

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
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PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- E F T O
- CLEAR

Date 4/28/77

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
ATTENTION: GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE (89-30) (RUC)

SUBJECT : ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN F. KENNEDY, NOVEMBER 22, 1963,  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
AFT

*Handwritten initials and signatures*

Re Baltimore teletype 2/23/77.

Enclosed herewith is an advance copy of the first of a two-part series on the Kennedy assassination written by one RALPH REPERT of the Baltimore Sun based on information provided by one HOWARD DONOHUE, which will appear in the "Sun Magazine" next Sunday, 5/1/77.

*62-107000*

NOT RECORDED  
APR 29 1977

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

**ENCLOSURE**

2 - Bureau (Enc.1)  
1 - Baltimore  
GTQ:cm  
(3)

Approved: 97 MAY 23 1977 Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ (Number) \_\_\_\_\_ (Time) Per \_\_\_\_\_

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Kennedy Assassination: A Different View

# Gun Expert Reasons Oswald Didn't Fire Fatal Shot

Howard Donahue, of Towson, Says  
Guarded Spectrographic Tapes  
Could Prove His Theory Is Correct

*'Over their protests, the President's  
body was moved into an ambulance  
and taken to the airport'*

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

SUN PAPER

"THE SUN MAGAZINE"  
PAGE 6

BALTIMORE, MD.

Date: 5/8/77  
Edition: SUNDAY  
Author: REPERT  
Editor:  
Title:

Character:  
or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office: BA  
 Being Investigated

62-117060-  
ENCLOSURE

In 1967 CBS investigated the Warren Report of the 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and televised its findings shortly afterward in a four-part series.

It had several gunning experts make test-firings with the same make and model of the Mannlicher-Carcano Italian rifle Lee Harvey Oswald is said to have used. During these tests, Howard Donahue became the only man on record to equal and surpass Oswald's alleged ability with that type firearm. Under conditions nearly identical to those of the assassination, Mr. Donahue scored three accurate shots well within a much-disputed 6.5-second period, the time the assassin is thought to have had to fire.

This involvement intrigued Mr. Donahue, a gunsmith, and led him into a personal study of ballistic aspects of the assassination. After 10 years of trying to disprove his own reluctant conclusion, he is now convinced he knows who fired the shot that killed the President. He says it was not Lee Harvey Oswald.

This is the second of a two-part series.

By RALPH REPERT

AS HE read all evidence and speculation he could find about the assassination, Howard Donahue realized he might be lured into the trap which had ensnared the more vitriolic critics of the Warren Report. Most, he felt, had perpetuated oft-repeated criticisms of the report, emphasizing certain aspects while playing down or ignoring evidence which didn't fit their theories.

He reorganized the information he had assembled, then went carefully through it again, considering each item for its possibilities or impossibilities as a rifle expert and marksman would see them.

He decided not to concern himself with the many and often bizarre theories of assassination conspiracies.

"Perhaps there was a conspiracy to murder the President," he says. "Perhaps there wasn't. I haven't given that enough thought to even form an opinion."

When Mr. Donahue had read the news stories of the assassination he had noted ballistic inconsistencies, but attributed them to either careless reporting or well meaning but incorrect statements by spokesmen who weren't familiar with firearms. After he saw that many inconsistencies were included in widely accepted reports, he began scrutinizing them.

In his re-study, even the basic ballistics reported and accepted looked wrong.

"To oversimplify an example of ballistics performance," Mr. Donahue explains, "fasten a tin can to a fence post and shoot a hole through it with a .22 rifle. Run a soda straw through the holes in the can and (with the can in its original position) the straw will define the line of fire.

"A bullet fired from a window on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository, the one which the Warren Report accepts as the fatal bullet, should have entered the rear, right, upper side of the President's head, and exited at the left, front, lower part of the skull. But, according to the evidence given to the Warren Commission, the bullet entered the right, rear part of the skull, somehow made a right turn after it penetrated, and blew out a right, front section of the skull, an area almost as large as a saucer.

