is George de Mohrenschildt, who would later say that he first heard of Oswald through J. Walton Moore in late 1961. Moore, of the CIA's Domestic Contact Service in Dallas, described an ex-Marine working in an electronics factory in Minsk who would soon return to the United States. Moore said the CIA had an "interest" in Oswald.

07/13/62—Oswald obtains a job with Leslie Welding Company in Fort Worth. He assembles doors and windows for \$1.25 an hour.

July 23, 1962: The United States joins thirteen other nations at Geneva in signing the "Declaration on the Neutrality of Laos." CIA and Pentagon opponents regard Kennedy's negotiation of the Laotian agreement as surrender to the Communists. They undermine it by supporting General Phoumi's violations of the cease-fire. In another conference on the war in Vietnam, at Camp Smith, Hawaii, Secretary McNamara discovers that his May 8 order to General Harkins has been ignored. He repeats President Kennedy's order for a program to phase out U.S. military involvement in Vietnam.

09/10/62—With only Washington's intelligence insiders aware of a brewing Cuban missile crisis, Maurice Bishop directs Alpha 66<sup>97</sup> leader Antonio Veciana to launch a

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<sup>97</sup> Alpha 66 was one of the best organized and most militarily effective of the activist Cuban exile organizations. In 1962 and 1963, Alpha 66 was very successful in launching attacks in Cuba, targeting port installations and foreign shipping. Russian ships and assets were among its primary targets. Alpha 66 was also especially effective at private fund raising through exile business connections in New York City and Puerto Rico; the key individual in this effort was one of its principal organizers, Antonio Veciana. The most well known, aggressive and successful Alpha 66 raid leaders were Tony Cuesta and Eduardo (Eddie) Perez (Bayo). Alpha 66 was largely put together by Antonio Veciana and Eloy Menoyo; Veciana had approached the CIA with a proposal to assassinate Castro and his key leaders. In 1961 he helped organized an abortive bazooka attack on Castro before escaping into exile. Eloy Menoyo had been an active Second Front of the Escambray leader during the revolution against Batista. Menoyo was adamant in retaining the "Second Front of the Escambray" name and the consolidated group was often referred to as Second Front Alpha 66.

commando attack on a British ship and two Cuban cargo vessels off the north coast of Cuba. Four days later, the Associated Press reports from San Juan, Puerto Rico, that Veciana declares that Alpha 66 will make five more raids into Cuba in the next sixty days. He claims a war chest of \$100,000.

10/07/62—After attending the Van Cliburn piano competition in Fort Worth, George de Mohrenschildt joins his daughter Alexandra and friends from the White Russian community at a gathering at the Oswald apartment. Oswald's mother Marguerite later says she had the impression that de Mohrenschildt had already arranged a job for her son in Dallas.

10/08/62—Under the strategic direction of Maurice Bishop, Antonio Veciana orders commandos of Alpha 66 to attack Soviet merchant ships in Havana harbor.

10/11/62—Oswald is hired by Jaggars-Chiles-Stovall Co., a Dallas photographic firm that has a contract with the U.S. Army Map Service, which involves information obtained from U-2 spy flights.

October 16, 1962: President Kennedy is informed that photographs from a U-2 reconnaissance flight show Soviet medium-range ballistic missiles in Cuba. Kennedy calls a top-secret meeting of his key advisers, who become the Executive Committee (ExComm) of the National Security Council. At their first meeting, they debate ways of destroying the Soviet missiles by preemptive attacks on Cuba, prompting Robert Kennedy to write a note to the president saying: "I now know how Tojo felt when he was planning Pearl Harbor."

October 19, 1962: As President Kennedy resolves to blockade further Soviet missile shipments rather than bomb and invade Cuba, he meets with his Joint Chiefs of Staff. They push for an immediate attack on the missile sites. General Curtis LeMay tells him, "This [blockade and political action] is almost as bad as the appeasement [of Hitler] at Munich."

October 22, 1962: President Kennedy delivers a televised speech to the nation, announcing the U.S. discovery of Soviet missile sites in Cuba. He declares "a strict quarantine on all offensive military equipment under shipment to Cuba" and calls for "the prompt dismantling and withdrawal of all offensive weapons in Cuba."

October 27, 1962: A Soviet surface-to-air missile shoots down a U-2 reconnaissance plane over Cuba, killing the Air Force pilot. The Joint Chiefs and ExComm urge a quick retaliatory attack. Kennedy sends a letter accepting Khrushchev's proposal to withdraw the Soviet missiles in return for JFK's pledge not to invade Cuba, while ignoring Khrushchev's later demand that the United States remove its analogous missiles from

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Many young, activist Cubans also had dual membership in Alpha 66 and in the DRE (Student Revolutionary Directorate). The DRE students had been strongly involved in the Castro revolt against Batista, but had been excluded as Castro turned to communism and Russia. DRE members remained strong anti-communists and maintained one of the most effective intelligence channels into Cuba under Castro.

Turkey beside the Soviet border. JFK sends Robert Kennedy to meet with Soviet ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. RFK gives Dobrynin a secret promise that the missiles in Turkey will also be withdrawn as part of the agreement. He appeals for a quick response by Khrushchev, saying many generals are pushing for war and the president may lose control. Upon receipt of this message from Dobrynin, Khrushchev announces publicly he is taking the Soviet missiles out of Cuba in exchange for Kennedy's no-invasion pledge. The Joint Chiefs of Staff are outraged by Kennedy's refusal to attack Cuba and his concessions to Khrushchev.

10/28/62—After weeks of tense confrontation that brought the world to the brink of a nuclear holocaust, Russian Premier Khrushchev announces that the U.S.S.R. had decided to dismantle Soviet missiles in Cuba. Kennedy responds by congratulating Khrushchev for “an important contribution to peace.” An agreement is reached which includes Kennedy's promise to halt Operation Mongoose raids against Cuba. The confrontation appears to be a cathartic experience for Kennedy. “Our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet,” he says in a speech later. “We all breathe the same air, we all cherish our children's futures and we are all mortal.”

12/04/62—U.S. Customs officers capture twelve [anti-Castro](#) guerillas, mostly American soldiers of fortune trained by the CIA, at a secret training base called No Name Key, north of Key West, as they are about to embark on a raid to Cuba. They are charged with violation of the Neutrality Act. Among those arrested is Gerry Patrick Hemming, founder with Frank Sturgis of the international Anti-Communist Brigade.

December 18, 1962: After visiting Vietnam at President Kennedy's request, Senator Mike Mansfield issues a report cautioning Kennedy against being drawn “inexorably into some variation of the unenviable position in Vietnam which was formerly occupied by the French.”

01/01/63—Task Force W is replaced by new CIA group called Special Affairs Staff. Desmond FitzGerald replaces William Harvey and continues [anti-Castro](#) raids on a smaller scale, despite earlier Kennedy directives to halt all Cuban operations.

02/02/63—The CIA establishes a new Domestic Operations Division under Tracy Barnes, chief of the psychological and paramilitary staff for the Agency's clandestine branch during the Bay of Pigs, when he worked with David Phillips as propaganda chief. E. Howard Hunt is shifted from chief of the covert action staff in the Western European Division to a deputy position in Barnes's new division. On orders from Deputy Director FitzGerald, Phillips takes over Cuban operations.

02/02/63—George and Jeanne de Mohrenschildt invite the Oswalds to a party at the home of Everett Glover, where Michael Paine, the estranged husband of Ruth Paine, lives; but Paine, who works for Bell Helicopter, isn't present. The Oswalds, however, are introduced to Ruth Paine, who would later invite Marina Oswald and her daughter to live with her when Oswald moved to a rooming house.

03/19/63—At a press conference in Washington arranged by spymaster Maurice Bishop, Alpha 66 leader Antonio Veciana announces that his [anti-Castro](#) forces have raided a “Soviet fortress” and ship in a Cuban port east of Havana, causing a dozen Soviet casualties and serious damage. Veciana says his purpose is “to wage psychological warfare against the government of Premier Fidel Castro and the Soviet troops supporting him.” The New York Times says the Kennedy administration is “embarrassed by the incident.”

March 19, 1963: At a Washington news conference, the CIA-sponsored Cuban exile group Alpha 66 announces its having raided a Soviet “fortress” and ship in Cuba, causing a dozen casualties. The secret purpose of the attack in Cuban waters, according to Alpha 66’s incognito CIA adviser, David Atlee Phillips, is “to publicly embarrass Kennedy and force him to move against Castro.”

March 31, 1963: President Kennedy orders a crackdown on Cuban refugee gunboats being run by the CIA out of Miami. Robert Kennedy’s Justice Department confines the movement of [anti-Castro](#) commando leaders to the Miami area, while the Coast Guard seizes their boats and arrests the crews.

04/01/63—The New York Times reports: “Seventeen heavily armed Cuban exiles planning to attack a Soviet tanker off Cuba were seized yesterday by a British force on a solitary islet in the Bahamas chain. . . . The capture was apparently the first result of an agreement worked out late last week by Washington and London to cooperate in preventing raids by opponents of Premier Fidel Castro. . . [In Miami], Cuban exiles reacted with a mixture of anger, defiance and gloom. . . .” The [anti-Castro](#) raiding party was led by Jerry Buchanan, a member of Frank Sturgis’s International Anti-Communist Brigade.

04/05/63—The Kennedy administration reveals it is assigning more Navy and Customs planes and boats to police the Florida straits against continuing [anti-Castro](#) raids.

April 11, 1963: Pope John XXIII issues his encyclical letter, *Pacem in Terris* (“Peace On Earth”). Norman Cousins presents an advance copy in Russian to Nikita Khrushchev. The papal encyclical’s principles of mutual trust and cooperation with an ideological opponent provide a foundation for the Kennedy—Khrushchev dialogue and Kennedy’s American University address in June. President Kennedy writes secretly to Premier Khrushchev that he is “aware of the tensions unduly created by recent private attacks on your ships in Cuban waters; and we are taking action to halt those attacks which are in violation of our laws.” Also in early April, James Donovan, U.S. negotiator, returns to Cuba to confer with Premier Fidel Castro for the further release of Bay of Pigs prisoners. The CIA attempts through an unwitting Donovan to foist a CIA-contaminated diving suit on Castro, as a gift by the Kennedy-appointed negotiator, in a failed effort to simultaneously assassinate Castro, scapegoat Kennedy, and sabotage a beginning Cuban—American dialogue.

04/16/63—Oswald writes V. T. Lee of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New York that he had passed out FPCC literature in Dallas and requests that more be sent to him. The FBI steps up its surveillance and mail-intercept program of the FPCC.

04/16/63—Alpha 66 continues to expand, with branches in Miami, New York, Chicago, and Dallas; announces it is now opening a chapter in Los Angeles.

April 18, 1963: [Dr. Jose Miro Cardona](#), head of the Cuban Revolutionary Council (CRC<sup>98</sup>) in Miami, subsidized by the CIA, resigns in protest against Kennedy's shift in Cuban policy. Cardona concludes from Kennedy's actions: "the struggle for Cuba is in the process of being liquidated by the [U.S.] Government."

04/19/63—With details of Kennedy's Cuban missile crisis agreement with Khrushchev still emerging, Dr. José Miro Cardona resigns as head of the Cuban Revolutionary Council, originally set up by the U.S. government as a means of controlling the disparate [anti-Castro](#) groups. Miro Cardona charges that Kennedy has given Castro "absolute immunity" and accuses him of "liquidating the struggle for Cuba."

04/24/63—Oswald is laid off from Jagers-Chiles-Stovall and tells his wife he is going to New Orleans to look for work and that she should follow in a few weeks. He temporarily moves in with his aunt and uncle, the Murrets. Charles Murret is a shipyard worker and small time bookie who works under the Marcello organized crime family.

May 6, 1963: In another conference on Vietnam chaired by Secretary McNamara at Camp Smith, Hawaii, the Pacific Command finally presents President Kennedy's long-sought plan for withdrawal from Vietnam. However, McNamara has to reject the military's overextended time line. He orders that concrete plans be drawn up for withdrawing one thousand U.S. military personnel from South Vietnam by the end of 1963. President Kennedy issues National Security Action Memorandum 239, ordering his principal national security advisers to pursue both a nuclear test ban treaty and a policy of general and complete disarmament.

05/07/63—After making arrangements through Army Colonel Sam Kail (the contact given to Antonio Veciana by Maurice Bishop when Kail was the military attaché at the American embassy in Havana), George de Mohrenschildt brings his Haitian business

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98 Tony Varona, acting head of the Cuban Revolutionary Council, supported by the Kennedy Administration and the CIA during and after the Bay of Pigs. Varona was heavily involved in exile politics and to a large extent became a stand-in for former Cuban President Carlos Prío Socarrés. Varona became the head of numerous exile parties, including the FRD, OA, and Rescate. The CRC worked with various Interpen members to set up a training camp outside New Orleans in 1962 (when the administration began cracking down on raids out of Florida), but aborted the effort due to ongoing administration opposition to unauthorized exile military activities. Varona also maintained connections to the powerful gambling syndicate members who had been so influential in pre-Castro Cuba, including the Trafficante organization. It was this connection which resulted in his being used in the Roselli organized poison attempts against Castro. Varona accepted arms, money, and supplies in return for his participation. Varona also maintained his connections to key political leaders such as Manuel Artime, even after Artime was selected by the Kennedy Administration to move the exile efforts against Castro offshore in 1963.

partner, Clemard Charles, to a meeting with a CIA staff officer in Washington prior to departing for Haiti. Charles is believed to be a conduit for CIA funds funneled through Haitian dictator François Duvalier.

May 8, 1963: At a protest in Hue, South Vietnam, by Buddhists claiming religious repression by the Diem government, two explosions attributed to government security forces kill eight people, wounding fifteen others. The government accuses the Viet Cong of setting off the explosions. A later, independent investigation identifies the bomber as a U.S. military officer, using CIA-supplied plastic bombs. The Buddhist Crisis touched off by the Hue explosions threatens to topple Ngo Dinh Diem's government, destroying the possibility of a Diem—Kennedy agreement for a U.S. military withdrawal from Vietnam.

05/09/63—Oswald obtains a job at the Reily Coffee Company in New Orleans. The company's owner, William Reily, is a wealthy backer of [anti-Castro](#) groups and activities.

05/26/63—Oswald writes V. T. Lee at the New York FPCC: “Now that I live in New Orleans I have been thinking about renting a small office at my own expense for the purpose of forming a FPCC branch here in New Orleans. Could you give me a charter? Also a picture of Fidel, suitable for framing would be a welcome touch.”

05/29/63—At Jones Printing Company, next to Reily Coffee, Oswald orders a thousand handbills that read: “HANDS OFF CUBA! Join the Fair Play for Cuba Committee NEW ORLEANS CHARTER MEMBER BRANCH.” Some of the handbills are hand stamped with the address 544 Camp Street. That is the office of ex-FBI agent Guy Banister and his investigator David Ferrie, ardent [anti-Castro](#) supporters.

**June 8, 1963**—The [Bayo-Pawley mission \(Operation TILT\)](#) operatives clandestinely entered Cuba to bring out two Red Army officers with purported knowledge of Soviet nuclear missiles still in Cuba post-Cuban missile crisis (i.e., Were the Soviets violating the JFK-Khrushchev agreement?). [Eduardo "Eddie Bayo" Perez](#)<sup>99</sup> initially promoted and organized Operation TILT (aka Bayo-Pawley mission), funded by patriotic multi-millionaire international statesman and business man, [William Douglas Pawley](#)<sup>100</sup>

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99 Eddie Bayo (Eduardo Perez) initially fought under Raul Castro against Batista. Bayo was a fierce fighter and later turned against the Castro regime. After his rejection of Castro and his exile to the U.S., Bayo became a crew member of the *Tejana III*. The *Tejana* was a WWII subchaser, which had been purchased by persons associated with the King Ranch in Texas and pledged to the CIA's secret efforts against Castro. It was then purchased by Alberto Fernandez Hechaverria, registered under the dummy company name of InterKey Transportation, and refitted and “gunned” by the CIA for supply missions into Cuba before the Bay of Pigs in 1961. In 1963, the *Tejana* was placed under control of Manual Artime and crewed by his MRR commandos as part of the build-up of his forces outside the United States. After leaving the *Tejana*, Bayo became one of the most aggressive and successful leaders of Alpha 66 boat attack groups, participating in raids against Russian ships and assets in Cuba.

100 William Pawley was posthumously lionized by biographer Anthony R. Carrozza in [“William D. Pawley: The Extraordinary Life of the Adventurer, Entrepreneur, and Diplomat Who Cofounded the Flying Tigers”](#), March 2012.

(QDDALE)<sup>101</sup>, [cofounder](#) of the [Flying Tigers](#), successively former U.S. ambassador to Peru and Brazil during the Truman administration, and a close personal friend of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower and former CIA DCI Allen Dulles.

William D. Pawley participated personally in the mission. In addition to William Pawley and Eddie Bayo, personnel from CIA's [Cuban "secret war"](#) JM/WAVE headquarters in Miami, and two staff members from [Life magazine](#), who, in modern terms, were "embedded" to get the scoop on the outcome, if successful, participated in the mission. The mission failed.

In "Miamian Pawley Tells of '63 Cuba Operation, Loss of Ten Exiles," Miami Herald, January 8, 1976, states, "The ten men [lost] were Tomas Vaquero, Luis Jimenez, Denis Rigal [aka Denys Regal], Rene Lamoru [aka Rene Lomalru], Rolando Rodriguez [no other trace found of this person except in this quote], Francisco Hernandez [aka Francesco Hernandez], Luis Cantin, Alfredo Mir, Ernesto Duenas [aka Ernesto Duenas Esposito De Socorro], and Eddie Bayo [aka Eduardo Perez]."

However, listed elsewhere, the group also included William (Rip) Robertson<sup>102</sup>, [Virgilio Gonzalez](#), [Eugenio Martinez](#), John Martino<sup>103</sup>, and [Richard Billings](#) and [Terry Spencer](#), the journalist and photographer working for Life Magazine, possibly others (e.g., there are 14 men, most unidentified, including the photographer, in this [mission photo – see third photo from top](#)).

The group boarded a [CIA flying boat](#) (bottom photo). After landing off [Baracoa](#), [Bayo and his men got into a 22-foot craft](#) and headed for the Cuban shore. The plan was to pick them up with the Soviet officers two days later. They were unsuccessful in their attempts

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101 Mary Ferrell Foundation, CIA Cryptonyms, [http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/CIA\\_Cryptonyms#\\_QD](http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/CIA_Cryptonyms#_QD)

102 William "Rip" Robertson was a CIA military operations officer; he joined the PB/SUCCESS team in Guatemala, serving as part of the military component with David Morales. Robertson would later become a Brigade 2506 military advisor, and was present as an advisor and UDT (underwater demolitions team) leader at the Bay of Pigs. He then became one of the military operations personnel at JM/WAVE, where he continued to demonstrate his personal bravery in Cuban penetration missions. Reportedly Robertson, along with senior boat guide Eugenio Martinez, were part of the unsanctioned group sent into Cuba by William Harvey during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Both men would later be assigned to the CIA supported TILT mission. Robertson had also conducted debriefing and other contacts with John Martino after Martino's return from prison in Cuba. Robertson went on to lead Cuban exile military personnel in Angola (where he used the name "Carlos") and later served in Vietnam.

103 John Martino became a close friend and confidant of Felipe Vidal, keeping Martino informed on exile affairs. In the fall of 1963 Vidal made a series of trips to Dallas, Texas. During 1962 and 1963, Vidal associated with the Interpen group but primarily became a good friend of Roy Hargraves. Vidal was a Cuban Naval officer who went into exile from Castro's communist regime via South America. Vidal was approached by CIA, but no ongoing relationship developed due to mutual distrust. Vidal distrusted CIA's motives. Vidal moved into the U.S. via Miami and remained very independent, joining no established exile party, but associating with more operationally inclined individuals. He attempted to form his own group for missions into Cuba but could not come up with sufficient funding. Vidal was one of the first people approached by Paulino Sierra when he came to Miami recruiting for the JCGE.

to find the Soviet officers they were looking for and forced to return to Miami. Eddie Bayo, hero to many inside the movement,<sup>104</sup> remained behind and it was rumored that he had been captured and executed. However, his death was never reported in the Cuban press.

June 10, 1963: President Kennedy delivers his Commencement Address at American University in Washington proposing, in effect, an end to the Cold War. Rejecting the goal of “a Pax Americana enforced on the world by American weapons of war,” Kennedy asks Americans to reexamine their attitudes toward war, especially in relation to the people of the Soviet Union, who suffered incomparable losses in World War II. Now nuclear war would be far worse: “All we have built, all we have worked for, would be destroyed in the first 24 hours.” He announces his unilateral suspension of further nuclear tests in the atmosphere, so as to promote “our primary long-range interest,” “general and complete disarmament.”

06/24/63—Oswald applies for a new passport, receives it the next day.