"I realize bullets can take strange courses after they enter a body. Forensic medical investigations report many of them. But to accept this ballistical bit of evidence, we must accept it blindly as a highly unusual, completely unexplained factor."

Other evidence Mr. Donahue found hard to accept was a statement Roy Kellerman, a Secret Service agent, made after the assassination. Mr. Kellerman, who had been riding in the right front seat of the presidential limousine, testified that as the firing began, he had heard the President exclaim: "My God, I am hit!" The agent was positive in this assertion.

"The Zapruder film," Mr. Donahue says, "indicates the President's first violent reaction to having been hit was from the bullet which entered his back, passed through his throat, nicked his necktie and went through Governor Connally's upper body and wrist and lodged in his thigh.

"That high-velocity bullet moved faster than the speed of sound. It would have been impossible for anybody in the presidential car to have heard the shot before the bullet hit," Mr. Donahue says.

"With his larynx shattered by the bullet, how could the President have exclaimed anything?"

Inconsistencies in the comparative behavior of the two bullets that hit the President also bothered Mr. Donahue.

The bullet that entered the President's back and tore through his throat passed through Governor Connally's right side, near the armpit, shattering a portion of his right fifth rib. It came out of the Governor's right chest, just below the nipple, fractured a bone as it passed on through his wrist, and moved on to lodge in his thigh.

"This performance," Mr. Donahue says, "was normal for this particular type of bullet. It is a long, heavy, metal-jacketed, high-velocity bullet designed to penetrate and pass through cleanly, no matter what part of a body it strikes. How well that bullet performed as it was designed to can be seen by the fact that after having passed through the President, then twice shattering bone, breaking Governor Connally's rib and wrist, it remained intact. It still held its clean shape, remaining close enough to its original form that it has often been referred to in official reports as 'the pristine bullet.'

"Now let's compare the 'twin bullet' which seconds later inflicted the President's fatal head wound. It is accepted by the Warren Report that this was fired by Oswald, and was an identical piece of ammunition fired from the same rifle.

"But how drastically different can two pieces of supposedly identical ammunition perform? This second one did not come close to passing cleanly through. Upon penetration, it blew the President's skull apart in an explosion of fragments, leaving a huge exit portal. It performed not as a bullet encased in a rigid metal jacket would have performed, but more as a frangible, soft or hollow-nosed missile, with a thin metal jacket (if any at all) traveling at a high velocity which might measure at around 3,000 feet per second. Among other metal fragments, 30 to 40 dustlike particles of the disintegrated bullet are said to have been visible on head X-rays taken after the President's death.

"Had this type of bullet entered the President's back, it would have killed him instantly."

Mr. Donahue studied pictures of shell jacket and other bullet fragments removed from the President's skull during an autopsy performed at the National Na-

val Medical Center at Bethesda, Md., under the direction of Cmdr. James J. Humes. He (Mr. Donahue) was convinced that two of the fragments were from two different types of ammunition. He wrote to the National Archives and Records Service of the United States General Services Administration, asking for more information.

"... The two bullet fragments to which you refer are Commission Exhibit 843," answered Miss Jane Smith, director of the Civil Archives Division. "We shall be pleased to show you this exhibit in the National Archives."

But in the following paragraph Miss Smith wrote:

*"Enclosed is a copy of our regulations concerning access to security classified documents. We are not aware of any researchers who have been given access to classified documents in the records of the Commission by the agencies that prepared the documents, through the procedures listed in these regulations."* (Italics added.)

Mr. Donahue replied, trying to learn if there were some reason he shouldn't be given permission to look at the evidence, but he never heard from the agency.

He wrote to the Secret Service, asking for the names of the agents riding in the car behind the President. He asked if they were still agents and, if so, in what capacity; what weapons they had, their caliber, and if any changes had been made in the agency's weapons since the assassination.

He received a copy of a letter the Chief of Secret Service had written in answering similar questions (from the President's Commission on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy) four years earlier. The President's follow-up car had been driven by Samuel Kinney, and also had been occupied by Emory Roberts, Clinton Hill, William McIntyre, John Ready, Paul Landis, Glen Bennett and George Hickey, all Secret Service special agents. Also in the car were Dave Powers and Kenneth O'Donnell, assistants to President Kennedy, who were not armed.