June 25, 1963: Lee Harvey Oswald is issued a United States passport in New Orleans, twenty-four hours after his application and one year after his return from defecting to the Soviet Union. On his passport application, he identifies his destination as the Soviet Union.

07/19/63—Oswald is fired from his job at Reily Coffee. Adrian Alba, who manages the parking garage next door, drops in to see him, says Oswald appears in good spirits, tells Alba, “I have found my pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.”

07/24/63—A group of [anti-Castro](#) Cubans arrives in New Orleans from Miami and joins a training camp off Lake Pontchartrain. Members are from the International Anti-Communist Brigade, established by Frank Sturgis and Gerry Patrick Hemming. The Senate Intelligence Committee Report would later claim that “‘A,’ life-long friend of [AM/LASH \[Rolando Cubela\]](#)<sup>105</sup>,” had helped procure explosives for the camp. “A” is

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104 Alberto Fernandez (CIA crypt AM/DENIM-1), another funding source for Eddie Bayo and the boat raids, was a graduate of Princeton, attended prep school with John F. Kennedy, and was the director of the Sugar Stabilization Board of the Cuban Sugar Institute in 1958 and 1959. His eventual opposition to Castro and his counter-evolutionary activities led to his exile. Initially he had been a strong 26th of July supporter and reportedly raised over \$2 million dollars for the movement. An FBI memo dated October 1958 lists companies that had been solicited for payments to Fidel Castro and his rebel army. These included United Fruit, Lone Star Cement, Freeport Sulphur, Czarnikow Rionda, Chase Manhattan Bank, King Ranch (Robert Kleberg), Standard Oil, and Hilton Hotels. One of Fernandez's first operational moves after his exfiltration to the United States was to use his business connections, including his being known to the Klebergs of King Ranch, to help negotiate and fund the purchase of an ex-Navy sub chaser for penetration and supply missions into Cuba. The ship was located in New Orleans, owned by Texan Robert McCoy, and was purchased jointly with Texas (Kleberg) and Cuban funds (approximately \$38,000 each) in November of 1960. This ship would be named the *Tejana*. Its crew would come to include two men whose names would also become legendary in independent exile military operations: Tony Cuesta (AM/DENIM 14) and Eddie Bayo.

105 AM/LASH is a CIA cryptonym associated both with a project and an individual. The individual was Dr. Rolando Cubela. Cubela had led DRE forces into Havana to oust Batista, but later became associated

Victor Espinosa Hernandez, who obtained the explosives from Richard Lauchli, cofounder of the paramilitary right-wing Minutemen. During the Garrison investigation, reports were received that Oswald and David Ferrie were seen at this camp.

July 25, 1963: In Moscow, on behalf of President Kennedy, U.S. negotiator, [W. Averell Harriman](#) agrees with Soviet negotiators to the Limited Test Ban Treaty, outlawing nuclear tests “in the atmosphere, beyond its limits, including outer space, or under water, including territorial waters or high seas.”

July 26, 1963: President Kennedy makes a television appeal to the nation for support of the test ban treaty, quoting Nikita Khrushchev on a nuclear war they both hope to avoid: “The survivors would envy the dead.”

07/31/63—The FBI seizes more than a ton of dynamite, bomb casing, and napalm material at a home off Lake Pontchartrain but not part of the IAB camp. The home is owned by William McClaney, a well-known Havana gambler and brother of Mike McClaney, former casino owner in Cuba.

08/01/63—Oswald is Listed by the House UnAmerican Activities Committee as the secretary of the Fair Play for Cuba chapter in New Orleans.

08/09/63—Oswald is arrested on Canal Street in New Orleans after a confrontation with [anti-Castro](#) Cuban exiles, including Carlos Bringuier, a member of the CIA-supported Student Revolutionary Directorate (DRE).<sup>106</sup> Oswald was handing out leaflets for the pro-

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with Castro and held a variety of minor posts in the Castro regime. These posts did, however, allow Cubela to travel internationally. After contacts with and recruitment by the CIA, Cubela eventually came to be viewed by the CIA as one option for organizing an internal revolt against Castro. Cubela himself continuously promoted the idea of an assassination attempt against Castro and requested equipment from the CIA for this project.

106 Members of the Student Directorate were very active in protesting and opposing the Batista regime, and DRE fighters played a major role in the revolution against him. DRE members fought fiercely in Havana and initially took control, later to concede political control to Fidel Castro and his followers when they entered the city. DRE members were later among the first to oppose Castro’s eventual turn to communism and the Soviets. The DRE network inside Cuba might be considered one of the best organized and secure during the period of 1962-1963. In the U.S., DRE exiles and members were primarily engaged in fund raising, recruiting, and political/media opposition to the Castro regime. DRE and its Miami chapter were one of the few exile organizations actively cultivated and supported by the CIA, both for their intelligence connections and their political value. However, DRE members who were more operationally inclined did participate in raids of their own into Cuba, and also joined with other operationally focused groups such as Alpha 66/SNFE. During 1962 and 1963, the leader of DRE was Manuel Salvar, and its military director was Blanco Fernandez. Army intelligence documents note that some members of Alpha 66 were also members of the DRE. We find DRE and Alpha 66 individuals associated in Miami, Puerto Rico, and in Dallas during this period. We also find DRE members in New Orleans in contact with Lee Oswald in 1963, and very actively involved in developing propaganda opposing Oswald and the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. DRE members in New Orleans and Miami were also among the very first to seek media attention tying Castro to Oswald and to the Kennedy assassination. Unfortunately, the reports dealing with Oswald, which must have gone from the DRE to its CIA case officer, have never been made available and as of 2006 are the subject of an ongoing lawsuit against the CIA.

Castro Fair Play for Cuba Committee. The confrontation seems staged. An FBI agent interviews Oswald in jail, but despite inaugurating a special “Cuban Section” to its Security Index after the Cuban missile crisis, Oswald’s name is not added to it.

August 9—10, 1963: Lee Harvey Oswald is arrested in New Orleans while passing out Fair Play for Cuba leaflets. He and three [anti-Castro](#) Cuban exiles, who confront him and tear up his leaflets, are charged with disturbing the peace. After Oswald spends the night in jail, he meets privately with New Orleans FBI agent John Quigley. Oswald’s street theater discredits the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and prepares the ground for his portrayal in November as a pro-Castro assassin of President Kennedy.

08/21/63—Oswald appears on New Orleans radio station with Carlos Bringuier. After the show, Oswald goes to a bar to drink beer with talk show host, Bill Stuckey who had been briefed about Oswald by an associate, Ed Butler, head of the Information Council of the Americas, a right-wing propaganda organization.

08/22 to 09/17/63—The House Assassinations Committee says there is no corroborated whereabouts for Oswald during this period. However, it was during this time, the Committee concluded, that Oswald was seen with David Ferrie and, likely, Guy Banister at a black voting rights demonstration in Clinton, Louisiana, about 130 miles north of New Orleans.

08/23/63—Silvia Duran begins work as a secretary at the Cuban consulate in Mexico City. Claims she is a socialist sympathizer and had flown to Cuba as government guest in December 1961.

August 24, 1963: Presidential advisers Roger Hilsman, Averell Harriman, and Michael Forrestal draft a telegram to newly appointed Saigon ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge that conditionally authorizes U.S. support of a coup by rebel South Vietnamese generals. President Kennedy, who is in Hyannis Port, endorses the telegram. He soon regrets the hasty policy decision that puts the U.S. government on record in support of a coup.

09/01/63—In the last week of August, while officially confined to Dade County by federal authorities for his [anti-Castro](#) activities, Antonio Veciana travels to Dallas for a meeting with Maurice Bishop. In the lobby of the Southland Building, Veciana sees Bishop speaking to a young man Veciana later identifies as Lee Harvey Oswald.

09/01/63—[William Attwood](#), special advisor to the U.S.’s United Nations delegation, begins a series of talks with the Cuban ambassador. Robert Kennedy encourages the effort. Attwood reports regularly to the White House and to Adlai Stevenson, U.S. ambassador to the U.N.

09/07/63—CIA case officers meet with AM/LASH, a Cuban agent in Castro's inner circle, report AM/LASH has an interest in attempting to assassinate Castro, and is awaiting a U.S. plan of action.<sup>107</sup>

September 12, 1963: At a National Security Council meeting, the Joint Chiefs of Staff again present a report evaluating a projected nuclear first strike against the Soviet Union, in a time scheme of 1964 through 1968. President Kennedy turns the discussion to his conclusion: "Preemption is not possible for us." He passes over without comment the report's implication that the remaining months of 1963 are still the most advantageous time for the United States to launch a preemptive strike.

**September 13, 1963**—President Kennedy's trip to Texas announced.

September 20, 1963: In an address to the United Nations, President Kennedy expresses the hope that the Limited Test Ban Treaty can serve as a lever for a just and lasting peace. In a meeting with UN ambassador Adlai Stevenson, he approves U.S. diplomat William Attwood contacting Dr. Carlos Lechuga, Cuba's UN ambassador, to open a secret dialogue with Premier Castro. In El Paso, Texas, U.S. counterintelligence agent Richard Case Nagell, who has met with Kennedy assassination planners, walks into a bank and fires two pistol shots into a plaster wall just below the ceiling. He waits outside to be arrested and tells the FBI, "I would rather be arrested than commit murder and treason."

September 23, 1963: At a party arranged as a cover by television newscaster Lisa Howard, William Attwood meets Carlos Lechuga. Attwood tells Lechuga he is about to travel to the White House to request authorization from the president to meet secretly with Premier Castro. The meeting's purpose would be to discuss the feasibility of a rapprochement between Havana and Washington. Lechuga expresses great interest.

September 24, 1963: The Senate approves the Limited Test Ban Treaty by a vote of 80 to 19. In Washington, William Attwood meets with Robert Kennedy, who tells Attwood to continue pursuing with Lechuga a secret meeting with Castro but to seek a less risky location than Cuba.

09/25/63—According to the Warren Commission, Oswald left New Orleans by bus on his way to Mexico City.

**September 25, 1963**—[Sylvia Odio visited in Dallas by two Latinos and Oswald.](#)

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<sup>107</sup> The CIA AM/TRUNK project was another effort to identify Cuban military and political leaders who would be willing and able to organize an internal revolt against Fidel Castro. Much of this effort was devoted to a search for military leaders who were unhappy with the growing Russian military influence and control, which had escalated significantly during 1963. The AM/TRUNK and AM/LASH projects continued for a number of years, even in the face of internal CIA evidence that many of the AM/TRUNK Cuban assets (given AM/WHIP numerical designations) were compromised by Cuban intelligence. There was even CIA security concern that Cubela (AM/LASH) might have been an informant to Castro, and was testing the CIA's willingness to engage in political assassination.

09/27/63—According to the Warren Commission, Oswald arrives in Mexico City at 10:00 A.M., registers at the Hotel Comercio and appears at the Cuban embassy to apply for a visa to Cuba in transit to Russia.

09/27/63—Silvia Odio, a Cuban refugee living in Dallas, reports three men visited her to ask her help in [anti-Castro](#) activities. One of the men is introduced to her as “Leon Oswald.”

September 27, 1963: William Attwood meets Lechuga at the UN Delegates’ Lounge, saying he is authorized to meet with Castro at a site other than Cuba. Lechuga says he will so inform Havana. In Mexico City, a man identifying himself as Lee Harvey Oswald visits the Cuban and Soviet consulates, displaying leftist credentials and applying for immediate visas to both Communist countries. When suspicious employees put him off and escort him outside, he flies into a rage, creating memorable scenes.

**September 27, 1963**—Lee Oswald reportedly arrived in Mexico City and according to the CIA, made multiple visits to the Cuban Embassy/Consulate, plus three separate telephone calls to the Soviet Consulate. The CIA was unable to provide any photos of Oswald entering or leaving the embassy during the period of September 27 through October 1 while he was in Mexico City, despite the known existence of photo surveillance equipment at both the Cuban and Soviet facilities.<sup>108</sup>

September 28, 1963: The man identifying himself as Oswald returns to the Mexico City Soviet Embassy, renewing his request for a quick visa to the Soviet Union. When Soviet officials offer him forms to fill out, he becomes even more agitated than on the previous day. He places a revolver on the table, saying it is necessary for his protection. He is again escorted to the door.<sup>109</sup>

**September 28, 1963**—Oswald and a woman, purportedly Sylvia Duran, made a call to the Soviet Consulate from the Cuban Embassy.

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108 A newly available document relates correspondence from David Phillips, CIA Mexico City. Phillips conducted a photographic records search in an attempt to corroborate a claim by Pedro Gutierrez Valencia that he had seen an American resembling Oswald at the Cuban Embassy in the company of a Cuban on October 1, 1963. Phillips advised that CIA was unable to identify Gutierrez visiting the Cuban Embassy during either September or October. Phillips stated that photographic surveillance was in full operation during all daylight hours during this period, and that the photo file would have allowed Gutierrez to be identified if he had indeed entered the building. Phillips also refers to a comprehensive photo file on the Cuban Embassy for that period, as still being available in March 1964. This raises the question of why this comprehensive file would not have contained photographs of Lee Harvey Oswald entering or leaving the building during the same period, a period in which Phillips describes full photo surveillance to be in effect, with no down time in September or October, which might have missed Gutierrez.

109 This visit to the Soviet Embassy becomes a repeated reference during incriminating phone calls by “Oswald,” wiretapped and transcribed by the CIA, in which the speaker associates himself with a Soviet assassination expert working at the embassy. When it is pointed out that the phone caller speaks broken Russian, whereas Oswald is fluent in the language, the CIA claims the audiotapes are no longer available for voice comparisons because they were routinely erased.

September 30, 1963: President Kennedy reopens a secret channel of communication between himself and Nikita Khrushchev, via Press Secretary Pierre Salinger and a Washington-based Soviet Secret Police agent. He thereby circumvents a State Department he can no longer trust for his communications with the Soviet leader.

10/01/63—David Phillips, stationed in Mexico City, promoted to chief of Cuban operations, travels to Washington.

10/01/63—The New York Times columnist Arthur Krock, in citing a dispatch from Vietnam by reporter Richard Starnes, imbues it with additional significance because of Krock's known close relationship with the Kennedys. Starnes had reported that the CIA twice flatly refused to carry out instructions from Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, and in one instance frustrated a plan of action Mr. Lodge brought from Washington because the Agency disagreed with it. Krock also noted this revelation in Starnes's report: "Among the views attributed to United States officials on the scene, including one described as 'a very high American official . . . who has spent much of his life in the service of democracy' . . . are the following: 'The CIA's growth was "likened to a malignancy" which the very high official was not sure even the White House could control . . . any longer. If the United States ever experiences [an attempt at a coup to overthrow the government] it will come from the CIA and not the Pentagon.' The agency 'represents a tremendous power and total unaccountability to anyone.'

10/01/63—The CIA says that on this day "a reliable and sensitive source in Mexico reported that an American male, who identified himself as Lee Oswald, contacted the Soviet embassy in Mexico City . . ." It later sends the Warren Commission a photograph of the man who is not Oswald entering the embassy. The CIA says it was simply a "mistake."<sup>110</sup>

10/03/63—According to the Warren Commission, Oswald arrives back in the United States from his trip to Mexico City.

10/04/63—Richard Helms provides the Warren Commission an affidavit claiming that the CIA's photograph of the mystery man misidentified as Oswald was taken on this date—after Oswald had left the city.<sup>111</sup>

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110 The CIA translators in Mexico City were Mr. and Mrs. Tarasoff, identified as Mr. and Mrs. T. in Newman's *Oswald and the CIA*. Their full names are given in Peter Dale Scott's *Deep Politics II*, where Scott also notes, "Mr. Tarasoff added the important and possibly relevant detail that the name Lee Oswald was known to the CIA Station before the October 1 telephone call from someone who identified himself as Lee Oswald." In Tarasoff's words "they were very hot about the whole thing" before that call was transcribed.

111 Former FBI Agent James Hosty repeated a conversation he had with Agent Michael DeGuire, who had been working in Mexico City at the time. DeGuire had informed Hosty after the assassination that Oswald was under surveillance in Mexico City, outside of his visits to the embassies, and that he had been separately photographed near a fountain at one time during the surveillance.

10/08/63—David Phillips testified to the Assassinations Committee that on this date he signed off on a cable from Mexico City to CIA headquarters reporting Oswald's visit to the Soviet embassy on October 10. Later, records reveal that Phillips was on leave at the JM/WAVE station in Miami and didn't return to the Mexico City station until October 9.

**October 8, 1963**—The CIA Mexico City Station had reported Oswald's contacts with the Cubans and Soviets to CIA Headquarters on October 8, including Oswald's apparent contact with Soviet Vice-Consul Kostikov.<sup>112</sup>

10/10/63—Oswald appears at the Jobco Employment Agency in Dallas. Lists George de Mohrenschildt as "closest friend."

10/10/63—CIA headquarters sends a teletype to the State Department, FBI, and Navy notifying them of Oswald's October 1 contact with the Soviet embassy.

**October 10, 1963**—CIA Mexico City sent a memo to various State Department, FBI, and Navy organizations in regard to Oswald's Mexico City activities; Oswald's apparent contacts with Soviet official Kostikov were not mentioned.<sup>113</sup>

10/11/63—President Kennedy issues National Security Action Memorandum #263 declaring that the Vietnamese should take over "essential functions now performed by U.S. military personnel. . . by the end of 1965."

October 11, 1963: President Kennedy issues National Security Action Memorandum 263, making official government policy the withdrawal from Vietnam of "1,000 U.S. military personnel by the end of 1963" and "by the end of 1965 . . . the bulk of U.S. personnel."

10/16/63—Oswald begins job at Texas School Book Depository. He reportedly obtained it through a contact of Ruth Paine, the friend with whom Marina Oswald was living.

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112 In response to the Mexico City request for information, CIA HQ responded that they knew Lee Oswald as an ex-Marine Soviet defector. The last activity in his file was his return to the U.S. in May of 1962, and they had no more recent information on him. This misleading response was approved by a variety of individuals, the same individuals who had also signed off as having read a number of reports on Oswald's leafleting and pro-Castro Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC) activities in New Orleans only two months before. This misrepresentation involved Ann Elizabeth Goldsborough Egerter, aka Elizabeth Ann Egerter, aka Betty Egerter, aka [Ann Egerter](#) of James Angleton's counter-intelligence staff, Jane Roman, liaison to CI (counter-intelligence), and [Thomas Karamessines](#), Assistant Deputy Director for Plans (one of the top four executive positions in the Agency). All of these individuals, without doubt, signed off on a very incomplete reply concerning Oswald, when the true facts would have triggered a much higher level of response in Mexico City. When interviewed in the 1990's by Dr. John Newman and shown the relevant documents with her signature, Jane Roman admitted that she was "signing off on something she knows not to be true." *The Washington Post* reporter Jeff Morley taped this interview.

113 Departments of the INS and FBI in Mexico City were later notified with full information, and FBI personnel in Mexico conducted an intensive investigation of sources and contacts for information on Oswald. This information was passed up the chain to Director Hoover, but it apparently was not communicated to the local U.S. FBI offices or to individuals responsible for monitoring Oswald.

Paine would later discover and turn over to the FBI much incriminating evidence against Oswald.

October 16, 1963: After a successful job referral by Ruth Paine, Lee Harvey Oswald begins work at the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas.

**October 18, 1963**—The FBI legate in Mexico City sent a cablegram directly to J. Edgar Hoover informing him that the CIA had just provided them with information (not to be disseminated) that Lee Oswald had contacted Soviet Vice Counsel Valery Kostikov at the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City on September 28, and again on October 1. CIA advised that this Oswald was probably identical with “Lee Henry Oswald” who had been in the Marine Corps and defected to Russia in 1959.<sup>114</sup>

10/21/63—During the Cuban missile crisis, after Robert Kennedy tells CIA Director McCone to immediately halt all operations against Cuba, Task Force W Chief William Harvey sends two raiding parties into Cuba, one headed by Eugenio Martinez, a close associate of E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis and later also involved in the Watergate burglary. Harvey is subsequently yanked off Task Force W by Kennedy and assigned as station chief to Rome.