In answer to a subsequent letter to the agency, in which he repeated his questions, Mr. Donahue was informed that the Secret Service did not disclose the types of weapons it used, other than its issue of .38-caliber revolvers, and that no shots were fired by the Secret Service at the time of the assassination.

"As a gunsmith," Mr. Donahue recalls, "I had a natural curiosity about the different kinds of firearms and ammunition known to have been in and around Dealy

Plaza on the day of the assassination. The difference between the legal and the illegal ammunition known to have been there would be as different as black and white.

"The type of penetrating military bullet fired by Oswald, for example, although a good choice for a sniper, would never be carried by bodyguards or anybody else who might have to fire at somebody in a crowd. That type of bullet could pass through three or four people and possibly kill the fifth.

"For use in a crowd a bodyguard's weapons could sensibly be loaded only with frangible, self-destructive bullets. A high-velocity automatic or semi-automatic .22, such as the M-16, would be an ideal weapon. Loaded with hollow-point or thin-jacketed bullets, soft-nosed missiles like the Hornady super explosive would satisfy two most important requirements—they would immobilize an enemy instantly by creating shock and a massive wound, and they would disintegrate in whatever they hit, moving no farther to harm anybody else."

Mr. Donahue's continuing study of the President's head wound turned up a puzzling inconsistency. The Warren Report had accepted the idea that the bullet that inflicted the fatal wound had entered the right, rear area of the skull at a point somewhat below the outermost protuberance; at about the same level, for example, as the upper part of the ear. Apparently, he says, the accepted diagram of the wound was drawn freehand during or after autopsy proceedings.

The gunsmith had accepted this diagrammed evidence, too, until he read a report prepared by a panel of four physicians who met in 1968, at the request of Ramsey Clark, the Attorney General, "to examine various photographs, X-rays, films, documents and other evidence pertaining to the death of President Kennedy, and to evaluate their significance in relation to medical conclusions recorded in the Autopsy Report on the body of President Kennedy. . . ." the report which had been signed by Commander (now Admiral) Humes and his associates at the autopsy.

The team of investigating physicians included two from Baltimore: Dr. Russell S. Fisher, professor of forensic pathology at the University of Maryland and chief medical examiner for the state of Maryland, and Dr. Russell H. Morgan, professor of radiology at the School of Medicine and professor of radiological science at the School of Hygiene and Public Health at the Johns Hopkins University. The other

two were Dr. William H. Carnes, professor of pathology at the University of Utah and a member of that state's Medical Examiner's Commission, and Dr. Alan R. Mortiz, professor of pathology at Case Western Reserve University and former professor of forensic medicine at Harvard.

None of these physicians had any connection with prior investigations of the assassination.

"I was puzzled to read in their report," Mr. Donahue says, "that the four doctors found the point of entry to be 'approximately 100mm above the external occipital protuberance.' That would put it about 100mm away from the point of entry accepted by the Warren Report. I smiled a forgiving smile and concluded that obviously the report of the 1968 Panel doctors had contained a typographical error, obviously meaning a distance of 10mm. That would be less than half an inch, and would be an understandable and admissible error, even in the medical report turned in by the original autopsy team.

"But later I learned that the report meant exactly what it stated. The difference in point-of-entry locations indicated by the two autopsy teams actually measured about 100mm. I was astounded. A discrepancy of 10mm I could understand. Less than half an inch. But a difference of 100mm! That's about 4 inches! A new diagram of the head wound, executed by careful measurements from pictures and X-rays, put the bullet's point of entry at the top of the skull."

Mr. Donahue ran into another startling discovery when he obtained two plaster casts of a human skull and marked on one the path of the bullet the Commission had accepted, on the other the path indicated by the 1968 Panel's new medical report drawings.

"The path of the bullet, indicated in the second autopsy report," Mr. Donahue says, "was from left-rear to right-front. It is beyond my comprehension how anybody could deduce from that drawing that the bullet had moved from right-rear to left-front.

"This left me with the puzzling conclusion that, considering the President's position in the car, and the position of his head at the time he received the fatal wound, the shot that killed him could not possibly have come from the Texas School Book Depository, which was located behind and to the right.

"The President's head at the instant of the fatal wound was tilted slightly for-

ward and inclined very slightly to the left. The Zapruder films bear this out, and so do the Muchmore films and various still pictures taken by news photographers.

"The President's body position at that time is an ironic thing. Had his chronic back trouble not necessitated his wearing a brace, which held his body in an inflexible position, he might have slumped after that first shot passed through him and into Governor Connally. Had he slumped in a natural manner, the fatal bullet probably would have inflicted only a shallow wound, or 'crease,' in his scalp. One-half inch would have made the difference between a hit and a miss."

Something else Mr. Donahue hadn't noticed earlier turned up in the 1968 Panel report: "... Also there is, embedded in the outer table of the skull close to the lower edge of the [point of entry] hole, a large metallic fragment which on the antero-posterior film (1) lies 25mm to the right of the midline. This fragment as seen in the latter film is round and measures 6.5mm. in diameter..."

"I looked into that aspect of the report," Mr. Donahue says. "What it amounts to, with no disrespect intended for the doctors' medical terminology, is that the metal fragment broke the skin but not the bone, imbedding itself in, but not piercing, the skull."

Mr. Donahue was also vaguely aware of some irritating inconsistencies which he couldn't immediately identify. Finally he recalled an eyewitness's account of the assassination, that of Ralph Yarborough, the Texas senator who had been riding with Vice President Johnson two cars behind the President's limousine. Speaking later of the tragedy and of the terrible minutes which followed, in which the procession sped to the emergency entrance of Parkland Memorial Hospital, Mr. Yarborough said again and again: "I smelled the gunpowder... It clung to the car nearly all the way to the hospital."

The smell of gunpowder!

Some 90 yards from Oswald's position on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository, even farther away from the much discussed grassy knoll and the bridge atop the triple underpass, from which some assassination theorists believe at least part of the gunfire originated, Senator Yarborough had smelled gunpowder!

Seth Kantor, a Scripps-Howard newspaperman riding in the press bus farther back in the procession, also had smelled gunpowder.

Mr. Donahue returned to his growing library of assassination books and articles and read the testimony of S. M. Holland, an elderly man who wears eyeglasses, who had viewed the assassination from the bridge. Mr. Holland had drawn considerable attention by claiming to have seen the now much discussed puff of smoke nearby.

In "The Scavengers and Critics of the Warren Report," a book written by Richard Warren Lewis based on an investigation by Lawrence Schiller, the investigator destroyed some of the credibility of Mr. Holland's remarks. After describing the puff of smoke he claimed to have seen, Mr. Holland said he had also seen a Secret Service man stand up in the presidential car. The Zapruder film discredited this, showing only two Secret Service men in the presidential car—William Greer, who was driving and had both hands on the wheel, and Roy Kellerman, who remained seated.

However, Mr. Holland had asserted: "Just about the same time the President was shot the second time. He [the Secret Service man] jumped up in the seat and was standing up in the, on the seat. Now I actually thought when they started up, I actually thought he was shot, too, because he fell backwards just like he was shot, but it jerked him down when they started off..."

When asked what the Secret Service man had done when he stood up, Mr. Holland replied: "He pointed this machine gun right towards that grassy knoll behind that picket fence."

In his "The Death of a President," William Manchester did not mention an interview with S. M. Holland, but he did refer to the President's follow-up car in which Secret Service men were riding. He spoke of two agents in the back seat, "... and on the seat between them lay an AR-15 .223 automatic rifle, with a muzzle velocity so powerful that should a bullet strike a man's chest it would blow his head off..."

A few pages later, describing the moments of panic which followed the shots, Manchester includes the observation of an agent as he "... raises the barrel of the AR-15 and points it about aimlessly..."

(Mr. Donahue believes Secret Service agents actually are armed with another automatic weapon, the M-16, quite similar in appearance and performance to the AR-15. The two, he says, could easily be confused.)