**October 22, 1963**—A Registered Mail Airtel was sent from the SAIC of the Dallas FBI to Director Hoover, and copied to FBI Mexico City, New Orleans, and Little Rock. SAIC Dallas referenced an unavailable Airtel on the same subject from October 2, 1963. He informed Hoover that INS has advised SA Hosty in Dallas verbally that they are in receipt of a “Secret” communication from their office in Mexico City, indicating that Lee Oswald had contacted the Soviets in Mexico City. He also advised that a confidential postal informant in Fort Worth had related that Lee’s brother, Robert, moved to Little

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114 The importance of this telegram could not be understood without recently released records, which reveal that in 1962 the FBI had “turned” one of Kostikov’s agents in New York City. An FBI double agent ([AEBURBLE](#) - Stateside double agent code named “Tumbleweed”, real name Gunter Schulz) had identified Kostikov as being involved in covert operations in North America, and had been providing information on him for months. Kostikov was suspected of being a KGB operative based on information from those contacts, as well as his ongoing contacts with known KGB personnel. In fact, it was suspected that he was specifically involved with KGB 13th Department, which conducted both sabotage and assassination operations. Kostikov was being monitored in contacts with a German national (Gunter Schultz- designated Tumbleweed) who had been recruited by the Soviets in Europe, doubled by the CIA at an unknown location, and was living in Oklahoma in 1963. This individual had met with Kostikov in Mexico City and with a known 13th Department agent, Oleg Brykin of the Soviet United Nations staff, in New York City. Available information suggested that this meeting involved discussion of sabotage targets within the United States. Certainly Director Hoover was well aware of the significance of any Kostikov contact, especially a contact with a former Soviet resident now living in the United States with a Russian wife. In addition, we now know that these Oswald contacts apparently involved one personal visit by Oswald to the Soviet Embassy and follow on telephone calls, apparently from the Cuban Embassy, which were tape recorded, possibly by both the FBI and CIA. More importantly, information from Sylvia Duran and employees of the Russian Embassy suggests that the three calls were actually made from the Cuban Embassy on a day in which the Cuban facility was closed to the public.

Rock, Arkansas.<sup>115</sup>

10/24/63—President Kennedy meets Jean Daniel, a French journalist, who is in transit to Cuba. Kennedy suggests Daniel broach the subject of reestablishing U.S.-Cuba relations with Castro, asks Daniel to report back to him.

October 24, 1963: French journalist Jean Daniel interviews President Kennedy, before Daniel's trip to Cuba to interview Premier Castro. Kennedy speaks warmly of the Cuban revolution led by Castro, but asks Daniel if Castro realizes that "through his fault the world was on the verge of nuclear war in October 1962." Kennedy asks Daniel to tell him what Castro says in reply, when Daniel returns from Cuba at the end of November.

10/29/63—CIA senior officer Desmond FitzGerald meets AM/LASH, informs him a coup would receive U.S. support, later agrees to provide rifles, telescopic sights and explosives. FitzGerald presents himself as personal representative of Attorney General Robert Kennedy.

October 31, 1963: Fidel Castro's aide Rene Vallejo speaks by phone with Lisa Howard. Through Vallejo, Castro offers to expedite the process of meeting with William Attwood by sending a plane to pick up Attwood in Mexico. Attwood would be flown to a private airport in Cuba, where he would talk confidentially with Castro, then be flown back immediately. Howard conveys this to Attwood, who alerts the White House.

11/01/63—South Vietnam president Diem is assassinated by CIA-backed coup.

November 1, 1963: Rebel South Vietnamese army units, supported by the CIA, encircle and bombard President Diem's presidential palace in Saigon. Diem and his brother Nhu flee from the palace in darkness. They take refuge in the Saigon suburb of Cholon.

In Chicago, the Secret Service arrests two members of a four-man sniper team suspected of planning to assassinate President Kennedy during his visit to Chicago the following day. The other two snipers escape. Thomas Arthur Vallee, a mentally damaged ex-Marine working in a building over Kennedy's motorcade route, is monitored by the Chicago Police.

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115 It appears that the Dallas FBI had not been informed by Hoover's office of the Kostikov contact. But it also seems that the FBI may have been routinely monitoring Oswald's entire family. FBI Headquarters did respond to Dallas, simply confirming the facts. They did not escalate the matter, nor did they give any advice on Kostikov's importance—but Kostikov was considered one of the most dangerous Soviet agents in the Western Hemisphere and was on daily surveillance up to and including November 22. Both the director of the FBI and the top CI people at CIA HQ were personally aware that an ex-Marine who had "virtually," if not legally defected to Russia, had contacted the suspected head of Soviet Assassination and Sabotage. Still, the official record indicates that Oswald was neither contacted nor placed under special surveillance by either agency. One year earlier, Oswald had been investigated by the FBI for doing no more than subscribing to a variety of Russian and socialist publications, yet in the 60 days following his visit to Mexico City (including the period following his arrest for the president's murder), Oswald was never interrogated by the FBI about his contact with the Soviets.

11/02/63—The Secret Service investigates an alleged plot against the president in Chicago.

November 2, 1963: From his refuge in Cholon, Diem phones Ambassador Lodge and the coup generals. He surrenders, requesting for Nhu and himself only safe conduct to the airport and departure from Vietnam. Rebel general Minh sends a team of five men to pick up the two men. The armored personnel carrier into which Diem and Nhu descend delivers their dead, bullet-sprayed bodies to the generals' headquarters.

At the White House, President Kennedy is handed a telegram from Lodge informing him that Diem and Nhu are dead and that the coup leaders claim their deaths are suicides. Kennedy rushes from the room with a look of shock and dismay on his face.

Forty minutes later, White House press secretary Pierre Salinger announces President Kennedy's trip to Chicago has been cancelled. While the two suspected snipers are questioned at Chicago Secret Service headquarters, potential assassination scapegoat Thomas Arthur Vallee is arrested. The other two alleged snipers remain at large in Chicago. Only Vallee is ever identified publicly.

November 5, 1963: William Attwood briefs President Kennedy's National Security Adviser McGeorge Bundy on Premier Castro's concrete offer to expedite a meeting with Attwood as Kennedy's representative. Bundy then updates Kennedy on Castro's proposal. Kennedy says Attwood should sever his formal relation with the government as a precaution, so as to meet with Castro under the cover of his former work as a journalist.

11/08/63—Oswald writes to "Dear Mr. Hunt:" requests only "information."

November 18, 1963: Rene Vallejo talks by phone with William Attwood, while Fidel Castro listens. Attwood says a preliminary meeting is essential to identify what he and Castro will discuss. Vallejo says they will send instructions to Cuban ambassador Carlos Lechuga to set an agenda with Attwood for his meeting with Castro.

In a speech in Miami, President Kennedy issues a challenge and a promise to Premier Castro, saying that if Cuba ceases being "a weapon in an effort dictated by external powers to subvert the other American Republics, everything is possible."

In Washington, the Soviet Embassy receives a crudely typed, badly spelled letter dated nine days earlier and signed by "Lee H. Oswald" of Dallas. The letter seems to implicate the Soviet Union in conspiring with Oswald in the assassination of President Kennedy that will occur four days later. Soviet authorities recognize the letter as a forgery or provocation and decide to return it to the U.S. government, whose FBI agents had already opened and copied the letter on its way into the embassy.

November 19—20, 1963: Fidel Castro meets for six hours with Jean Daniel at his Havana hotel to learn more about a dialogue with Kennedy. After Daniel recounts Kennedy's endorsement of the Cuban revolution and his accusation that Castro almost caused a nuclear war, Castro explains the reasoning for the introduction of Soviet missiles in Cuba—to deter the imminent U.S. invasion that he feared. Reassessing Kennedy, he expresses the hope that Kennedy will win reelection and become the United States' greatest president—by recognizing there can be coexistence between capitalists and socialists,

even in the Americas.

November 20, 1963: At Red Bird Air Field in Dallas, a young man and woman try to charter a plane for Friday afternoon, November 22, from Wayne January, owner of a private airline. From their questions, January suspects they may hijack the plane to Cuba. He rejects their offer. The man he sees waiting for the couple in their car he recognizes two days later from media pictures as Lee Harvey Oswald. In Eunice, Louisiana, heroin addict [Rose Cheramie](#) tells Louisiana State Police lieutenant Francis Fruge that the two men with whom she stopped at the Silver Slipper Lounge that night, on a drive from Miami to Dallas, plan to kill President Kennedy when he comes to Dallas.

November 21, 1963: Before leaving on his trip to Texas, President Kennedy, after being given a list of the most recent casualties in Vietnam, says to Assistant Press Secretary Malcolm Kilduff: “After I come back from Texas, that’s going to change. Vietnam is not worth another American life.”

11/22/63—President John F. Kennedy is murdered in Dallas at 12:30 P.M. According to the Warren Commission, at 1:45 P.M. police were alerted to a man seen entering the Texas Theater after shooting patrolman Tippit in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas. They surrounded the theater, arrested Lee Harvey Oswald and arrived back at police headquarters by 2:00 P.M. At 7:10 P.M., Oswald was notified he had been formally charged with the murder of Officer Tippit, and then, later with the murder of the president.

11/22/63—A CIA case officer representing Desmond FitzGerald meets with AM/LASH and provides him poison pen to kill Castro. AM/LASH doesn’t think it will work and refuses it. As the meeting ends, they are told President Kennedy has been assassinated. Later, FitzGerald orders case officer to omit mention of poison pen in report of his meeting with AM/LASH.

11/22/63—CIA sends photos taken in Mexico City of man misidentified as Oswald to Dallas police.

11/22/63—At evening press conference in Dallas police headquarters, Jack Ruby interrupts Chief Curry to identify proper name of Oswald’s organization as Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

November 22, 1963: [At 12:30 P.M. CST, with security having been withdrawn from the surrounding area and the presidential limousine, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy is driven around a dogleg turn to a virtual stop in Dealey Plaza, Dallas, where sniper teams assassinate him by crossfire.](#)

While Fidel Castro and Jean Daniel are having lunch together in Varadero Beach, Cuba, they receive the news of Kennedy’s death in Dallas. Castro says, “Everything is changed. Everything is going to change.”

When the president’s body is brought to Parkland Hospital, Dallas, twenty-one witnesses see a massive head wound in the right rear of his skull, evidence of a fatal head

shot from the front. At a press conference, Dr. Malcolm Perry repeatedly describes an entrance wound in the front of the throat, further evidence of shooting from the front.

Lee Harvey Oswald is arrested in the Texas Theater at 1:50 P.M., following the murder of Dallas Police officer J. D. Tippit at 1:15 by a man whom witnesses identify as Oswald. At 1:53 P.M., a man resembling Oswald is also arrested in the Texas Theater and taken out a different door. At 3:30 P.M., an Oswald double is flown out of Dallas on a CIA C-54 cargo plane.<sup>116</sup>

During the president's autopsy held at Bethesda Naval Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland, Admiral Calvin Galloway, hospital commander, orders the doctors not to probe the throat wound. X-rays taken that night show an intact rear skull, where a large occipital fragment of the president's skull, which will be found the next day in Dealey Plaza, was blown out—proving the X-rays are fraudulent, created to disguise a massive exit wound in the rear.

At 11:55 P.M. on the third floor of Dallas Police headquarters, CIA- connected nightclub owner Jack Ruby, whom a witness saw deliver a gunman to the grassy knoll that morning, is given access to the doorway where prisoner Lee Harvey Oswald is about to be brought by police to a midnight press conference. Ruby (with a revolver in his pocket) fails to shoot Oswald.

11/23/63—CIA counterintelligence staff, headed by James Angleton, prepares a memorandum suggesting that Oswald's contacts in Mexico City with Soviet personnel might have sinister implications.

11/23/63—Cuban embassy employee, Silvia Duran, who processed a transit visa for an American who identified himself as Lee Harvey Oswald, is arrested by Mexican police on the direction of the CIA.

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116 Oswald's central FBI file contained the Cuban and Soviet Consulate contacts, memoranda on the following investigation in Mexico, and reports on Oswald's return to Texas, as well as information on Oswald's New Orleans political activism. Either the official record of Hoover's communications had been significantly altered, or Hoover had some reason not to disclose this knowledge in communications with the president, the Secret Service, or with any member of the National Security Council. Although we have abundant records of Director Hoover's memos and calls on November 22 and 23, none of them makes any reference to an Oswald contact with the KGB. They treat Oswald as a virtual nobody. But we now know the director of the FBI was very much aware of the contact between the supposed presidential assassin and the suspected chief of KGB Sabotage and Assassination for the Western Hemisphere.

**November 23, 1963**—At 2:47AM CST, a plane and courier arrived in Dallas carrying materials on Lee Oswald from Mexico City.<sup>117</sup>

**4:45 P.M. Saturday, November 23, 1963**—A communication from Helms of CIA to the Mexico City CIA staff gives an idea of how seriously the whole Kostikov issue was being treated in Washington. In addition to telling them their information was being processed around the clock, Helms instructed them to: [“Feel free to abandon cables and talk plain English. so that there can be no mistakes!”](#) —Richard Helms DD/P CIA”

**6:00 P.M. Saturday, November 23, 1963**—A CIA cable from Mexico City stated, “Regret, complete recheck shows tapes from this period already erased.” This claim appears not to have registered because as of Sunday afternoon, CIA counter-intelligence was still asking for all tapes and transcripts.<sup>118</sup>

11/24/63—Lee Harvey Oswald is murdered by Jack Ruby at 11:20 A. M. as Oswald, flanked by Dallas detectives on either side and at his rear, is led from the basement of the Dallas police jail.

11/24/63—The CIA prepares a summary of “relevant” information on Oswald. Agency claims its first information on Oswald came from its Mexico City station on October 9, that Oswald entered Mexico on September 27, “probably by car.” It notes Oswald’s visits to the Soviet and Cuban embassies but makes no mention of erroneous photo and description of Oswald sent to headquarters on October 10.

November 24, 1963: At 11:21 A.M., an armed Jack Ruby is again given access to the prisoner Lee Harvey Oswald, this time as Oswald is brought from the basement to the

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117 Although the FBI referred to tapes being listened to and comparisons to Oswald’s voice, by around noon on Saturday, November 23, two different messages from the CIA in Mexico City related that they would be unable to provide tapes to their own headquarters. One stated that they were “unable to compare voices as first tape erased” (that would seem to be the September 28 tape), and a second message stated that as of noon, “regret, complete recheck shows tapes already erased.” This CIA communication itself conflicts with a separate document (Anne Goodpasture) from Mexico City, which spoke of comparing voices. The position that Oswald’s conversations were of no importance and would have been routinely erased also conflicts with an interview with the CIA station translator. Tarasoff stated that the staff in the office had been “very hot about the whole thing” pertaining to Oswald, even before he had transcribed the October 1 tape. Goodpasture also later admitted to the HSCA that tapes were compared. This suggests that the CIA Mexico City staff was aware of the impersonation, but may not have shared it with the FBI, nor had wanted to confirm it afterwards for the official record. Dallas SAIC Shanklin telephoned in a report on the tape review to Belmont at FBI Headquarters. Hoover sent a memo on the tape and the impersonation to Secret Service Chief Rowley. The ARRB took testimony from Agency employee, Anne Goodpasture; she had confirmed the tape in an interview by the HSCA. She reaffirmed to the ARRB that an Oswald tape dub (copy) had been made at the Agency’s telephone tap center and carried to Texas. In addition, the ARRB also verified that two Warren Commission attorneys, Coleman and Slawson, had traveled to the Mexico City Station and listened to the tapes.

118 The whole incident involving the FBI and the Mexico City tape is a perfect illustration of the “now you see it, now you don’t” phenomenon that occurred frequently in the hours immediately following the assassination. In several instances, the early FBI reports actually record information that later “disappears” (or changes form) as other parties become involved.

garage of Dallas Police headquarters while being transferred to the Dallas County Jail. Ruby shoots Oswald to death at point blank range, as seen on television by millions.

November 24, 1963: In mid-afternoon EST in Washington, DC, President Lyndon Johnson meets with Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, back from Vietnam. Johnson tells Lodge, ["I am not going to lose Vietnam. I am not going to be the President who saw Southeast Asia go the way China went."](#)

**November 24, 1963**—At 10:00AM CST, LBJ's first recorded call of the day shows his initial question to Director Hoover to be about Oswald in Mexico City. There are no earlier records confirming how and when Johnson was first informed about Oswald and Mexico City. Hoover described the situation as confusing, but that his men in Dallas had a tape and photos, and neither the voice on the tape or the photos matched Oswald. According to Hoover, there seemed to have been a "second person" in Mexico City impersonating Oswald.<sup>119</sup>

**November 25, 1963**—FBI Headquarters communicated to FBI Mexico City, "If tapes available please forward to Lab, including tapes sent to Dallas if they have been returned." FBI Mexico responds: "I think you are confused; we never sent tapes to Dallas."<sup>120</sup>

11/29/63—President Lyndon Johnson appoints a commission "to ascertain, evaluate, and report on" the facts of the assassination. Chief Justice Earl Warren is asked to head the commission but he refuses. Johnson pushes Warren into accepting the job because,

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119 It may be that the official record was never intended to reveal any mention of impersonation in Hoover and Johnson's short Saturday morning discussion. This is suggested by the "14 Minute Gap," identified by researcher Rex Bradford, which may indicate that an attempt was made to remove the content of the Hoover—Johnson dialogue from the historical record. Although the tape transcript of this conversation does exist, Bradford's research shows that the actual tape containing this morning call seems to have had only this single 14 minute call erased; a transcript remains, but not the actual voices on the tape. Shortly after this exchange between Hoover and President Johnson, Shanklin of the FBI in Dallas, talked with Belmont in D.C., who then wrote a memo to Deputy Director Clyde Tolson, Hoover's second in command. This memo confirmed that Dallas FBI agents familiar with Oswald had listened to the tape of the conversation (apparently the September 28 telephone call), supposedly from the Cuban to the Soviet Embassy. The FBI also had in its possession a mail intercept which contained a letter from Lee Oswald in Dallas to the Soviet Embassy in NYC, in which a meeting with "comrade Kostin" was mentioned.

120 This seems to be in direct contradiction to Hoover's personal remarks to Johnson at 10:00AM on the morning of the 23rd, although it may only reflect the confusion over whether the tapes actually sent on Friday night were from the CIA, rather than the FBI. More recently, information has developed that both agencies may have had copies of telephone tap tapes. Eventually, Director Hoover had to accept the CIA's final position that there was no such tape and that what he himself had stated to President Johnson had never actually happened. Hoover would not be the only one to eat his own words in order to maintain what became the official "lone nut" position. But the director was definitely not the sort of man who would forget that sort of treatment. In January 1964, he cautioned his staff against taking information from the CIA at face value. On a memo which dealt with the CIA'S promise to keep the FBI informed on certain of its domestic activities, he made the following note: "I can't forget the CIA withholding the French espionage activities in the U.S.A., nor the false story re: Oswald's trip to Mexico City, to mention two instances of their double dealing."

according to Warren biographer Jack H. Pollack, “rumors of the most exaggerated kind were circulating [and] some went so far as attributing the assassination to a faction within the government. . . .” Among those appointed to the commission is former CIA Director Allen Dulles, fired by Kennedy after the Bay of Pigs.

12/09/63—The FBI completes its five-volume report on Kennedy’s assassination. Deputy Attorney General Katzenback writes the Warren Commission and recommends that the commission publicly declare that the FBI report concludes Oswald was the lone assassin.

12/31/63—The Fair Play for Cuba Committee disbands.

01/23/64—The CIA designates a subordinate to Chief of Counterintelligence James Angleton as the “point of record” for all matter relating to the Kennedy assassination and the Warren Commission.

02/01/64—Maurice Bishop asks Antonio Veciana to contact his cousin, a Cuban intelligence officer stationed in Mexico City, and offer him a large amount of money if he publicly acknowledges that he had met with Oswald. Veciana attempts but cannot make the contact before his cousin is recalled to Cuba.

02/04/64—Yuri Nosenko, deputy director of the Soviet intelligence service, the KGB, defects to the U.S. He alleges that the KGB took no interest in Oswald because it considered him too unstable. Nosenko is confined and questioned by the CIA for two years before he is declared a legitimate defector.

06/07/64—Interviewed in Dallas prison, Jack Ruby begs Commission Chairman Earl Warren to take him to Washington so he can reveal the truth about the assassination. Warren refuses.

07/01/64—Guy Banister dies of a heart attack.

09/16/64—International Anti-Communist Brigade soldier of fortune Loran Hall allegedly tells FBI agents that it was he, William Seymour<sup>121</sup>, and Lawrence Howard who visited

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121 Bernardo De Torres went on from the Bay of Pigs to become the chief of intelligence for the reformed Brigade 2506 and was acquainted with Interpcn members, including William Seymour and Roy Hargraves. Bernardo De Torres was a Bay of Pigs veteran who was held a Castro prisoner with other Brigade 2506 members until December 1962. Upon his release in Florida, he joined his brother Carlos in Miami. Carlos operated a Miami detective agency. Later, De Torres would become involved in the Garrison investigation of the JFK assassination. Roy Emory Hargraves was an exceptionally active American supporter of exile [anti-Castro](#) activities. Initially, he became associated with a group headed by ex-Army Major George Tanner, but his longer term association was the Interpen group, organized by Gerry Patrick Hemming. As part of this group, Hargraves was involved with training members of the AAA group headed by Sanchez Arango. AAA was an offshoot of the Authentico party. Arango had been one of the chief leaders, along with Varona and Arrime, during the preparations for the exile invasion of Cuba. However, he had broken from that effort and the CIA entirely at the last minute over concerns that the invasion had been compromised and would be a disaster. Arango’s initial funding reportedly came from Rolando Masferrer, a former political power in the Batista regime. FBI documents report that Hargraves received funding from Masferrer to launch a successful raid into Cuba in 1963. Hargraves led a team of exiles, captured two Cuban fishing boats, engaged in a running fight with Castro forces, and successfully extracted his team and

Silvia Odio in Dallas. The Warren Commission uses FBI report in its conclusions to dismiss Odio's assertion that Oswald was among visitors. Later, both Seymour and Howard contradict Hall. Hall eventually tells Assassination Committee he never told FBI of any visit.