On November 24, 1967, almost four years to the day after the assassination, Life magazine published Gov. John Connally's version of the tragedy. It was well illustrated with photographs. Mr. Donahue had glanced through the magazine, but hadn't read it carefully.

"It wasn't until much later," he recalls, "in 1969, that I was brooding over the pictures in that magazine one evening when all parts of the puzzle which had been bugging me suddenly fell into place."

"My perplexed curiosity was at last satisfied. I would have bet my last dollar then, and I would bet it now, that at last I had stumbled upon the source of the bullet which killed President Kennedy."

"In front of me was a photograph, and among other individuals in the photograph were two men, one of whom must have fired the fatal shot."

"I didn't want to accept the working hypothesis which had leaped out at me from that magazine picture. In the months since 1969 I have tried, point by point, to discredit it. I haven't been able to disprove or even shake a single factor of it."

"Here, in my sad judgment, is what happened:

"I accept the evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald was trying to kill the President. Don't ask me why. Who knows what goes on in the mind of a man like that?"

"I think Oswald's first shot missed the presidential car, hit the pavement, and broke up, spraying fragments of metal. It is a matter of record that five metal fragments were picked up later in the car. There is pictorial evidence of their hitting the windshield and also denting a piece of chromework near the rearview mirror."

"Such a fragment, hitting the President in the back of the head, was that 6.5mm piece of metal the 1968 Panel doctors found lodged between skin and bone. It would sting, as a shot from a BB gun would sting, and after having been hit by it the President could have made the exclamation Roy Kellerman said he made, 'My God, I am hit!'"

"Oswald's second shot was the so-called miracle bullet which pierced the President's back and throat and passed through Governor Connally. Unlikely as it may seem, that high-velocity bullet would be easily capable of doing exactly what the Warren Report accepted as actuality."

"I think that was the full extent of the damage Oswald inflicted upon the Presi-

dent, and for it alone he could have been booked only for attempted murder. Governor Connally recovered from his wounds. I think the President could have, too, although possibly his voice might have been impaired.

"As to the source of the fatal shot, we must go back to the part of Mr. Holland's testimony which dealt with his having seen a Secret Service man standing up with a machine gun, and stumbling.

"I realize Mr. Holland said he saw that man in the presidential car, and that later it was determined that nobody actually had stood up in the presidential car. But I think it certainly within the realm of understandable human error that what Holland saw was not in the presidential, but in the follow-up car. God knows that most of the scores of witnesses who saw what happened during the minutes of panic during the tragedy came up with different stories of it later. In my mind I am satisfied that Mr. Holland saw what he said he saw. He just had the cars mixed up.

"Why didn't the hundreds of spectators in Dealy Plaza that day see the Secret Service man with the automatic weapon? I don't find it hard to accept. There were ten men in and on the follow-up car—two standing on the left running board, two standing on the right, two in the front seat, two in the jump seats, and two in the back seat. The Secret Service men in the back seat were shielded from view, much as a quarterback is shielded by his blockers when he drops back to pass.

"Did Oswald get off a third shot? If he did, it could have gone wild, and the sound of it could have blended with the sound of the shot (the fatal one) fired accidentally by a Secret Service man from the follow-up car. It is a ballistically unshakable fact that the fatal shot came from a position behind and to the left of the President.

"Several witnesses standing within the Texas School Book Depository at the time of the assassination have said they heard only two shots. Policemen later found three spent cartridge cases on the sixth floor of the building, but one of them was so badly bent it couldn't have been inserted into a rifle breech, not in the condition in which it was found."

Mr. Donahue believes the true cause of the President's death was known within a few minutes, and that an important decision from one or more high-ranking government officials dictated the events that followed.

"The President's brother, the late Robert Kennedy, was the take-charge sort of man who might have made the decision to withhold the fact that our country's Chief Executive had been killed accidentally by one of his own bodyguards.

"Perhaps it wasn't so much a deliberate decision to cover up, but merely a numbed, heartbroken acceptance to continue a cover-up that had already set in.