09/27/64—The Warren Commission Report is released. It concludes that Lee Harvey Oswald, firing three shots from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository, killed President Kennedy and wounded Governor Connally. It also concluded that Oswald acted alone, had no coconspirators and “was not an agent of the U.S. government.”

10/16/64—Soviet Premiere Khrushchev is overthrown.

11/03/64—Lyndon Johnson is elected president.

01/01/65—After closing down Operation Mongoose and the CIA's JM/WAVE station in Miami, Theodore Shackley and his deputy, Thomas Clines, are sent to Laos to organize opposition to the Pathet Lao guerilla force. Meo hill tribesmen are recruited and conduct a massive extermination program of guerilla sympathizers.

06/01/65—David Sanchez Morales is assigned as a deep-cover operative, working as a public safety officer for the Agency for International Development (AID), in Lima, Peru.

07/05/65—David Phillips is made station chief in Dominican Republic following President Johnson's decision to send the U.S. Marines to bolster the right-wing government's fight against leftist rebels. Serving as CIA adviser to the Dominican Republic's military is Mitchel Livingston WerBell III, an OSS veteran and CIA supplier of sophisticated assassination devices.

03/01/66—CIA contact Rolando Cubela (AM/LASH) is arrested in Havana for plotting to assassinate Castro.

06/01/66—President Johnson appoints Richard Helms as director of the CIA.

01/03/67—With the appeal of his death penalty pending and likely to be reviewed in his favor, Jack Ruby dies of cancer as a prisoner in Dallas.

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the boats to the Bahamas. This ended up causing a minor political crisis with the British when the boats were forcibly recovered by the Cubans (in a raid after F-Hargraves had returned to Miami). Hargraves was a close friend and associate of independent exile activist Felipe Vidal Santiago. Hargraves continued his [anti-Castro](#) and anti-communist activities during the 1960s, becoming involved in a plan to create war with Cuba by simulating an attack on Guantanamo naval base. He eventually moved to Los Angeles where he was involved with bombing attacks on both the SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) and the Black Panthers.

02/17/67—New Orleans newspapers reveal that District Attorney Jim Garrison has been secretly investigating the Kennedy assassination since the previous November.

02/22/67—David Ferrie is found dead in his apartment. Although he left what was described as “a suicide note” to a friend, an autopsy indicated he died of a cerebral hemorrhage. Garrison calls Ferrie “one of history’s most important individuals.”

03/01/67—Garrison arrests prominent New Orleans businessman and CIA asset Clay Shaw for conspiring to murder President Kennedy.

03/01/67—David Sanchez Morales joins former JM/WAVE station chief Ted Shackley to implement the Phoenix Program in Vietnam. It is a plan devised by future CIA Director William Colby to eliminate the Vietcong infrastructure; it results in the assassination of 40,000 individuals. Morales works under cover of the Agency for International Development’s Vientiane area community development administration.

07/23/67—CIA’s Desmond FitzGerald, David Phillips former Agency boss, chief of the Cuban task force who personally organized at least three attempts to assassinate Castro, collapses while playing tennis and dies.

08/01/67—CIA Director Richard Helms establishes a new Special Operations Group hidden within the Plans Department’s counterintelligence division to monitor the peace movement within the United States.

06/04/68—Robert Kennedy is assassinated in Los Angeles.

08/01/68—Antonio Veciana begins working as a banking consultant in La Paz, Bolivia. He is officially a U.S. government employee salaried by the Agency for International Development. He claims the job was obtained for him by Maurice Bishop to better position him for [anti-Castro](#) activities throughout Latin America. The State Department later confirms Veciana’s statement that he never signed an application for the job.

11/05/68—Richard M. Nixon, promising to end the Vietnam War, is elected president by the narrowest margin since 1912.

03/01/69—In the Kennedy conspiracy case brought by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison, a jury finds Clay Shaw not guilty.

07/01/69—The CIA station in Santiago, Chile, receives approval from headquarters for a covert program to establish intelligence assets in the Chilean armed services.

09/09/70—Former CIA Director John McCone, a director of International Telephone & Telegraph, tells CIA Director Richard Helms that IT&T is prepared to spend \$1 million to prevent socialist Salvadore Allende from becoming president of Chile.

9/15/70—President Nixon orders CIA Director Richard Helms to prevent Allende's accession to office in Chile. The CIA is to play a direct role in organizing a military coup d'état. Helms puts David Atlee Phillips in charge of this involvement, known as Track II.

11/03/70—Allende is formerly inaugurated President of Chile. Shortly afterwards, a document called "Plan Z," describing a leftist plan to seize power and start a reign of terror is "discovered" by the enemies of Allende. CIA defector Philip Agee later reveals it was written by a CIA officer under the direction of David Phillips.

04/25/71—Retired Mexico City station chief Winston Scott dies of a heart attack. CIA's Counterintelligence Chief James Angleton arrives from Washington to retrieve Scott's autobiographical manuscript and other files from his personal safe. There remains speculation that Scott kept a photo of Oswald, but Angleton denies it.

06/01/71—E. Howard Hunt joins the Nixon White House as a "consultant," begins planning operations to discredit Senator Edward Kennedy and Daniel Ellsberg and to set up a disinformation scheme to blame President Kennedy for the assassination of Diem. Hunt receives assistance from the CIA's Technical Services Division.

11/31/71—On instructions of Maurice Bishop, Antonio Veciana organizes a Castro assassination attempt in Chile. Bishop does the coordinating with the Chilean military in setting it up. Veciana says CIA contract agent Luis Posada was also involved in the planning. Later, David Phillips, unaware of Veciana's detailed revelations, would admit to the House Assassinations Committee that Posada worked with him on operations in Chile.

06/17/72—A group of Nixon White House operatives known as The Plumbers are arrested burglarizing the offices of the Democratic National Committee in Washington's Watergate complex. Included are former CIA officer E. Howard Hunt, veteran CIA asset Frank Sturgis, and a legend of JM/WAVE's [anti-Castro war](#), Eugenio Martinez, still on the CIA payroll.

06/23/72—Presidential Assistant W. R. Haldeman, under orders from Nixon, pressures CIA Director Richard Helms to protect the administration from the escalating Watergate scandal. Haldeman quotes Nixon: "Tell them that if it gets out, it's going to make the CIA look bad, it's going to make [E. Howard] Hunt look bad, and it's likely to blow the whole Bay of Pigs, which we think would be very unfortunate for the CIA." Haldeman later concludes that Nixon's mention of the Bay of Pigs was actually a reference to the Kennedy assassination. Helms, obviously understanding the code, explodes in anger when Haldeman mentions it, shouts: "The Bay of Pigs has nothing to do with this!"

11/07/72—Richard Nixon is reelected president in a near-record landslide.

11/20/72—President Nixon fires CIA Director Richard Helms and appoints him ambassador to Iran. Helms feels it is a direct result of his failure to support Nixon during

Watergate.

05/01/73—David Atlee Phillips is selected by Director William Colby for chief of the CIA's Western Hemisphere Division, the highest rank not requiring Congressional approval.

06/01/73—Antonio Veciana has a lengthy meeting with Maurice Bishop at the race track in Caracas. Veciana suggests a new plan to assassinate Castro. Bishop says the timing isn't right.

07/01/73—Veciana meets Bishop in the Ramada Inn in Dallas and has a two-day conference with him. Again he presses for a new Castro assassination attempt. Bishop rejects the idea.

07/16/73—Antonio Veciana is arrested and charged with conspiracy to import cocaine. Veciana claims he is innocent. His former business partner in Puerto Rico, previously charged, is the only witness against him. Initially, Veciana says he suspects the arrest was set up by Maurice Bishop, later says it was likely Castro agents.

07/26/73—Maurice Bishop severs his relationship with Antonio Veciana, gives him a \$253,000 cash payment for services.

09/11/73—The Chilean military, supported by the CIA's Track II program headed by David Phillips, overthrows the government of Salvadore Allende. Allende is shot during the coup. The military junta massacres tens of thousands of workers and students considered leftists. "There is a strong probability that the CIA station in Chile helped supply the assassination lists," according to ex-agent Phillip Agee.

08/09/74—In the aftermath of Watergate, Nixon resigns and Gerald R. Ford, a former member of the Warren Commission becomes president. Ford nominates Nelson Rockefeller as his vice president.

12/17/74—James Angleton is fired by CIA Director William Colby after Colby was informed by New York Times reporter Seymour Hersh that he was going to break a story about two Agency operations—operations CHAOS and HTLINGUAL—which involve a massive and illegal spying campaign against American citizens. Angleton, the veteran chief of counterintelligence, controlled both programs.

01/04/75—Spurred by media revelations of CIA improprieties, President Ford directs Vice President Rockefeller to establish a "commission on CIA activities within the United States." Ford himself appoints as the Rockefeller Commission's executive director a former assistant counsel of the Warren Commission, David Belin, who had written a book staunchly defending the Warren Report.

01/27/75—After recent allegations of "substantial, even massive wrong-doing within the 'national intelligence system,' " the Senate establishes a select committee headed by

Idaho Senator Frank Church. It would conduct a fifteen-month inquiry but, in the end, was forced to acknowledge the limitations imposed on it by the CIA: “Although the Senate inquiry was congressionally ordered and although properly constituted committees under the Constitution have the right of full inquiry, the Central Intelligence Agency [has] limited the Committee’s access to the full record.”

05/10/75—David Atlee Phillips, shortly after being awarded the Distinguished Intelligence Medal, the CIA’s highest honor, announces he is taking early retirement from the CIA to start an association of former intelligence officers and lead a public campaign against the critics of the Agency and the rash of unfavorable revelations issuing from congressional investigations.

05/21/75—CIA Director William Colby testifies before the Senate Intelligence Committee regarding assassination plots. Emerging from the hearing, Chairman Church tells reporters: “It is simply intolerable that any agency of the government of the United States may engage in murder.”

06/10/75—The Rockefeller Commission issues a report concluding that the CIA engaged in scores of “plainly unlawful and . . . improper” activities during its twenty-eight-year history, including domestic break-ins, mail openings, testing mind-altering drugs on unsuspecting victims and spying on thousands of Americans. It also concludes that there is “no credible evidence” that the CIA was involved in the assassination of President Kennedy. However, it acknowledges that it had limited its investigation to examination of photographic evidence indicating that E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis might have been among the tramps arrested on the grassy knoll, and to the possibility that someone might have been firing from the grassy knoll. It defends the single-bullet theory, explaining that the violent backward and leftward motion of Kennedy’s body was caused by “a seizure-like neuromuscular reaction to major damage inflicted to nerve centers of the brain.”

06/19/75—A week before his scheduled appearance before the Church Committee to be questioned about the CIA-Mafia plots, Chicago Mob boss Sam Giancana, preparing a late snack of sausage and escarole on a stove in his basement den, is shot in the back of the head with a .22-caliber pistol. His killer rolls his body over and fires six more shots, one in the mouth and five in a semicircle around his chin.

06/24/75—John Rosselli testifies before the Church Committee and provides the details of his role as a liaison between CIA representatives and Mob bosses Giancana and Trafficante in plans to assassinate Castro. He provides little information about his relationship with the CIA’s William Harvey and is not asked about his role at the JM/WAVE station training [anti-Castro](#) assassination teams with David Sanchez Morales.

09/08/75—Shocked by revelations that former CIA director Allen Dulles did not tell the Warren Commission that the Agency was conspiring with the Mafia to assassinate Castro, Senate Intelligence Committee member Richard Schweiker conducts a personal preliminary review of the Kennedy assassination and concludes that “the fingerprints of

intelligence” were all over Oswald’s activities. He convinces Committee Chairman Frank Church to establish a subcommittee to review the role of federal agencies in investigating the Kennedy assassination.

09/21/75—The Washington Post reports that “according to reliable sources” former CIA officer E. Howard Hunt “told associates after the Watergate break-in that he was ordered in December 1971 or January 1972, to assassinate syndicated columnist Jack Anderson.” Hunt’s alleged plan involved the use of a poison obtained from a former CIA physician. The Post also reported that Hunt had said that the order came from a “senior official in the Nixon White House,” and “was cancelled at the last minute. . .”

10/23/75—Former U.S. ambassador to Chile Edward Korry reveals to the Church Senate Intelligence Committee his opposition to the CIA’s role in overthrowing Allende: “The CIA is amoral. . . . It could operate behind my back, not merely with the president of the United States, but with Chileans. In that sense, the CIA could be an ‘invisible’ government.”

11/02/75—President Ford fires William Colby as CIA director and appoints George Bush to the post.

11/11/75—Senate JFK Subcommittee Chairman Schweiker decides Church Committee staff is focusing investigation on possible Castro involvement in assassination, decides involvement of CIA with [anti-Castro groups](#) also needs probing, puts Gaeton Fonzi on staff to pursue leads in Miami’s Little Havana.

03/02/76—[Anti-Castro](#) leader Antonio Veciana reveals to Schweiker Subcommittee investigator Fonzi that a CIA master spy named Maurice Bishop was his secret control officer, initiated the founding of Alpha 66, instigated two Castro assassination plots, and planned [anti-Castro](#) raids during the Cuban missile crisis in an attempt to embarrass President Kennedy and provoke Cuban or Russian retaliation that would spark a major U.S. reaction. Veciana also reveals he saw Bishop with Lee Harvey Oswald. After years of sworn denials by the Agency, it is the first evidence that the CIA was directly involved with Oswald.

04/11/76—Senator Richard Schweiker discovers that a police artist’s sketch of Maurice Bishop looks very much like a high-ranking retired CIA officer who had testified before the Church Intelligence Committee. His name is David Atlee Phillips.

04/23/76—In a secret session in Washington’s old Carroll Arms Hotel, used as an annex for Senate Intelligence Committee staff, Schweiker questions John Rosselli about the revelations he provided Jack Anderson about the Kennedy assassination being a Castro retaliation plan. Rosselli admits it was only his opinion and that he had “no facts” to back it up.

06/23/76—Schweiker releases his JFK Subcommittee report. Limited in its mandate to review intelligence agencies’ performance in their investigation of the JFK assassination,

the Schweiker Report concludes that both the FBI and the CIA were “deficient and that facts which might have substantially affected the course of the investigation were not provided.” Although the committee staff had taken Antonio Veciana’s sworn testimony, no mention is made of it or of his control agent Maurice Bishop. Despite release of final report, Schweiker decides to continue JFK investigation with his own senate staff and investigator Fonzi.

06/27/76—Twenty representatives of the most militant exile groups are brought together by Orlando Bosch at a resort in Bona0, Dominican Republic, to form a united coalition called CORU. Within the next several months, CORU claims credit for more than fifty bombings and some of its members are implicated in the Letelier assassination. Among those attending the Bona0 meeting is Luis Posada, the CIA agent involved with Antonio Veciana in planning to kill Castro in Chile in 1971.

08/07/76—The body of mobster John Rosselli, the link between the CIA and organized crime leaders involved in Castro assassination plots, is found mutilated and stuffed into a drum floating in Biscayne Bay.

09/17/76—The House of Representatives establishes the Select Committee on Assassinations to investigate the deaths of President Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. It results from joining two resolutions, one submitted by Virginia’s Tom Downing and the other from Texan Henry Gonzalez. Despite Downing’s scheduled retirement, Speaker-elect Tip O’Neill names him chairman, irking Gonzalez. The new committee, however, will expire at the end of the year and will have to be reconstituted and funded by the new ninety-fifth Congress.

09/18/76—Schweiker investigator Fonzi takes Alpha 66 founder Veciana to a meeting of the Retired Intelligence Officers Association in Reston, Virginia, to confront David Phillips. Fonzi introduces Veciana to Phillips by name. Veciana himself asks Phillips if he is familiar with the name of Veciana. Phillips, once chief of all the Agency’s Cuban operations, appears flustered but says no, he never heard of Veciana. He refuses to be questioned further by Fonzi.

09/21/76—Former Chilean foreign and defense minister Orlando Letelier is murdered in Washington with a planted car bomb on orders of the Chilean military junta. Involved are Chilean intelligence agents and [anti-Castro](#) Cubans with links to David Phillips. After the assassination, Phillips is involved in disseminating misinformation through his media assets.

10/10/76—Assassinations Committee Chairman Downing appoints Philadelphia First Assistant District Attorney Richard Sprague as chief counsel and staff director. Sprague, who has a national reputation as a homicide prosecutor with a string of sixty-nine out of seventy first-degree convictions, announces he will conduct the Kennedy probe as a murder investigation, a new approach.

11/02/76—Jimmy Carter defeats Ford in presidential election.

11/27/76—David Phillips, among the first Witnesses subpoenaed by the Assassinations Committee, is questioned about his role in the CIA supplying the Warren Commission photo of man misidentified as Lee Harvey Oswald about the tape recordings and the transcripts of Oswald's visit to the Russian embassy. Phillips testifies that surveillance cameras were not working when Oswald approached the embassy and that the tape recording had been routinely destroyed. Chief Counsel Sprague asks the CIA for access to its files but the Agency refuses unless Sprague signs a secrecy oath. Sprague says that would be a conflict since the CIA is one of the Committee's targets.

12/21/76—Reviewing Senator Schweiker's files on [anti-Castro](#) Cuban connection to the CIA, Bob Tanenbaum, deputy chief counsel of the JFK Assassinations Committee, asks investigator Gaeton Fonzi to join House probe.

01/07/77—[William Pawley](#) (QDDALE), millionaire ex-ambassador, backer of the ill-fated [Bayo-Pawley mission](#) (aka Operation Tilt) designed to extricate Russian missile site personnel from Cuba in order to embarrass President Kennedy, kills himself in his Miami Beach home before being questioned by Committee investigator Gaeton Fonzi.

02/01/77—The House Rules Committee, deviating from its normal procedure of automatically reconstituting standing committees from the previous congressional session, gives the Assassinations Committee funding for only two months and an order to justify its existence during that period. The Committee and Chief Counsel Sprague had been under heavy attack by the major media, notably The New York Times, and politicians claiming Sprague is planning to employ hidden tape recorders and lie detectors in the probe. Attacks have increased since Sprague, refusing to use other federal agencies to staff the investigation as the Warren Commission did, said he needed a \$6.5 million for the first year of investigation. With Downing's retirement, Texas Democrat Henry Gonzalez assumes chairmanship of the Committee.

02/11/77—Angered by Sprague's refusal to relinquish the power of staff appointments to him, Gonzalez begins a feud with Sprague that culminates in Gonzalez firing Sprague and ordering the Capitol police to evict the chief counsel from his office. Within hours, Gonzalez's dismissal of Sprague is rescinded by the other members of the Committee.

03/01/77—Frustrated at the lack of support from his fellow Committee members, Gonzales resigns as chairman, calls Sprague an "unconscionable scoundrel." Ohio congressman Louis Stokes is appointed the new Committee chairman.

03/01/77—President Carter appoints a Naval Academy classmate, Admiral Stansfield Turner, as CIA director. Turner begins a reorganization of the Agency, fires 820 employees, most in covert operations.

03/16/77—With general congressional support for continuing the Assassinations Committee fading as a result of its internal feuding, Sprague offers to resign if

Committee members feel he is a “millstone” that would prevent the Committee’s reconstitution. The members refuse his offer.

03/29/77—In Florida, George de Mohrenschildt dies of a shotgun wound to the head hours after receiving a notice from Assassinations Committee investigator Fonzi that he is being sought to testify. That evening in Washington, with the Committee on the verge of losing a House vote for its reconstitution and funding, Chief Counsel Sprague resigns. The next morning, the news of de Mohrenschildt’s death and Sprague’s resignation produce a victory for the Committee’s continuation, although, at \$2.5 million a year, with much less funding than Sprague had requested.

05/06/77—Carlos Prío, former president of Cuba linked to the Mob’s control of Havana casinos and, involved with Frank Sturgis in [anti-Castro](#) activities, kills himself outside his Miami Beach home before he can be questioned by Committee investigator Fonzi.

05/13/77—In an interview with New York Times reporter Robert Sam Anson, former Committee Chief Counsel Sprague says he believes his problems with Gonzalez and certain members of Congress about funding was a “smoke screen,” that his conflict with the CIA was the underlying source of his troubles. If he had to do it all over again, he said, he would begin by probing “Oswald’s ties to the Central Intelligence Agency.”

09/18/77—In a public debate with Mark Lane in Los Angeles, David Phillips declares that Oswald “was in no way connected with the CIA” and promises to call for the abolition of the CIA if the Agency is proved guilty of a cover-up in the Kennedy assassination.

10/31/77—Richard Helms, director of the CIA who withheld information about the Agency’s plotting with the Mafia to kill Castro from the Warren Commission, pleads guilty to lying to the Church Senate Intelligence Committee about the CIA’s involvement in overthrowing Allende in Chile.

11/18/77—Cuban exile leader Manuel Artime, a close associate of E. Howard Hunt, dies at the age of forty-five within weeks of being told he has cancer and before he can be questioned by House Committee investigators Fonzi and Gonzales.

06/20/77—G. Robert Blakey, of Cornell Law’s Organized Crime Institute, is appointed chief counsel and staff director of the Assassinations Committee.

08/29/77—Staff Director Blakey conducts a Committee staff conference on “investigative techniques and procedures.”

10/28/77—Assassinations Committee staff conference signals the beginning of an organized investigation with each team instructed to define the issues in its field. Blakey establishes a working relationship with the CIA for staff to review files, but all notes will be sanitized by the Agency before being released back to the Committee. All contacts

with former CIA agents must be cleared through CIA headquarters.

12/04/77—A procedural directive is issued at an Assassinations Committee staff conference. Deputy Chief Counsel Gary Cornwell announces that the time for “foraging” is over, the investigation must now be limited to “linchpin issues,” meaning only those to which an answer can be found prior to writing a final report.

01/16/78—A former CIA officer code-named Ron Cross, who worked at the JM/WAVE station with David Phillips, tells Committee investigators Al Gonzales and Gaeton Fonzi that Phillips used the pseudonym of Maurice Bishop. He also recalls Phillips being referred to as “Mr. Bishop” by one of his deputies, a “Doug Gupton.” Cross is never called to testify under oath before the Committee. When questioned by Committee staff at CIA headquarters, “Doug Gupton” says he does not remember ever referring to Phillips as “Mr. Bishop.” He, too, is never called to testify under oath.

03/02/78—The CIA informs the Assassinations Committee that its office of the Inspector General, its office of the General Counsel, its office of Personnel and the Deputy Directorate of Operations has no record of a Maurice Bishop.

04/25/78—David Phillips testifies under oath before the Assassinations Committee that he never used the name of Maurice Bishop. He also says he was never introduced to Antonio Veciana by name. Committee staff members urge Chief Counsel Blakey to bring perjury charges against Phillips. He declines.

05/07/78—David Sanchez Morales, although officially retired from the CIA, returns from a regular trip to Washington to his home near Phoenix, Arizona. He tells friends he began feeling ill shortly before leaving Washington and that night has sudden heart attack. The ambulance is late in arriving and reportedly has equipment problems. Morales dies the next morning at the Tucson Medical Center. He had told a friend he feared for his life “from his own people” because he “knows too much.”

06/12/78—Blakey announces that because of an unforeseen “budget crunch,” there will have to be a drastic reduction of Assassinations Committee staff personnel. When the specific cuts are later announced, two-thirds of the Committee’s investigative staff are dismissed.

08/01/78—Former CIA Director Richard Helms testifies before the House Select Committee on Assassinations that Oswald “was not an agent of the CIA” and “to the best of my knowledge no contact [by the CIA] was ever made [with Oswald].”

08/17/78—The Assassination Committee takes a deposition from former CIA Director John McCone. He answers affirmatively to two questions: Do you know or did you know Maurice Bishop? Was he an Agency employee? He does not remember with what division of the Agency Bishop was associated.

08/28/78—Questioned by staff researcher Dan Hardway at Assassinations Committee headquarters, David Phillips dissembles regarding his role at the Mexico City CIA station at the time of Oswald's alleged visit. The questioning also reveals that most of the originators of disinformation stories in Mexico City and Miami were Phillips's assets. Unaware of its significance, Phillips also acknowledges his working relationship in Chile with CIA agent Luis Posada, involved with Antonio Veciana in Castro assassination attempt planned by Maurice Bishop.

09/06/78—The Assassinations Committee begins its public hearings. Sixteen days of hearings are scheduled between this date and 12/29. Most of the hearings deal with scientific analysis of the physical evidence and the possibility of organized crime involvement. Many of the hearings are consumed by Chief Counsel Blakey reading narrative of the various areas of the Committee's investigation. Of the more than four dozen witnesses called, only one, former CIA Director Richard Helms, is connected to the intelligence community. (Helms is questioned only about the CIA's treatment of defector Yuri Nosenko and his failure to tell the Warren Commission about Castro assassination plots.)

09/06/78—Governor John Connally and wife Nellie testify for more than three hours on the first day of public hearings. Both repeat their Warren Commission testimony that Connally was hit by the second bullet fired, contradicting the single-bullet theory.

09/11/78—Based on an analysis of a recording from a Dallas motorcycle policeman's radio and tests done in Dealey Plaza, acoustical expert James Barger testifies that there is a 50 percent chance that one shot came from the "grassy knoll" area.

09/18/78—Time magazine reports on the Assassinations Committee hearings, concludes that the Committee "added credence to the main finding of the Warren Commission: Lee Harvey Oswald alone killed the president. . ."

10/19/78—The CIA's Office of Legislative Counsel informs the Committee that the information given in a sworn deposition by former Director John McCone is incorrect. Upon being reinterviewed by the Agency, McCone states that he was mistaken in his recollection of knowing a Maurice Bishop.

12/29/78—After further acoustical tests at Dealey Plaza and a reevaluation of Dr. Barger's earlier analysis, two other acoustical consultants, Mark Weiss and Ernest Aschkenasy, testify there is more than a 95 percent probability of a shot having been fired from the "grassy knoll."

03/29/79—The House Assassinations Committee issues its report, concluding that President Kennedy was probably assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald in a conspiracy with other unknown individuals. Chief Counsel Robert Blakey announces his conclusion that "the Mob did it."

09/21/79—Antonio Veciana is shot in the head by an unknown assailant. He survives. The FBI says it is investigating the assassination attempt “because of a possible connection with agents of a foreign government.”

01/24/81—President Reagan names his former campaign chairman, William Casey, as CIA director. Casey, a onetime OSS agent and a board director of David Phillips’s Association of Former Intelligence Officers, immediately asks that Congressional restrictions on CIA operations be loosened and the Agency removed entirely from the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. He later formulates a secret and illegal phase of Project Democracy to control American public opinion to support waging covert wars against communism in Latin America. Casey later becomes chief architect of the Iran-Contra operation.

10/06/86—The CIA’s secret Contra arms-supply network begins to unravel when an American cargo plane loaded with arms and ammunition is shot down in Nicaragua. Captured crewman Eugene Hasenfus reveals that a Cuban-American veteran of the Bay of Pigs named “Max Gomez” helped coordinate the supply network from an airbase at Ilopango in El Salvador. “Max Gomez” is CIA veteran Felix Rodriguez, who worked with David Sanchez Morales in the capture of Che Guevara. Hasenfus also reveals that a CIA agent known as “Ramón Medina” is working with Rodriguez at Hopango. “Medina” turns out to be Luis Posada, who had worked with David Phillips in Chile and was involved with Antonio Veciana in the 1971 Castro assassination attempt there planned by Maurice Bishop.

05/11/87—Former CIA Counterintelligence Chief James Angleton dies of lung cancer.

07/10/88—Retired CIA Chief of Western Hemisphere Division David Atlee Phillips dies after a long bout with cancer. Maurice Bishop is buried with him.

## APPENDIX II

### CIA CRYPTONYMS, NAMES AND ALIASES

[AEBURBLE](#), Stateside double agent code named “Tumbleweed” (real name Gunter Schulz)

Provided information on KGB agent Kostikov; operating inside Soviet embassy in Mexico

City.

[AM](#), Operations, organization and individuals relating to Cuba

AM/BARB, section of individuals within the DRE-AM/SPELL, propaganda locus in Latin

American countries, field stations

AM/BANG-1, Manolo Ray, head of JURE

AM/BIDDY-1, [Manuel Artime Buesa](#)

AM/BUD, (associated with Cuban Revolutionary Council/ CRC

AM/BUD-1, Jose Miro Cardona

AM/CAPE-1, Ted Szulc, *New York Times*

AM/CARBON-1, Al Burt, *Miami Herald*

AM/CARBON-3, Don Bohning, *Miami Herald*

AM/CLATTER, Barker

AM/CONCERT, Verela

AM/DENIM 1, Fernandez

AM/DENIM 14, Cuesta

AM/HAWK, Varona

AM/HINT, Section of individuals within the DRE/ AMSPELL, paramilitary activities with

David Morales alias “Dr. Mcnza” as CIA contact

AM/JAVA 4, Quintero

[AM/LASH, Rolando Cubela Secades](#)

AM/LILAC, associated with infiltrations

AM/PATRIN, Malone

AM/SCHROLL, Unidad

AM/SHALE, Veciana

AM/SERF, Bartes

AM/STRUT, on-island Cuba asset

AM/THUG, Castro

AM/TIKI, CRC accountant/payroll

AM/WHIP 1, Tepedino

AM/WORLD

Barker, Bernard, AM/CLATTER-1

Berlin Operating Base, BOB

Choaden, David Phillips

Cuesto, Antonio (Tony), AM/DENIM-14

Fernandez, Alberto, AM/DENIM-1

Fitzgerald, Desmond, Chester Dainold

Fischetti, Joe, Joe Fish  
Flutter, associated with polygraph  
GOLIATH, CIA domestic intelligence activities within the United States  
Hall, Loren, Lorenzo Pascillo  
JMARC, Cuba Project / Brigade  
King, J.C., Galbond  
KU/BARK, CIA I Agency  
KU/TUBE, CIA Foreign Intelligence Division  
KU/CAGE, CIA Psychological and Paramilitary staff  
KU/SODA, CIA Office of Security / interrogator  
KU/DESK, CIA Counter Intelligence  
KU/DOVE, CIA Clandestine Service  
Los Halcones Negros, Black Falcons  
Malone, Michael (Jack), AM/PATRIN  
Menza, Dr., David Morales  
MIPATRIN, Malone  
MONGOOSE, Cuba Project I Lansdale-Harvey  
Morales, David, Zamka, Dr. Menza  
NPIC, National Photo Interpretation Center  
National Emergency Command Post Aircraft / Silver Dollar  
OD General reference to U.S. Government agencies  
ODACID, State Department  
ODBEAT, Defense Intelligence Agency  
OD/EARL, Department of Defense  
ODENVY, FBI  
ODFOAM, Secret Service  
ODIBIX , Army  
ODOATH, Navy  
ODURGE, Immigration and Naturalization Service  
ODYOKE, U.S. Government — General  
PB/PRIME, United States  
PB/RUMEN, Cuba  
PB/SUCCESS, Guatemala Project  
Perez, Ruben, Carlos  
Phillips, David, Chaoden  
QDDALE, [William Pawley](#)  
Quintero, Raphael (Chi-Chi), AM/JAVA 4  
RYBAT, Secret classification  
Sanjenis, Jose, Joachim, Panderaeo, Sam Jenis  
Sforza, Tony, Sloman  
SGA, Special Group Augmented  
Varona, Anthony (Tony), AM/HAWK  
Zamka, [“Stanley R. Zamka”](#), Morales, David  
ZR/RIFLE, Executive Action project/Harvey

## **APPENDIX III**

### **FBI and CIA Documents & Agency Communications Re: Lee Harvey Oswald**

#### **Oswald - On Everyone's Radar**

Because not all FBI and CIA documents have been intermittently released over the years (many still await declassification and discovery), the sequence of Agency communications about Lee Oswald has been very nebulous. The following provides an overview and sequence of available documents; the overview makes one thing strikingly clear. There is certainly no doubt that the director of the FBI had a considerable amount of information about Lee Harvey Oswald in his files, available to him on November 22, 1963. Little to none of that information is discussed on the tapes of J. Edgar Hoover's conversations with LBJ on November 22 and 23, 1963. Yet Hoover had been in full possession of inflammatory information on Oswald for weeks without apparently ordering any special investigation or surveillance of Oswald.

#### **Document Overview and Timeline 29**

Oct 2

Source: SAIC New Orleans

To: SAIC Dallas referenced in Oct 22 DAS SAIC

Content/Action: Message to Director

Oct 8

Source: CIA Mexico City

To: CIA HQ

Content/Action: Oswald contact with Kostikov

Oct 18

Source: INS Dallas verbal

To: SA Hosty

Content/Action: Oswald visits to Soviet Embassy

Oct 18

Source: Legate Mexico City

To: Director

Content/Action: Oswald Soviet Embassy contacts; Kostikov identified; Request for background info.

Nov 19

Source: SAIC, WFO

To: Director

Content/Action: Oswald letter to Soviet Embassy in Washington, D.C. (mail monitoring). Info on intentions to travel to Cuba. Reference to Kostin/Kosrikov and comment that status of Oswald investigation unknown to WFO since Dallas is office of origin.

Oct 22

Source: SAIC Dallas

To: Director

Content/Action: Oswald Soviet Embassy contacts Mexico City reported to Hosty by INS in Dallas.

To: New Orleans FBI

Content/Action: No Kostikov mention.

To: Little Rock

Content/Action: Postal Inspector Office informant reports Robert Oswald moved F. Worth to Dallas.

Nov 23

Source: FBI/Sullivan

To: Brennan, Belmont, Rosen

Content/Action: CIA memo of Nov. 23 confirming Kostikov contact (Tumbleweed source), Dept. 13 association of Kostikov—Sabotage and Assassinations; Sullivan also repeats “Kostin” intercept info.

Nov27

Source: FBI/Sullivan

To: Brennan, Belmont, Rosen

Content/Action: Reviews verification memo from CIA about Kostikov contacts, Tumbleweed, lack of photos of visit. Concludes by backing off on absolute connection of Kostikov to KGB.

Nov 27

Source: FBI/Belmont

To: Sullivan

Content/Action: Lists investigative measures to be urgently taken in Mexico to verify possible connection of Cubans, Soviets or other individuals to the Kennedy assassination.

Dec 11

Source: C/WH3 (Scelso)

To: DDIP (Helms)

Content/Action: Memo on plans for “handling” of Oswald investigation. Concern that FBI report will disclose that FBI had “advance information on the reason for Oswald’s visit to the Soviet Embassy.”

Dec 24 (circa)

Source: CIWH3 (Scelso)

To: Chief CI

Content/Action: Memo on Dec 24 meeting with Chief CI/SI Helms on policy errors and

inaccuracies in draft of Oswald (GP/FLOOR) report.

May 13, 1964

Source: Angleton (CIA)

To: Belmont (FBI)

Content/Action: Memo outlining anticipated questions from Warren Commission and advice on answers to be given by CIA.

## APPENDIX IV

### Full Book Resources About The Assassination, Specific Issues and Theories

*PLEASE NOTE: The two lists in this Appendix are NOT repeats of each other. They were created at different times by two different people. If you can't find a book on one, try the other.*

#### Alphabetically by Author's Last Name

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## APPENDIX V

### A Primer of Assassination Theories<sup>122</sup>

#### 1. SINGLE-BULLET THEORY<sup>123</sup>

**Proponents:** The Warren Commission<sup>124</sup>, notably Commission lawyers, specifically Arlen Specter, who developed the theory in March, 1964, and Norman Redlich, who advocated it as the only alternative to a two-assassin theory.<sup>125</sup>

**Thesis:** The first bullet missed.<sup>126</sup> The second bullet wounded both Kennedy and Connally (*deemed to be the second bullet fired by the HSCA*<sup>127</sup>). The third bullet hit Kennedy in the head and killed him. The bullet that missed, hit a curb, ricocheted, and either the bullet, or a fragment of the curb's debris upon being hit, caused a flesh wound on the right cheek of James Tague.<sup>128</sup>

**Selling Point:** This is the only theory that explains the assassination in terms of a single assassin. Why? Because films of the assassination show that a maximum of only 1.8 seconds could have elapsed between the earliest point at which Kennedy was first hit and the latest point at which Connally was first hit. Since the bolt of the murder rifle cannot be operated in less than 2.3 seconds, it could not possibly have been fired twice during the time in which both men were hit. Either both men were hit by the same bullet, or there were two assassins.<sup>129</sup>

**Drawback No. 1:** The single-bullet theory is tenable as an explanation for a single shooter if and only if the attending nurse's statement is wrong regarding JFK's condition upon entering Parkland Hospital's triage area. Why? Because the recently declassified Top Secret evidence states, in effect, that the fatal head shot's exit wound was clearly at

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122 Based on, but not entirely fact-checked (that's your job!) on "A Primer of Assassination Theories: The Whole Spectrum of Doubt, from the Warren commissioners to Ousman Ba," *Esquire*, December 1966 and May 1967

123 According to the Single Bullet Theory, a three-centimeter (1.2")-long copper-jacketed lead-core [6.5-millimeter](#) rifle bullet fired from the sixth floor of the [Texas School Book Depository](#) passed through President Kennedy's neck and Governor Connally's chest and wrist and embedded itself in the Governor's thigh. If so, this bullet traversed 15 layers of clothing, 7 layers of skin, and approximately 15 inches of tissue, struck a necktie knot, removed 4 inches of rib, and shattered a radius bone. The bullet was found on a [gurney](#) in the corridor at the [Parkland Memorial Hospital](#), in [Dallas](#), after the assassination.

124 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warren\\_Commission#Members](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warren_Commission#Members)

125 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single\\_bullet\\_theory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single_bullet_theory)

126 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single\\_bullet\\_theory#SBT\\_requires\\_missed\\_shot](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single_bullet_theory#SBT_requires_missed_shot)

127 House Select Committee on Assassinations  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_House\\_Select\\_Committee\\_on\\_Assassinations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_House_Select_Committee_on_Assassinations)

128 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Tague](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Tague)

129 Jim Garrison, Playboy Interview, Part Three, <http://www.jfklancer.com/Garrison4.html>

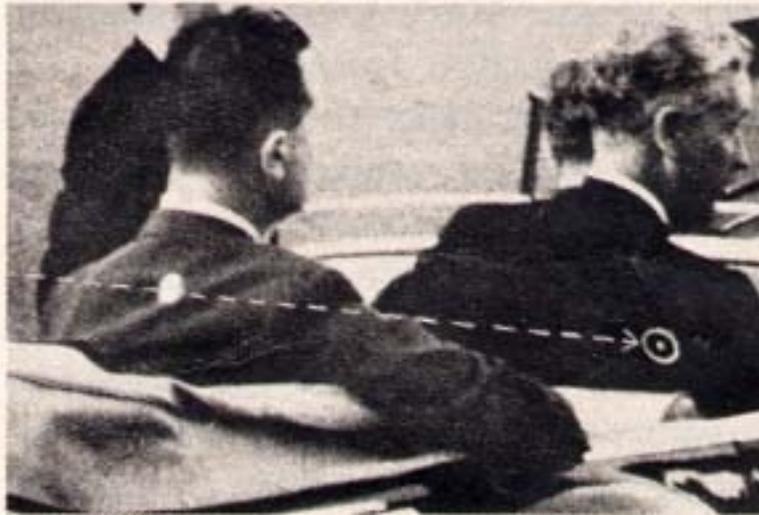
the back of Kennedy's head. Therefore, in this case, it WOULD REQUIRE two assassins, one in front and in back to accept the single-bullet theory.<sup>130</sup>

Also, since this is the considered opinion of the first medical professional to witness JFK's condition, there was no chance for alteration of the body at that point as has been subsequently leveled by many concerning the autopsy, or possibly autopsies.

**Drawback No. 2:** Photographs of the President's shirt and jacket support the F.B.I. report that the first bullet struck Kennedy below the shoulder. If the bullet fired from above did enter below the shoulder it is highly unlikely that it exited through the throat.<sup>131</sup>

*Newsweek* magazine at the time suggested that Kennedy may have been bent over so far that his shoulder was higher than his throat. But the films of the assassination show that Kennedy was sitting erect, and his back brace, according to the Warren Report "tended to make him sit up straight."

*The following photograph of the F.B.I. restaging<sup>132</sup>, which appeared in several editions of the Warren Report, not only contradicts the Commission's placement of the bullet path but shows that if the bullet entered where the hole in the jacket is, and then went on to hit Connally, it would have come out Kennedy's chest, not his throat. And Kennedy had no chest wounds.*



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130 Formerly Top Secret classified evidence of Patricia B. Hutton, R.N., attending nurse who took Kennedy from the presidential limousine into Parkland Hospital immediately after the assassination: <http://jfkclancer.com/docs.maps/hutton1.gif>

131 Photographs of JFK's back brace, jacket, and shirt: <http://jfkclancer.com/medical.html>

132 Film of FBI restaging of the JFK assassination; note the camera's positioning is very similar to that of the Zapruder film: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3gQU21C6oM>

Evidence of a secret back channel to the FBI all through the Warren Commission investigation was suspected by many sources, but finally confirmed by the files of Warren Commission member, eventual President Gerald Ford.<sup>133</sup>

## 2. F.B.I. THEORY<sup>134</sup>

**Proponents:** The F.B.I.

**Thesis:** 1. The first bullet hit Kennedy below the shoulder and penetrated “only a distance of a finger length.” This bullet was “expelled” onto the President’s stretcher when the Dallas doctors applied external heart massage. 2. The second bullet struck Connally. 3. The third bullet entered Kennedy’s head and fragmented. All shots came from the Book Depository.

**Selling Points:** 1. An entry wound *below* the shoulder would explain the shirt and jacket holes being about six inches below the top of the collar. It would also serve to explain the autopsy sketch showing a wound well below the collar line. And it would explain the Secret Service testimony that it was six inches below the collar.

2. The supposition that the bullet also fell out of Kennedy’s back accounts for the bullet found on the stretcher. (See Planted-Bullet Theory.)

**Drawback No. 1:** The F.B.I. Theory, by positing that Kennedy and Connally were hit by separate bullets, leads to a two-assassin theory. As one Commission lawyer bluntly put it: “To say that they were hit by separate bullets is synonymous with saying that there were two assassins.”<sup>135</sup>

**Drawback No. 2:** The Fourth Bullet. Late in the investigation, it was discovered that a bystander, James Tague, had been wounded by one of the shots. The F.B.I. Theory holds that all three shots hit inside the President’s car. Yet it was unlikely that Tague was wounded by any of these shots since he was standing about 260 feet away at the time of the fusillade. This raises the possibility that Tague was wounded by a fragment from a fourth bullet. But only three shells were found in the Book Depository.

**Drawback No. 3:** If the F.B.I autopsy report is accurate, then the Commission’s autopsy findings had to be purposely falsified.<sup>136</sup> The implications of this are almost too disturbing to imagine. Yet, the fact that the autopsy surgeon, Commander Humes, burned “certain preliminary notes” has given rise to the theory that the “preliminary notes”

133 Ford Told FBI of Skeptics on Warren Commission by Joe Stephens, Washington Post, Aug 8, 2008: [http://articles.washingtonpost.com/2008-08-08/news/36794059\\_1\\_confidential-fbi-files-warren-commission-gerald-r-ford](http://articles.washingtonpost.com/2008-08-08/news/36794059_1_confidential-fbi-files-warren-commission-gerald-r-ford)

134 Although presented second here, the FBI investigation preceded the Warren Commission’s “Single-Bullet Theory” and the FBI report was investigative basis for the Warren Commission, except for additional testimony taken: <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKwarrenR.htm>

135 “The Warren Commission, The Truth, and Arlen Specter” by Gaeton Fonzi, in Greater Philadelphia Magazine, Aug 1, 1966: [http://karws.gso.uri.edu/jfk/the\\_critics/fonzi/WC\\_Truth\\_Specter/WC\\_Truth\\_Specter.html](http://karws.gso.uri.edu/jfk/the_critics/fonzi/WC_Truth_Specter/WC_Truth_Specter.html)

136 Transcript of discussion among Hale Boggs and Allen Dulles of the Warren Commission, and Warren Commission general counsel, J. Lee Rankin, regarding the FBI investigation: <http://jfk.lancer.com/Investigations.html>

actually contained the earlier version of the autopsy referred to by the FBI. This question is unresolved. Additionally, no bullets were found during the autopsy as reported by the FBI agents on the scene.<sup>137</sup>

*One of the main stimuli for theories that shots came from someplace other than the Book Depository is an amateur eight-millimeter film of the assassination taken by Abraham Zapruder. From the film, the Commission judged that the President was first hit between film frame 210 and 225, and the fatal head shot occurred on film frame 313. By determining the shutter speed of the camera (18.3 frames per second), the Commission ascertained: 1) a maximum of 5.6 seconds elapsed from the first to the final shot; and 2) no more than 1.8 seconds elapsed between the time Kennedy and Connally were first hit. This time bind led directly to the Commission's Single-Bullet Theory (see above). The Zapruder film also led to four other interesting theories.<sup>138</sup>*

### 3. HEAD MOVEMENT THEORY

**Proponent:** Vincent Salandria, a Philadelphia lawyer.

Using two slide projectors, and superimposing frame 316 over frame 313, Salandria finds that after the fatal head shot, Kennedy's head moves sharply backward and to the left, a direction inconsistent with shots from the Depository. Salandria extrapolated the trajectory from the direction in which the head moves and concludes that the shot came from behind the picket fence or the arcade on the grassy knoll. Salandria also suspects that, because of the massive devastation, this second wound, unlike the first, may have been caused by a dum dum bullet—which couldn't have come from Oswald's rifle.

### 4. EARLY HIT THEORY

A group of California theorists has used the Zapruder film to show that the first shot hit Kennedy between film frames 190 and 210. If true, this would be significant because the Commission established that during this interval the line of sight from the sixth-floor window in the Depository was obstructed by the foliage of an oak tree; therefore the shot must have come from elsewhere.

Harold Weisberg also uses the Zapruder film to prove the Early-Hit Theory. Since Zapruder testified that he saw Kennedy hit, and Zapruder's view was blocked by a traffic sign between film frames 205 and 225 (by which time Kennedy had already been hit), Weisberg concludes that Kennedy was hit before film frame 205.

### 5. MISSING-FRAME THEORY

The fact that film frames 208 through 211 have been deleted from the black-and-white frame-by-frame photographs published by the Warren Commission (Exhibit 885) and from the color slides of the Zapruder film at the National Archives—and the fact that frames 207 and 212 show obvious splice marks—has led a number of theorists to suspect that Kennedy was shot during that interval and that the four missing film frames were suppressed deliberately.

<sup>137</sup> FBI report filed by FBI Agents James Sibert and Francis O'Neill, who were present at JFK's autopsy at the Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD: <http://jfkclancer.com/Sibert-O'Neill.html>

<sup>138</sup> The Zapruder film with frames restored, enhanced with the Dictabelt recording, which would have been very hard if not impossible to do at the time: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=62sT13AAIag>

**Drawback:** *Life* magazine owns the original film and according to those who have seen it, the film is complete, no frames are missing, and Kennedy does not appear to have been hit in the sequence. The Archive's frames may just have been damaged innocently.

## 6. TRAFFIC SIGN THEORY

David Lifton, a U.C.L.A. graduate student, claims that he can detect stress marks coming from the traffic sign starting at frame 212 and continuing until frame 221. He interprets these as shock waves caused by a bullet hitting the sign. This shot, he figures, could not have been the same one that Oswald is supposed to have fired because of the timing. And strangely, right after the assassination the sign was removed.

## 7. ENTRY WOUND THEORY

**Proponents:** Mark Lane, Thomas Buchanan, Joachim Joesten, *et. al.*

**Thesis:** Early statements were made by Dallas doctors suggesting that the throat wound was made by a bullet *entering* the throat. Since films of the assassination firmly establish that the President's car was past the Book Depository when he was shot, a bullet entering the throat must have come from a point well in front of the Depository. "In front" was at first interpreted to mean the railroad overpass; however, when the Commission showed that a bullet did not in fact pass through the limousine's windshield, as was believed by the proponents of this theory, "in front" was then interpreted to mean the grassy knoll. Mark Lane states in his latest version that Kennedy was directly facing the knoll when he was shot in the throat, although none of the films indicates this to be the case.

**Selling point:** The entry-wound theory explains the Dallas doctors' early statements and the relatively small diameter of the wound, although the doctors later testified that under certain conditions an exit wound would have the same appearance as an entry wound.

**Drawback:** The entry-wound theory does not explain what finally happened to the bullet that entered the throat. Since no exit wound was found in the President's back (and no bullet was in the President's body), the entry-wound theory depends on the assumption that the autopsy and other evidence was changed.

## 8. OVER THE FENCE THEORY

**Proponents:** Maurice Schonfeld, U.P.I., Jack Fox, U.P.I., Burt Reinhardt, U.P.I. In the United Press-International film library, a New York hobbyist found an eight-millimeter color film of the assassination made by Orville Nix. One of the frames of the Nix film particularly interested him because it showed an object behind the wall on the grassy knoll. He then employed a film specialist to blow the frame up, and it became clear that the object was in fact a vehicle. On the roof of the vehicle, he discerned a man aiming what appeared to be a rifle at the President's car. He immediately took his photograph to Dallas and asked eyewitnesses about it.

U.P.I. editors, apparently impressed with the photograph, sent reporter Jack Fox to Dallas to interview witnesses to the assassination.

Lee E. Bowers, Jr. told him that the photograph was "exactly what I saw." S. M. Holland, who was standing on the overpass and had one of the best views of any eyewitness, told Fox there were four shots: "...the first came from the book building and hit the President. The second came from the same place and hit Governor John Connally....The third shot

came from behind the picket fence to the north of Elm Street. There was a puff of smoke under the trees like someone had thrown out a Chinese firecracker and a report entirely different from the one which was fired from the book building...”

According to Holland, the fourth shot came from the Book Depository. When Holland reached the fence he found a station wagon and a sedan. On the bumper of the station wagon there were two muddy marks “as if someone had stood there to look over the fence.” At least seven other witnesses on the overpass saw smoke rising from the same area, and many other witnesses thought the shots came from behind the picket fence. One Dallas policeman, J. M. Smith, even claimed to have “caught the smell of gunpowder” behind the wooden fence.

The Nix-U.P.I. film and partial blowup.



## 9. EYEWITNESS THEORIES

Eyewitness accounts of the assassination are perhaps the most popular source of two-assassin theories—virtually any armchair student of the assassination, given the Report’s twenty-six volumes of testimony, can develop an interesting theory as to where the shots came from. Right after the twenty-six volumes were made public, Harold Feldman, a writer on the psychology of assassins, counted up the various sources of shots reported by 121 eyewitnesses. His tally revealed that 38 gave “no clear opinion,” 32 thought the shots

came from the Book Depository, and 51 though the shots came from the grassy knoll area. Largely on the basis of this analysis, Feldman advanced the theory that there were two assassins: one on the grassy knoll and one in the Book Depository.

**Drawback:** Eyewitness recollections often conflict: which means that *somebody* has to be wrong.

#### 10. UNDERGROUND MAN THEORY

**Proponent:** The Warren Commission. The Commission did not reach a final conclusion as to why Oswald killed President Kennedy. Instead, it listed five “factors” (which, a Commission lawyer said, read like clichés from a TV soap opera). They were:

1. hostility to his environment;
2. failure to establish “meaningful relationships”;
3. desire for a place in history;
4. a commitment to Marxism and communism (a “factor” inserted at the insistence of Commissioner Gerald Ford)
5. a capacity to act decisively without regard to the consequences.

According to this theory, Oswald had no motive; he acted out of blind resentment.

#### 11. MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE THEORY

**Proponents:** Some Commission lawyers and members of the C.I.A.

Since Oswald spent considerable time in a Soviet hospital, a few Commission lawyers entertained the theory that Oswald might have been brainwashed and conditioned as a “sleeper” assassin; then he went haywire (i.e., he was accidentally turned on). The Commission decided to send a letter to the C.I.A. requesting information on the “present status of Soviet ‘mind-conditioning’ techniques.” A few weeks later, a C.I.A. agent replied that this possibility was still “a main school of thought” at the C.I.A. on the assassination, and although such techniques were still in a *relatively* primitive stage, this form of conditioning could be induced by drugs. The theory, however, was not further developed.

#### 12. DOMESTIC QUARREL THEORY

**Proponent:** Representative Gerald Ford.

Commissioner Gerald Ford, in his book, *Portrait of the Assassin*, suggests that Oswald was still hedging on the eve of the assassination when he returned home to see his wife, Marina. She spurned him. Oswald then went to the garage. He got his rifle.

#### 13. HORRIBLE ACCIDENT THEORY

**Proponent:** Marina Oswald.

In her final testimony before the Commission, Marina Oswald advanced her own theory of Lee’s motive. She said she believed her husband was actually trying to shoot Governor John Connally, and missed, and by a horrible accident he killed the President.

#### 14. OEDIPAL THEORY

**Proponent:** Dr. Renatus Hartogs, coauthor of *The Two Assassins*.

Dr. Hartogs, a psychiatrist who evaluated Oswald as a thirteen-year-old boy, has recently advanced a theory explaining the assassination in terms of Oswald's repressed lust for his mother. Hartogs observes that Oswald slept in his mother's bed long after he should have had a bed of his own, and suggests that inner guilt feelings may have led him to kill President Kennedy. Dr. Hartogs finds it significant that Oswald shot at both Kennedy and Tippit three times, since the number "three" in psychoanalytic thinking symbolizes the masculine genitals. However, Sylvia Meagher points out in her review of Hartogs' book that Tippit was shot four times.

## 15. KILLER-INSTINCT THEORY

**Proponent:** John J. McCloy.

In a secret colloquium between the Commission and three psychiatrists, Commissioner McCloy advanced the "killer-instinct" theory. He noted that Oswald had killed two men and had attempted to shoot at least three others (Governor Connally, General Walker, and the police officer who tried to arrest him). McCloy reasoned that this indicated a pattern of innate violence. By the time the report was written, however, McCloy's hypothesis seems to have been lost in the shuffle.

*The following four theories are based on the belief that Oswald was innocent, that he was framed for both the Kennedy assassination and murder of officer J. D. Tippit by the real conspirators who planted evidence against him before and after the assassination. The logic of these theories inevitably leads to a high-level conspiracy involving law-enforcement agencies. For example, to believe that Oswald did not kill Tippit, it is necessary to assume: a) shells from Oswald's revolver were planted at the scene by the real murderers; b) the revolver then was planted on Oswald by the Dallas police (the plot obviously could not have depended on Oswald going home and conveniently fetching his pistol; and c) Oswald's admission that he had his revolver with him when arrested was fabricated.*

## 16. PLANTED-RIFLE THEORY

**Proponent:** Mark Lane.

**Thesis:** A 7.65 caliber German Mauser was found in the Book Depository, and later Oswald's 6.5 caliber Italian Mannlicher-Carcano rifle was substituted for it. This theory is based on testimony (and an affidavit) indicating that the three Dallas law officers first described the rifle as a Mauser. The problem with this theory is that the bullet fragments found in the President's car ballistically match Oswald's Carcano, proving that it was employed in the assassination (no matter where or when it was found).

## 17. PLANTED-BULLET THEORY

**Proponents:** Professor Richard H. Popkin, Professor Josiah Thompson, Sylvia Meagher, Vincent Salandria, Léo Sauvage, Harold Weisberg, Mark Lane and Ray Marcus.

**Thesis:** A bullet, which the Warren Report states was found on Connally's stretcher, was fired from Oswald's rifle sometime prior to the assassination. Then, after the assassination, it was planted on a stretcher in the Dallas hospital where Kennedy and Connally were treated, thereby framing Oswald.

This theory is based on the fact that evidence developed by the Commission precluded both Kennedy's and Connally's stretchers as possible sources for the stretcher bullet. The Commission's autopsy report stated that the bullet exited Kennedy, therefore it could not have come from his stretcher. And Drs. Finck, Humes, and Shaw testified that more fragments were found in Connally's wrist than were missing from the bullet, thus ruling out Connally's stretcher as a source for the bullet. Furthermore, in missing tapes of the doctors' press conference, which was held after the stretcher bullet was found, Dr. Shaw supposedly says that a nearly whole bullet was *lodged in Connally's thigh*. The theorists thus deduce that the bullet must have been planted on the stretcher. The fact that no blood or other organic material was found on the bullet reinforces their argument. Professor Thompson further points out that the only bullet similar in appearance to the stretcher bullet was obtained by firing Oswald's rifle into a long tube of cotton. He believes that this test indicated that the stretcher bullet was probably obtained by firing the bullet into cotton.

*The Commission claims this bullet pierced Kennedy's neck and Connally's shoulder, ribs, wrist and thigh. Theorists say it's a fake.*

The Commission claims this bullet pierced Kennedy's neck and Connally's shoulder, ribs, wrist and thigh. Theorists say it's a fake.

## 18. OSWALD IMPERSONATOR THEORY

**Proponents:** Léo Sauvage, Harold Weisberg, Sylvia Meagher, (See also Popkin's Two-Oswald Theory).

**Thesis:** Before the assassination, someone impersonating Oswald planted clues that would incriminate Oswald in the assassination. According to this theory, the impersonator made himself conspicuous at a nearby rifle range, brought a gun into a neighborhood gunsmith, cashed large checks, and acted suspiciously. The impersonator probably took part in the assassination.

*Who is this man? A C.I.A. report on Lee Harvey Oswald arrived at the F.B.I. field office in Dallas the day of the assassination. It revealed that Oswald had visited the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City on September 27, 1963, and included a photograph taken by a secret C.I.A. camera of the man identified as Oswald leaving the Embassy. After the assassination, a problem developed; the man in the C.I.A. photograph was not Oswald! Oswald's mother added to the confusion by claiming the man in the photograph was Jack Ruby. (Obviously, it isn't.) Commission lawyers, attempting to find out if the man in the photograph was associated with Oswald or impersonating him, were never able to identify the mystery man. All the C.I.A. would say was that it was a "mix-up."*

## 19. FALL-GUY THEORY

**Proponent:** Joachim Joesten

**Thesis:** That the assassination was the work of a conspiracy involving some officers of the C.I.A. and the F.B.I. as well as some Army figures and some reactionary oil millionaires. The conspirators used Oswald as a "fall guy, a red herring, to draw attention while the murderers escaped." The F.B.I. for reasons of its own, completed the frame of Oswald and covered up evidence of the real conspirators.

*The next three theories explain how the second assassin escaped from the grassy knoll.*

## **20. BOGUS SECRET-SERVICE MAN THEORY**

**Proponent:** Sylvia Meagher.

Dallas policeman J. M. Smith ran to the parking lot behind the grassy knoll immediately after the assassination. He suddenly encountered a stranger and pulled his gun. The stranger identified himself as a Secret Service agent and showed Smith his credentials (although Smith later could not recall his name). Smith's account is corroborated to some degree by two other law officers—Deputy Constable Weitzman and Sergeant Harkness.

Sylvia Meagher, an independent researcher, made a meticulous check of Secret Service records and found that no Secret Service agent was on or near the knoll area at the time that Smith encountered the "agent." Mrs. Meagher suggests that the assassin may have escaped by using fake Secret Service credentials.

## **21. TRUNK THEORY**

**Proponents:** S. M. Holland, Richard H. Popkin.

Soon after the shots were fired, S. M. Holland rushed to the picket fence behind the knoll (where he thought he saw smoke) and found a station wagon and a sedan parked near the fence (see Over the Fence Theory). Muddy footprints led from the bumper of the station wagon to the sedan and then mysteriously ended. Holland said: "I've often wondered if a man could have climbed into the trunk of that car and pulled the lid shut on himself, then someone else have driven it away later." Other theorists, like Professor Popkin, have thought it more likely that the knoll assassin simply hid the rifle in the car, then fled on foot.

## **22. STORM DRAIN THEORY**

**Proponent:** Lillian Castellano.

Mrs. Castellano, a California accountant, located what appeared to be a storm drain in a photograph of the grassy knoll taken at the time of the assassination. However, it could not be located in later photographs of the grassy knoll. Through a contact in Dallas, Mrs. Castellano obtained a chart of the sewer and drainage system surrounding the grassy knoll. Apparently, the drain was filled in after the assassination. Mrs. Castellano suspected that it could have been part of an escape system.

## **23. OSWALD AS F.B.I. INFORMER**

According to Secret Service report 767, Alonzo Hudkins, a Houston reporter, told the Secret Service that he had heard from Chief Allan Sweatt of the Dallas sheriff's office that Lee Harvey Oswald "was being paid two hundred dollars per month by the F.B.I. in connection with their subversive investigation" and that "Oswald had informant number S-172." The Commission never called Hudkins or Sweatt to testify.

There are a number of other interesting circumstances surrounding Oswald's possible relationship with the F.B.I.

1. Warren De Brueys, an F.B.I. agent who covered both the New Orleans and Dallas beat, asked Carlos Bringuier to furnish the F.B.I. information about the activities of his Anti-Castro group. When Bringuier refused, De Brueys threatened to send

- an under-cover agent to infiltrate the group. Later, Lee Harvey Oswald came to New Orleans from Dallas and tried to infiltrate Bringuier's group by pretending he was an Anti-Castroite. Bringuier, at first, did not think this was a coincidence.
2. When Oswald was arrested for fighting with Bringuier, he asked to see an F.B.I. agent. An F.B.I. agent visited him in jail and questioned him about the activities of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.
  3. Oswald's address book contained the address and license plate number of Dallas F.B.I. agent James Hosty. It was later deleted from the police list of Oswald's addresses.

**Drawback:** J. Edgar Hoover categorically denied that Oswald had any connection with the F.B.I. and offered the F.B.I.'s file on Oswald to the Commission. (The Chief Justice refused it, however, on the grounds that it might contain secret information.)

#### 24. OSWALD AS SECRET AGENT

**Proponents:** Mrs. Marguerite Oswald and Norman Mailer.

Mrs. Oswald suggested long before the assassination, and is still of the belief, that her son was a C.I.A. agent. His trip to Russia was a C.I.A. mission, and so were his later activities. If Oswald was involved in the assassination, Mrs. Oswald suggests, "Now it could have been that my son and the Secret Service were all involved in a mercy killing," explaining, "If he [Kennedy] was dying of an incurable disease, this would be for the security of our country."

Norman Mailer, on the other hand, believes that it is quite possible Oswald was an undercover agent for not one, but a number of espionage services (who "tend to collect the same particular small agents in common").

Mailer wrote in *Book Week*: "It was all but a comedy of the most horrible sort, but when Kennedy was assassinated, the espionage services of half the world may have discovered in the next hour that one little fellow in Dallas was...a secret, useless little undercover agent who was on their private lists; what nightmares must have ensued." Oswald was then liquidated by one of his employer-agencies. According to Mailer's scenario, we hear an Ivy League voice cry out in some unknown council-of-war room: "Well, can't something be done, can't we do something about this man?", and a little later a phone call made and another, and finally a voice saying to our friend Ruby, "Jack, I got good news. There's a little job..."

#### 25. TWO OSWALDS THEORY

**Proponent:** Richard H. Popkin.

**Thesis:** Professor Popkin (Chairman, Philosophy Department, University of California at San Diego) has advanced a rather ingenious theory to explain certain discrepancies in the Commission's findings. Certain witnesses claim to have encountered Oswald prior to November 22 in places where he could not possibly have been. To explain these anomalies, Popkin suggests that there were actually "two Oswalds"; the second "Oswald" closely resembled the real Oswald. The real Oswald's role was to be a decoy—that is, he would lead the police astray by becoming the prime suspect. The escape of the second Oswald, who actually fired the shots from the Depository, was thus facilitated. When Oswald's trial came up, he would undoubtedly produce a surprise alibi, and the evidence

would be so confused by the second Oswald's pre-assassination maneuvers that the Oswald-on-trial would be acquitted. What went wrong, however—and here the theory becomes a mite complicated—was that the real Oswald met Officer Tippit, who knew the second Oswald, and waved him down. In the ensuing confusion, Oswald panicked and shot Tippit.

This theory differs from the Oswald Impersonator Theory in one important way: here, the real Oswald is guilty.

**Drawback:** The sightings of this “second Oswald” all occurred before it was even known that Kennedy would be coming to Dallas. Thus it seems unlikely that a carefully deceptive plot could have been underway.

**Retort:** Oswald and his double were only one of many pairs of assassins being set up all over the country on a contingency basis, should the opportunity for action arise.

## 26. POST-ASSASSINATION DOMINO THEORY

**Proponents:** Penn Jones Jr. and Mark Lane.

Penn Jones, the editor of the *Midlothian, Texas, Mirror*, notes that a number of key witnesses have died under “clouded circumstances” since the assassination and he suggests the theory that people who know too much about the assassination are being silenced.

For example, Jones cites a meeting at Ruby's apartment at which two newspaper reporters, Bill Hunter and Jim Koethe, were present. Bill Hunter was later killed by the “accidental discharge” of a policeman's revolver in a police station in Long Beach, California. Jim Koethe was killed by a “karate chop” in his Dallas apartment. The murder is still unsolved. Ruby's lawyer, Tom Howard, also attended the meeting. He later died of a “heart attack” (Jones notes “no autopsy was performed”). Jones suggests that some important information was divulged at the meeting, and those who heard the information had to be disposed of.

Moreover, Jones's paper has maintained a death-count on other relevant individuals.

1. Hank Killam, whose wife was a waitress at Ruby's nightclub and whose friend lived in Oswald's rooming house, was found on a Florida street with his throat cut.
2. Dorothy Kilgallen, the only journalist who was granted a private interview with Ruby, died. Jones points out (erroneously) that her death occurred on the night of the “strange” Northeast Power Blackout. (Jones missed the connection that the announcer of *What's My Line*, John Daly, is the Chief Justice's son-in-law.)
3. William Whaley, the cabdriver who took Oswald home after the assassination and possibly talked to him, died in a car crash—the first cabdriver to be killed on duty in Dallas since 1937.
4. Karen Bennett Carlin, another performer at Ruby's club and the last person to talk to Ruby before he shot Oswald, died of gunshot wounds in Houston, according to Penn Jones. This seems quite strange since she testified to a Commission lawyer *after* the reported date of her death.

5. Earlene Roberts, the housekeeper at Oswald's rooming house who claimed she saw a police car stop in front of the house about ten minutes before Oswald encountered Tippit, also died.

Mark Lane adds the case of Warren Reynolds, a witness to the Tippit shooting, who was shot through the head (but survived) Nancy Money, a former stripper in Ruby's nightclub who also provided an alibi for the man accused of shooting Reynolds, hanged herself in the Dallas jail; and Lee E. Bowers, Jr., a bystander who saw a car making a getaway from the grassy knoll, was killed in a car accident to which there were no witnesses.

## 27. RACIST THEORY

**Proponents:** Léo Sauvage, Hans Habe (author of *The Wounded Land*).

Sauvage, an American correspondent for *Figaro*, suggests the theory that Kennedy could have been killed by a conspiracy of Southern racists to prevent him from carrying out his civil-rights program. To turn blame away from themselves and onto Leftists, they methodically framed Oswald (by impersonating him and by planting evidence against him). Oswald's murder, however, was not part of the racist conspiracy, but a separate plot instigated by the Dallas police to prevent a trial in which he might be acquitted of the crime

## 28. CUI BONO THEORY

**Proponents:** *Izvestia*, *Trud*, Joachim Joesten, Barbara Garson, Don B. Reynolds, Jack Ruby and others.

**Thesis:** Although not one shred of hard evidence has been uncovered to prove them right, many people have taken the "Who benefited?" line of pursuit and point an accusing finger at Lyndon Johnson.

The Soviet Government newspaper *Izvestia*, after condemning The Warren Report as slanderous to Russia, hinted by sly innuendo that President Johnson may have been implicated in the assassination. They cite the soon-to-be published works of Joachim Joesten (seven volumes to be sold by subscription for \$200) which argues that Johnson has been covering up. The next day, *Trud*, the trade-union paper, made the accusations more forcefully.

Californian Barbara Garson has written a satire, based on *Macbeth*, called *Macbird* in which L.B.J. and Lady Bird take the parts of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth in the murder of J.F.K. and Adlai Stevenson (the Egg of Head).

In January of 1964 the Warren Commission learned that Don B. Reynolds, insurance agent and close associate of Bobby Baker, had been heard to say that the F.B.I. knew that Johnson was behind the assassination. When interviewed by the F.B.I., he denied this. But he did recount an incident during the swearing in of Kennedy in which Bobby Baker said words to the effect that the s.o.b. would never live out his term and that he would die a violent death. Reynolds also vaguely suggested that Governor Connally may have called long distance from Washington to Lee Oswald who was staying in a Dallas Y.M.C.A. He had no proof.

A number of letters allegedly written by Jack Ruby and smuggled out of jail were auctioned off by New York autograph dealer Charles Hamilton. Penn Jones, Jr. bought one and published part of it.

“I walked into a trap the moment I walked down the ramp Sunday morning. This was the spot where they could frame the Jew, and that way all of his people will be blamed as being Communists, this is what they were waiting for. They alone had planned the killing, by they I mean Johnson and others.”

“...read the book *Texas Looks at Lyndon* and you may learn quite a bit about Johnson and how he fooled everyone.”

**Drawback:** In a letter to J. Lee Rankin, J. Edgar Hoover wrote, “I have not received any information to implicate President Johnson or Governor Connally in the assassination.”

## 29. DALLAS OLIGARCHY THEORY

**Proponent:** Thomas Buchanan.

According to Buchanan’s theory, “Mr. X,” a right-wing Texas oil millionaire, had to eliminate Kennedy and Khrushchev to gain world domination of the oil market. He decided to assassinate Kennedy in such a way that Khrushchev would be discredited. Oswald was to be framed as the assassin, then executed by Tippit. With Oswald dead, the Soviet Union would be blamed for the assassination. Oswald, however, outdrew Tippit and was captured alive later. The conspirators then induced Ruby to kill Oswald as a means of silencing him for good. Aside from Mr. X, Buchanan names the following “additional conspirators”:

1. The assassin on the bridge. (He hints this was Ruby.)
2. A second assassin in the Depository who was wearing a police uniform.
3. A police officer involved in Oswald’s arrest (who was, next to Mr. X, the key conspirator).
4. Tippit.
5. Oswald.
6. One of the policemen who missed Oswald as he left the building.

## 30. CUBA-FRAMED THEORY

**Proponent:** Fidel Castro.

About a week after the assassination, Castro suggested that the conspirators intended that Cuba be blamed for the assassination. According to this theory, Oswald may have been one of the riflemen, but his prime role in the conspiracy was to ghost a trail that would lead directly to Cuba. Thus, a few months before the assassination, Oswald set up a phony Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New Orleans and Dallas, engaged in “brawls” with anti-Castro Cubans, and identified himself with Castro and Cuba on radio programs. Then he went to Mexico where he tried to obtain a Cuban visa. (Castro notes that Oswald had no reason to go to Cuba. If Oswald wanted to go to Russia, as he claimed, it was shorter and easier to go via Europe.)

After the assassination, the plan called for Oswald to disappear. Evidence planted at the scene would identify Oswald as the assassin, and Oswald’s pre-assassination activities

and other planted clues would lead to the conclusion that Oswald had fled to Cuba. This, in turn, might serve as a pretext for an American invasion of Cuba.

There is some later evidence which fits in very neatly with the Castro thesis.

1. On September 26, just before Oswald's trip to the Cuban Embassy in Mexico, Mrs. Sylvia Odio, a Cuban Refugee leader, claims that three men visited her in Dallas. Two were Latins, possibly Cubans, the third was American. The American was called "Leon Oswald." After the assassination Mrs. Odio as well as her sister definitely identified this man as Lee Harvey Oswald. The three men said that they had just come from New Orleans (the Commission established Oswald left New Orleans about September 25) and were about to take a trip. They wanted backing for some violent anti-Castro activities, but Mrs. Odio suspected that they might in fact be Castro agents. The next day one of the Latins called Mrs. Odio and told her that Oswald was "kind of nuts" and that he had said Kennedy should have been assassinated after the Bay of Pigs, and that "it is so easy to do it." Thus, Oswald established himself as a potential assassin traveling with two Cubans.
2. Two days before the assassination, three people spoke to Wayne January, manager of Red Bird airport in Dallas, about renting a plane. They told him they wanted to be flown to Yucatán Peninsula on November 22. After the assassination, January told the F.B.I. that one of the three persons was Oswald. January later said that he suspected the threesome might want to hijack his plane and go to Cuba, and thus decided not to rent them the plane.
3. Shortly after the assassination, there were literally dozens of allegations and "tips" that Oswald was closely connected with the Cubans. For example, one Latin American free-lance intelligence agent claimed that he saw Oswald receive \$6,500 for the purpose of assassinating Kennedy. (The Commission found these allegations to be false.) However, if Oswald escaped and disappeared, these tips might very well have fed suspicion that Oswald was in Cuba.

### 31. CRYSTAL BALL THEORY

**Proponent:** Jeane Dixon.

In December, 1963, prophetess Jeane Dixon "got psychically" an inside line on the assassination. "As I interpret my symbols," she wrote, "Fidel Castro believed that President Kennedy and Premier Khrushchev had gotten together on a plan to eliminate him and replace him with someone more acceptable to the United States and the U.N. Castro, in his conniving way, therefore arranged for the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Lee Harvey Oswald was the triggerman, but there were other people involved in the plot."

### 32. MAFIA THEORY

**Proponent:** Serge Groussard.

In a series of articles in *L'Aurore*, Groussard offers the theory that Kennedy was assassinated in order to forestall a planned crackdown on organized crime. The "Al Capone gang" in Chicago ordered Ruby to set up the assassination. Ruby then sent Oswald (who was in his debt) to Mexico to visit the underworld's own plastic surgery clinic and other escape facilities; and Oswald agreed to be the rifleman. Tippit was

supposed to drive Oswald out of Dallas, but when he learned that Oswald was the assassin he tried to arrest him and Oswald killed him. Ruby then had to finish the job personally.

### 33. JUNTA THEORY

**Proponent:** M. S. Armoni.

The editor of *The Minority of One* envisions a “titanic power struggle” in the U.S. Government. He postulates that the insurrectionist forces included the C.I.A., the Air Force, relevant defense contractors, and a number of congressmen and that the Junta’s leaders were high-ranking Air Force and Navy officers. The object was to deliver the U.S. into the hands of a “military-industrial cabal.”

Because President Kennedy attempted to oppose the Junta, he had to be eliminated. His fate was sealed when he signed the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1963—which he, according to this theory, “signed in his own blood.”

### 34. RED EXECUTION THEORY

**Proponent:** Revilo P. Oliver.

Professor Oliver, in an article for the John Birch Society magazine, advanced the theory that Moscow ordered Oswald to assassinate Kennedy. It seems that Kennedy was threatening to desert the Communists and “turn American.” But the President’s aides persuaded him to go to Dallas where he was “executed.”

Although the assassin’s accomplices escaped, Oswald himself was apprehended by dint of the heroic action of J. D. Tippit, and so it became necessary that “Jakob Rubenstein” eliminate Oswald.

### 35. EVIL-FORCES THEORY

**Proponent:** Ousman Ba, Foreign Minister of Mali.

Ba charged in the United Nations Security Council that “Kennedy’s assassination, the murder of Patrice Lumumba and Dag Hammarskjöld’s death were all the work of forces that were behind the recent U.S.-Belgian rescue operation in the Congo.” Ba did not elaborate.

### 36. THE SECOND-THOUGHT AUTOPSY REPORT<sup>139</sup>

**Proponents:** Arlen Specter and other Commission lawyers.

**Thesis:** Arlen Specter, a key investigator for the Commission and principal author of the S.B.T., has attempted to explain the contradiction between the F.B.I. Summary Reports and the Commission’s autopsy report in terms of two different autopsy conclusions. In the one and only autopsy examination conducted on the night of the assassination at Bethesda Hospital, the doctors arrived at the “tentative” conclusion that the bullet which struck President Kennedy in the back penetrated only a short distance, then fell out through the point of entrance when the Dallas doctors applied external heart massage. The next day, however, the autopsy doctors found out about the throat wound (which was

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<sup>139</sup> Last December we thought we had offered you the complete works of the assassination buffs. The opus grows: here are twenty-five new entries.

obscured by the tracheotomy operation) and changed their conclusion, now deciding that the bullet went completely through the neck. This conclusion was reached without benefit of having the corpse before them (or the autopsy and X-ray photographs). Then, according to Specter's theory, Commander Humes incinerated his original autopsy report in his recreation-room fireplace, and drew up a new autopsy report stating that the bullet exited the President's throat. The F.B.I. was not shown the new report and reiterated the old conclusion in their summary reports.

**Drawback:** Specter's theory contradicts The Warren Report's description of the autopsy, which he himself wrote in 1964. In The Warren Report (pp. 88-89), Specter states that, during the autopsy, doctors rejected the possibility that the bullet penetrated only a short distance, and that the evidence from Dallas of a throat wound "confirmed" this conclusion. Thus, whereas The Warren Report states that there was only and only one conclusion of the autopsy reached during the examination, the autopsy conclusion was changed (not confirmed) the next day by evidence from Dallas, and thus there were two autopsy conclusions. The question remains: Which one of these conflicting statements is true?

### 37. THE HOOVER HEGELIAN THEORY

**Proponent:** J. Edgar Hoover.

**Thesis:** Although the F.B.I. Supplementary Report of January 13, 1964, states that the bullet that struck President Kennedy in the back penetrated "to a distance of less than a finger length," and the Commission's autopsy report states that this same bullet passed clean through the neck and exited the throat, J. Edgar Hoover finds that there is no "conflict" between the two statements of the autopsy, only a "difference in the information reported." Hoover further claims that the F.B.I. of course knew that the bullet passed clean through the President's neck at the same time that the reported the bullet penetrated only a finger's length into his back. Since they also knew that the Commission knew the true contents of the autopsy report, there was no reason, Hoover insists, to make a false statement of the autopsy results. Moreover he dialectically explains that although the F.B.I. report flatly stated that the bullet did not pass through the President's body, the F.B.I. itself helpfully pointed to weaknesses in its own theory by stating that there was a hole in the President's shirt caused by an exiting projectile.

**Drawback:** Thesis plus antithesis doesn't equal J. Edgar's synthesis. Aside from the fact that the F.B.I. Supplementary Reports were prepared initially for public release and not for the Warren Commission, a major problem in Hoover's explanation is that the F.B.I. told The Washington Post on December 18, 1963, that the hole in the shirt was caused by a fragment from the *third* shot which exploded against the President's head (not from the *first* shot). Therefore, the F.B.I. report of the shirt hole does not "*clearly*" indicate that the autopsy doctors' early observation "that the bullet penetrated only a short distance into the Presidents head probably was in error," as Hoover postulates.

### 38. VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE THEORY

**Proponent:** Lawrence Schiller, a photographer and producer of Capitol Records album, *The Controversy*, on the assassination.

**Thesis:** A number of critics assume that shots came from the knoll because a number of witnesses state they saw smoke coming from the knoll area. The most celebrated puff-of-smoke witness is S. M. Holland. Schiller brought Holland back to the exact spot where he said he was standing, placed a camera level with his shoulder, aimed it at the spot where Holland said he saw the puff of smoke, and snapped a photograph. The photograph shows that directly behind and slightly higher than the spot where Holland claims the smoke came from is the sixth-floor window of the Texas School Book Depository. Thus, Schiller suggests, “Maybe both Holland and the Warren Commission are right: the shots came from the Book Depository but from Holland’s perspective the smoke and the report of a gun appeared to come from the knoll.”

*S. M. Holland (shown on the overpass where he stood November 22, 1963) saw smoke under the tree directly above his right thumb.*

**Drawback:** Holland, whose depth perception is normal, was just possibly able to distinguish the knoll, 180 feet away, from the Book Depository, which was 120 feet beyond that. Also, Schiller’s analysis is destroyed completely in view of the fact that witnesses at other points also thought the shots came from the knoll: the policeman who ran up it, Abraham Zapruder, and others.

### 39. THE NOBLE LIE THEORY

**Proponents:** Drew Pearson, Henri Nannen (editor of *Der Stern*), and Jacob Cohen (former instructor at Brandeis summer school and author of *Honest Verdict*).

**Thesis:** Drew Pearson quotes *Der Stern*’s explanation that the original autopsy report was suppressed “on the grounds that President Kennedy was suffering from Addison’s disease” and “his family did not want it known.” Why? Because “politically Kennedy’s illness could become dangerous. Addison’s illness—it sounds sinister.” Thus, according to this theory, the Kennedys withheld the autopsy report and “hid the X-rays, even from the Warren Commission.” And “this would also explain the lack of a date on the Warren Commission autopsy report” which was changed “so that it contained no mention of the President’s illness,” as well as why the autopsy surgeon burned the original autopsy report (“otherwise hundreds of people would have been faced with lying under oath, which would have been deplorable”).

**Drawback:** The fact that Kennedy had Addison’s disease was in the Warren Report (as well as in Sorenson’s biography of Kennedy), so why delete it from the autopsy report? And the Commission files show that Attorney General Robert Kennedy explicitly gave his approval to the Commission to look at the autopsy photographs and X-rays.

### 40. MANCHESTER THEORY

**Proponent:** William Manchester.

**Thesis:** In his sometime authorized account, author Manchester recognizes that there was hardly enough time for Oswald to have fired three shots. He therefore proposes that only two shots were fired: the first hitting Kennedy in the back and then going on to cause all of Connally’s wounds, the second inflicting Kennedy’s fatal head wound. According to this theory, Oswald left an extra cartridge case at the scene [from the Walker shooting?] and the some hundred witnesses who thought they heard three or more shots actually heard only two and echoes.

**Drawback:** More than a hundred witnesses heard more than two shots, and a number of witnesses claim that they saw a bullet miss and hit the pavement. Finally, one man, James Tague, was wounded by a fragment from a bullet. As he was standing 260 feet from the President's car at the time of the head shot, it does not seem likely that he was wounded by a fragment from that bullet.

*Gaining wobbly support from the preceding sources, the S.B.T. runs into stiff competition from most of the following theories.*

#### **41. CONNALLY'S SMALL-DETAIL THEORY**

**Proponent:** John B. Connally, Governor of Texas.

**Thesis:** Immediately after he single-handedly demolished the S.B.T. in *Life*, creating a nationwide outcry to reopen investigation, Connally called a press conference in Texas. He said that although he was not hit by the same bullet which hit Kennedy, it was only a small "detail," and he advised everyone to have faith in the Warren Commission because they were all patriotic men.

**Drawback:** None.

#### **42. RUSSELL LONG THEORY**

**Proponent:** Senator Russell Long.

**Thesis:** The whole controversy over the S.B.T. was made to appear a bit irrelevant when Senator Long told the A.P. that he didn't doubt Oswald played a part in the assassination. "But," he added, "whoever fired that second shot was a lot better shot than Oswald."

#### **43. SHOT-THROUGH-THE-TREE THEORY**

**Proponent:** Alexander M. Bickel.

**Thesis:** Professor Bickel, writing in *Commentary*, finds that although the S.B.T. is untenable, the single-assassin theory can be rescued by constructing an alternate hypothesis to explain the first two shots. The Commission concluded that the first shot could not have come before the 210<sup>th</sup> frame (photo A) on the Zapruder film because before that point an oak tree blocked the assassin's line of sight. Bickel has found, however, that on frames 185-186 on the Zapruder film there was a "break" or window in the foliage of the tree (photo B). Bickel thus suggests that Oswald might have fired through the foliage at this point, which would have left sufficient time to operate the bolt and fire again at frame 232 to wound Connally, then fire the fatal head shot at film frame 313. According to this theory, the first bullet lodged in the President's back and was later expelled on his stretcher at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, accounting for its pristine condition. The second bullet wounded Connally and fragmentized, accounting for the two fragments found in the front seat of the Presidential limousine, and the final shot disintegrated when it struck the President's head, sending a minute fragment out through the throat and accounting for the throat wound.

**Drawback:** Although Professor Bickel's theory is certainly a possible alternative to The Warren Report, it still leaves a few unsolved problems. First, the opening in the tree gave the assassin a view of the car for no more than a tenth of a second. It seems improbable that a rifleman could aim, squeeze the trigger, and fire off an accurate shot in this brief interval. Second, this theory means that the President was hit in frame 186 but did not

react until frame 225—a two-second delayed reaction. Finally, the theory fails to account for the shot that went astray and hit a bystander (although conceivably Oswald had time to fire a fourth shot, but then why were only three cartridge cases found?).

#### 44. THE STEROID THEORY

**Proponent:** Ellen Leopold, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Thesis:** President Kennedy may indeed have had a two-second delayed reaction to the first shot “if he was on steroids.” Not infrequently, Miss Leopold points out, sufferers of Addison’s disease are put on steroids because they tend to suppress reactions of the adrenal glands. This theory lends unexpected support to Professor Bickel’s Shot-Through-The-Tree Theory and also to the Early-Hit Theory (which posits a shot before the tree, as reported in *Esquire* for December, 1966).

**Drawback:** The Warren Commission, possibly for reasons pointed out by Drew Pearson, never determined whether or not Kennedy was on steroids. Until this question is settled, the Steroid Theory will be academic.

#### 45. RIDDLE-NEWTON THEORY

**Proponent:** R. A. J. Riddle, member of the Brain Research Institute and former Professor of physics at U.C.L.A.

**Thesis:** Dr. Riddle finds a discrepancy between the Warren Report and Newton’s second law of motion—i.e. that an object struck by a projectile will be given the same direction as that of the projectile. Because the film of the assassination shows that the general direction of motion of Kennedy is backward and to the left (viz. Vincent Salandria’s “Head Movement Theory,” *Esquire*, December, 1966) and because there is no evidence of a sudden acceleration of the car and on the assumption that a neuromuscular reaction can be ruled out as the cause for President Kennedy’s sudden violent backward motion, Dr. Riddle believes that the projectile must have come from in front of the President. His computations add weight to Vincent Salandria’s “Head Movement Theory.”

**Drawback:** Are Newton’s laws sound if they contradict the Warren Commission?

#### 46. DOUBLE HEAD-SHOT THEORY

**Proponents:** Professor Josiah Thompson and Ray Marcus, independently.

**Thesis:** The “third” shot, which caused Kennedy’s fatal head wound, was actually two nearly simultaneous shots, one coming from the rear and another from the right front.

This theory takes Vincent Salandria’s “Head Movement Theory” and Riddle’s computations one step further. In a forthcoming book, Thompson uses precise scientific studies made of the Zapruder film frames and close analysis of the medical evidence to show that the damage was inflicted by two bullets, not one. Also, he cites ear- and eyewitness reports which back up his claim that the third shot was really a third and fourth.

#### 47. MARK LANE’S FRENCH FIVE-SHOT THEORY

**Proponent:** Mark Lane.

**Thesis:** In the French edition of his *Rush to Judgment*, Lane first proposed a theory which was later appended to his paperback edition of *Rush to Judgment*. In his original

French version bullet “*une*” strikes President Kennedy from the back. Bullet “*deux*” strikes Kennedy in the throat. Bullet “*trois*” hit Governor Connally. Bullet “*quatre*” misses and wounds the bystander James Tague. And bullet “*cinq*” fired from the grassy knoll hits Kennedy in the head. Since one shot came from behind the President (bullet no. 1), one shot came from in front of the President (bullet No. 2)—he was facing straight ahead when hit in the throat—and one shot (bullet No. 5) came from the right (the knoll), there must have been at least “*trois*” assassins firing from different directions.

**Drawbacks:** If a bullet hit President Kennedy from in front, as Lane suggests, where did it go? There are no exit wounds that could account for a bullet entering through the throat. Then too, if the bullet entered the head from the rear, as the autopsy shows, it could not have entered from the right front, as Lane claims.

#### 48. DAL-TEX THEORY

**Proponent:** Harold Weisberg (*Whitewash* series).

**Thesis:** Some of the shots may have come from the Dal-Tex Building across the street from the Texas School Book Depository. In *Whitewash II*, a sequel to his first book, Weisberg enlarges an A.P. photo of the motorcade (A and B) and claims to see “a man in seeming distress” on a fire escape (arrow) on the side of the Dal-Tex Building and “an arm-like object projecting from the open second-story window” (circle).

This theory receives some corroboration from a photograph that appeared in *The Saturday Evening Post* on December 14, 1963 ©. It purportedly showed the assassin’s line of sight through the cross hairs of a telescopic lens. What the Post did not notice is that the corner of the Texas School Book Depository is visible in the right edge of the photo. Their photographer was shooting from the Dal-Tex Building, not having been able to gain entrance into the Depository. And strangely enough, according to Weisberg, the established bullet trajectories still bear him out.

A tantalizing note adds intrigue to the theory: a man was arrested in the Dal-Tex Building shortly after the assassination, allegedly for having no business being there.

#### 49. THE 24 FRAMES-PER-SECOND THEORY

**Proponent:** Harold Weisberg.

**Thesis:** The Commission’s conclusion that all three shots were fired in 5.6 seconds is based on the assumption that Abraham Zapruder’s camera was operating at a speed of 18.3 frames per second. The 103 frames that elapsed between frame 210 (the earliest point the Commission says the first shot could have been fired) and frame 313 (the point at which the third shot struck Kennedy’s head), divided by the speed of the camera (18.3 frames per second), yields the 5.6-seconds time that the assassin had to fire in. Weisberg has found, however, an F.B.I. report in the National Archives in which Abe Zapruder claimed that his camera was set to operate at twenty-four frames per second, not 18.3. This would mean that the entire assassination occurred in less than 4.3 seconds (103 frames divided by 24), which is less time than the murder weapon could be fired twice.

**Drawback:** The F.B.I. established the film speed of the camera by filming the sweep second hand of a clock, and the camera’s manufacturer recently confirmed that the camera speed was less than a tenth of a frame from the figure reported by the F.B.I.

## 50. INDUCED CANCER THEORY

**Proponents:** Jack Ruby, Mark Lane, Penn Jones, Jr., Norman Mailer, and an unidentified Russian newspaper.

**Thesis:** That Jack Ruby's death was planned and brought about by members of a conspiracy whose prior business had been the murders of President Kennedy, Patrolman J. D. Tippit and, possibly, Lee Harvey Oswald.

According to an Associated Press story by Bernard Gavzer (datelined Dallas, January 3, 1967), Ruby had expressed the belief that mustard gas had been seeped into his cell and that he was injected with cancer.

The Dallas Times Herald states in an editorial that "the Communist Russian press has accused the city of Dallas of being "Co-Conspirators' who...might have deliberately injected cancer cells into the veins of Ruby." This theory might in turn stem from such statements as the one uttered by Mark Lane after a screening of his movie, *Rush to Judgment*. Before a celebrity-packed audience he mused, "Isn't it strange that Ruby's sniffles went from a cold to pneumonia to cancer in twenty-four hours?"

Ditto Penn Jones, whose assassination-connected death count is now at twenty (before Ruby: the motorcycle death of James Worrell, who allegedly saw somebody run out of the back door of the Texas School Book Depository). Jones, of course, finds Ruby's death "very suspicious."

In a rambling, emotional obituary entitled *A Requiem for the Rube*, Norman Mailer offers his own interpretation of Ruby's death and the significance thereof. "Jack Ruby added a point to the general median cancer potential by bugging the hope we could find one answer via Lee Harvey Oswald. In turn, us, Great American Pure Breed Public, in for feed, gave him his cans back. He died of cancer this morning, told us the way. We do not know the cure, but son, now we know the way. We know how to give cancer now..."

## 51. TWO-MEN IN-A-WINDOW THEORY

**Proponent:** Mrs. Eric Walther.

**Thesis:** A few weeks after the assassination, Mrs. Walther stated in an F.B.I. report that she saw a rifleman in one window of the Texas School Book Depository, and next to the man with the rifle was another man in a brown suit coat. Mrs. Walther was unable to see whether or not the second man had a rifle. A second rifleman of course would explain how Governor Connally and President Kennedy were both hit less than two seconds apart. The Commission never evaluated Mrs. Walther's statement.

**Drawback:** The window next to Oswald's was closed during the assassination.

**Retort:** The second man may only have been a lookout.

## 52. DOCTORED PHOTOGRAPH THEORY

**Proponents:** Mark Lane, Harold Weisberg, David Lifton, et al.

**Thesis:** The photographs showing Oswald with the Kennedy and Tippit murder weapons are clever paste-ups of Oswald's head on another man's body.

When the Dallas police found the two photographs they were certain they had positive evidence linking Oswald with the weapons. *Life* magazine ran one of the pictures on its cover. *Newsweek* and *The New York Times* also printed the picture.

Confusion reigned shortly. Careful observers had noticed that all three publications had retouched the rifle and the pistol, but each did it in different ways. Their editors were forced to write humiliating letters to the Warren Commission admitting their alterations, but in essence none had falsified the photographs. Those accusations were to come later.

Mark Lane and Harold Weisberg noticed that the shadow under Oswald's nose seemed to be inconsistent with the other shadows in the picture. Both the F.B.I. and the Dallas police rushed to prove such a photograph was possible, but only succeeding in adding a touch of Dogberry humor. The Dallas police shot a picture of a plainclothesman on the scene, but on a cloudy day. The F.B.I. posed an agent on a roof in bright sunlight, but the photograph they sent to the Commission had the head cut off.

### 53. FALSE KNOLL THEORY

**Proponent:** David Lifton, a U.C.L.A. engineering graduate student and coauthor of the three-assassins article in *Ramparts* which introduced Riddle's analysis. (See No. 11.)

**Thesis:** On the day of the assassination, three types of camouflage were employed by conspirators positioned beneath, on, and above the grassy knoll. Lifton reached this hypothesis after minute study of photographs of the area during and after the assassination. It answers the question why, despite the fact that eyewitness reports and the Head Movement Theory indicate shots came from the grassy knoll, nothing at all was found there immediately afterward.

**Underground camouflage:** Lifton suggests that prior to the assassination, the grassy knoll was excavated from beneath and a system of tunnels and bunkers was built into it. Peepholes covered by grass-mesh camouflage were placed on the sloping surface of the knoll. Subterranean nooks would explain the statement of witness Garland Slack: "I have heard this same sort of sound when a shot had come from within a cave..." Lifton goes further to suggest that the puff of smoke seen by some people on the grassy knoll may have been the exhaust from a gas engine incorporated within the camouflage mechanization.

**Surface camouflage:** Lifton finds alterations ("bulges") in the wall and the hedgerow on the grassy knoll, netting in the bushes and faint images of heads. Borrowing support from deputy Constable Weitzman who ran toward the wall and who said, "I scaled the wall and, apparently, my hands grabbed steam pipes. I burned them," Lifton points out that there are no steam pipes atop the wall. This might, he says, be an indication that things may have been altered for that day. Weitzman also says a witness told him that he saw somebody throw something through a bush.

**Elevated camouflage:** Because a comparison of certain photographs taken during the assassination with others taken afterward indicates that some tree structures had been altered on the knoll, and because he sees images up in the trees in assassination photos, Lifton believes there was some camouflage in the trees. Eyewitnesses S. M. Holland, Austin Miller and Frank Reilly all state that shots seemed to have come out of the trees.

**Drawbacks:** As even Lifton admits, the photo enlargements are of extremely grainy quality (they could not be reproduced properly here) and interpretations of them are questionable at best.

#### 54. BLUNDERBUSS THEORY

**Proponents:** Mark Lane and Harold Weisberg.

**Thesis:** At least five witnesses saw a puff of smoke during the assassination. Commission lawyers didn't investigate because they believed no modern weapon would emit puffs of smoke conforming to the witnesses' descriptions. (Some of the witnesses, when queried, guessed the smoke came from a motorcycle or steam pipe.)

Since Commission lawyers were willing to accept the fact that Oswald used "an antiquated rifle and twenty-year-old ammunition," as Mark Lane frequently points out on TV, why preclude the possibility that the second assassin used even a more antiquated weapon?

#### 55. MAKING OF THE PRESIDENT

**Proponent:** Vincent Salandria, a Philadelphia lawyer.

**Thesis:** Mr. Salandria finds a curious passage in Theodore H. White's *The Making of the President, 1964*. "On the flight [back to Washington aboard Air Force One] the party learned that there was no conspiracy; learned of the identity of Oswald and his arrest."

Salandria posits that this announcement was deliberately misleading and may have been the first sign of a conspiracy cover-up. The theory, obviously, would have to implicate strategically powerful individuals.

The argument is as follows: Johnson's party landed in Washington at 4:58 p.m. Dallas time. But at this point, Oswald had not been charged with the assassination. He had not yet been identified by any eyewitnesses in the Tippit killing, much less the assassination. The rifle found in the Depository had not yet been traced. The photographs of Oswald holding a rifle and wearing a revolver in his holster were not discovered until the next afternoon. No fingerprints were taken from him for comparison purposes until sometime after six p.m. The fiber on the rifle was not examined until Saturday morning. The brown-paper bag had not been linked to him. Marina Oswald had not yet been questioned. In short, none of the evidence itemized in the table of contents of The Warren Report under Chapter IV, "The Assassin," was known to the Dallas police at the time.

As to the statement that there was "no conspiracy," Salandria believes that the announcement was suspiciously premature. At 4:58 p.m. it was understood that the shots had come from the front, yet the suspect Oswald was positioned behind the President. District Attorney Henry M. Wade told the Warren Commission that discussions relating to a conspiracy charge were carried on by telephone between his office and Washington until late that night. As far as Wade could remember, these included calls from the White House, the F.B.I. and the State Department. The general drift of the calls seemed to be to discourage any conspiracy charge. Salandria finds this disturbing.

During Commission hearings, Congressman Gerald Ford told Secretary of State Dean Rusk that a comment he made the day after the assassination indicating that no foreign power was involved seemed a bit hasty. Said Ford, "You really didn't have much time to

evaluate all of the evidence.” Ford was concerned about who in the State Department might have made telephone calls to Texas urging that no charge of conspiracy be alleged.

**Drawback:** As yet the precise text of the announcement on the plane is not known, nor is its origin. Theodore White refuses to comment except to say that the plane was in constant touch with the White House, and messages were relayed through a Signal Corps center in the Midwest. But the announcement may have been based, innocently, on the lack of any indication that there was a conspiracy afoot.

## 56. THE I-MURDER THEORY

**Proponent:** Malcom Muggeridge.

**Thesis:** According to this theory, Oswald “kills Kennedy for Intelligence’s own sake; the perfect I-murder.” Presume that Oswald was at least a double agent, recruited first by Soviet Intelligence during his stay in Minsk, then turned around by the F.B.I., and “finally reduced to a condition of bemusedness and lost identity which led him, in a trance-like state, to murder the President, as van der Lubbe, in a similarly trance-like state, set fire to the Reichstag.”

His shooting at Walker, Pro- and Anti-Cuban activities, etc. were all done as a cover, in the hope he would lead the F.B.I. to the Soviet contact. This bizarre game caused Oswald to lose touch with reality, and, not knowing who he was working for or why, he shot Kennedy. To avoid undue embarrassment, he had to be shot, and Jack Ruby was standing by.

## 57. THE SUGAR THEORY

**Proponent:** J. I. Rodale, editor of *Prevention and Organic Gardening and Farming*.

**Thesis:** Oswald was seen minutes after the assassination with a Coke bottle in his hand. This fact leads health-crusader J. I. Rodale to suggest “Oswald was not responsible for this action: his brain was confused because he was a sugar drunkard. So what is called for now is a full-scale investigation of sugar consumption and crime.”

***The Curb Exchange.** James Tague, who was standing on the curb along the south side of Main Street near the overpass, was struck sharply on the cheek at the time of the shooting. Police officers investigated immediately and said they found a “fresh chip in the curb” near where he was standing. A photograph was taken of the chip in the curb the next morning (photo A).*

*Eight months later (July, 1964) the photographer and two F.B.I. men returned to the site to make measurements, but could not find the chip. The F.B.I. men hypothesized that in the interim “there [had] been numerous rains that could have possibly washed away such a mark and also...the area is cleaned by a street-cleaning machine about one a week, which would also wash away such a mark.” A month after that, J. Edgar Hoover wrote the Commission that the F.B.I. had cut out the section of curb with the mark (a photo of which he enclosed, B), and that indeed the mark was the same as that in the original photograph!*

*This internal F.B.I. contradiction was discovered by Raymond Marcus, who also claims that the curb cutout doesn't have any mark at all.*

## 58. THE WASHING-MACHINE THEORY

**Proponent:** George de Mohrenschildt.

**Thesis:** Marina Oswald, on the eve of the assassination, told her husband that they couldn't live together "unless he would equip the apartment with a washing machine." This demand caused a bitter argument which evoked in Oswald "the wish to strike and hurt someone."

**Drawback:** According to the Warren Commission, Oswald had the materials for making the paper bag for his rifle *before* he visited with his wife. Anyhow, as the Warren Report notes, they had lived near a Laundromat.

## 59. KENNEDY LIVES THEORY

**Proponent:** George Thomson, a Los Angeles swimming-pool engineer and writer.

**Thesis:** Thomson, in monographs and tapes which have been underground best sellers (reportedly 42,000 sold to date), advances the theory that Tippit was substituted for Kennedy in the Presidential limousine, and consequently it was Tippit not Kennedy who was shot. (Kennedy, years after, was the secret guest of honor at Truman Capote's celebrated party.) This explains the illegal removal of Kennedy's body from Dallas by his close cohorts, the missing X-ray and autopsy photographs, and subsequent confusion in reporting medical facts. The Kennedy controversy, for Thomson, revolves around the question of where Kennedy is today.

## 60. THE "WHAT HAVE WE HERE!" THEORY

**Proponent:** T. N. Tastmona.

**Thesis:** In a privately-printed 200-page volume called *It Is As If:* (\$20), Mr. Tastmona ("American born of American-born parents) scrutinizes the details of the assassination and the text of The Warren Report, finding bizarre parallels with the life of Benjamin Franklin, Sherlock Holmes, Mormon doctrine and American history. One example, among many, is cited here as an extreme example of assassination theorizing.

In the Chronology index of The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin, Tastmona finds mention of Arthur Lee, an American commissioner accompanying Franklin to France. Three pages later he finds a reference to Richard Oswald, Chief British negotiator. "The names 'Lee' and 'Oswald' sounded a responsive chord. *Lee Oswald!*—assassin of President Kennedy. Could some sort of historic parallel be coming to light? Could a *Harvey* be involved in these diplomatic deals?" Sure enough, on the next page of the Franklin autobiography Tastmona finds David Hartley, a British envoy. "Hartley!—a close approximation of 'Harvey'...

"'Hartley' differs from 'Harvey' by two letters. Perceive a composite form—Har TLV ey. What have we here! TLV equals a better approximation for 'television' that even plain TV. Lee Oswald was shot by Jack Ruby in full view of a national television audience....It is as if this television crime had somehow been arranged to expound the disparity existing between the names Hartley and Harvey." Tastmona goes on to reveal that David Hartley was really David Hartley Junior, or Jr., and "it was Jack Ruby with initials J. R. who by

this brutal system of criminal cryptology painstakingly identified the Hartley of scholarly historical allusion to be J R. or Junior.

“While in Russia, Lee Oswald kept what he called a ‘Historic Diary.’ He affected interest in his place in history. This attitude must be considered as part of a pre-instructed clue system, hinting the historical parallels just adduced.”