"Many incidents that transpired in the wake of the assassination fall neatly into place to support my conclusions.

"A glaring inconsistency is the way in which the President's body was removed, firmly, quickly and illegally, from Dallas, and flown across the country to a military hospital where all phases of the pathological examination were conducted under strict government supervision.

"By Texas law, an autopsy of the deceased should have been made in Dallas. Two Dallas officials told members of the President's staff the body could not be removed from the city until an autopsy was performed. Over their protests, the President's body was moved into an ambulance and taken to the airport. There, concerned that local officials might try to keep the plane from leaving, one Secret Service man asked the pilot to take off immediately. (He was told the take-off would be delayed until Vice President Johnson was sworn in.)

"A statement attributed to Chief Justice Earl Warren has plagued me since the early days of the assassination investigations. I heard it in a radio newscast. Others interested in the assassination have told me they, too, heard it, and some of them tell me they saw the remark repeated in the newspapers, although they can't remember where.

"I cannot quote the remark verbatim, but I remember the substance of it. After being briefed on various aspects of the assassination, Justice Warren was quoted as having said, as closely as I can recall his phrasing: 'The initial (or did he use the word *cursory*?) findings of this case are so earth-shaking that it will be decades before the American people can be told.' The item was not repeated in subsequent newscasts."

Mr. Donahue ran across an intriguing post-assassination item in "LBJ: The Way He Was," a book written about the late Vice President and President by Frank Cormier, of the Associated Press, a long-time White House correspondent.

In the book, Mr. Cormier recounted a

visit LBJ had made to Texas shortly after he had become President, a trip which included a Christmas Eve visit with his old friend A. W. Moursund, a Johnson City lawyer, at Round Mountain Ranch, for some deer hunting. A group of reporters tagged along.

With Mr. Moursund driving and LBJ happily pointing out white-tailed deer in rough growth along the trail, the President became annoyed by the close-following vehicle in which his guard of Secret Service men rode. He had Mr. Moursund stop the car, and an agent came hurrying forward to ask what the trouble was.

"Dammit," the President snapped at him, "I don't want you tailgatin' me! Now you keep that wagon back outta sight or I'm gonna shoot out your tires!"

President Johnson, Mr. Cormier continued, demonstrated genuine, if somewhat sporadic, affection for some agents, but could also be perversely cruel towards his bodyguards.

"In an off-the-record talk at the White House, a few weeks earlier," Mr. Cormier wrote, "Johnson had shocked me by exploding: 'If I ever get killed, it won't be because of an assassin. It'll be some Secret Service agent who trips himself up and his gun goes off. They're worse than trigger-happy Texas sheriffs.'"

But reports such as these, and reports of destroyed notes, destroyed pathological examination pictures of President Kennedy's wounds, and pictures, X-rays and other bits of evidence still kept from public view in the National Archives, would have to be classified, Mr. Donahue feels, as vague bits of evidence which could be used to support many different assassination theories.

"Since 1969," he says, "I have been unable to turn up evidence that shakes any part of my conclusion.

"But one such possible piece of evidence does exist. In the pathological examination and the first autopsy performed on President Kennedy, metal particles—fragments of cores and/or jackets of bullets—were removed from his brain. A test sample was also cut out of the 'miracle bullet' which had passed through both Kennedy and Connally. All these particles were later subjected by the FBI to spectrographic analysis, a high-precision procedure in which the chemical make-up of an unknown element or compound of elements can be determined. The results of such analyses come out on spectrographic

tapes, and on such tapes the colored, finely lined pattern of each element or compound analyzed is as distinctive as a fingerprint.

"The spectrographic tapes are guarded, hidden from public view, and even their whereabouts kept secret. As far as I have been able to learn, the man or men who made these spectrographic tests were not asked to contribute their knowledge of them to the Warren Report. Certainly I can find no record of such testimony, in the Warren Report or elsewhere.

"If an investigator could view those tapes, he could determine in an instant an important part of the story which really unfolded at Dealy Plaza in Dallas in 1963.

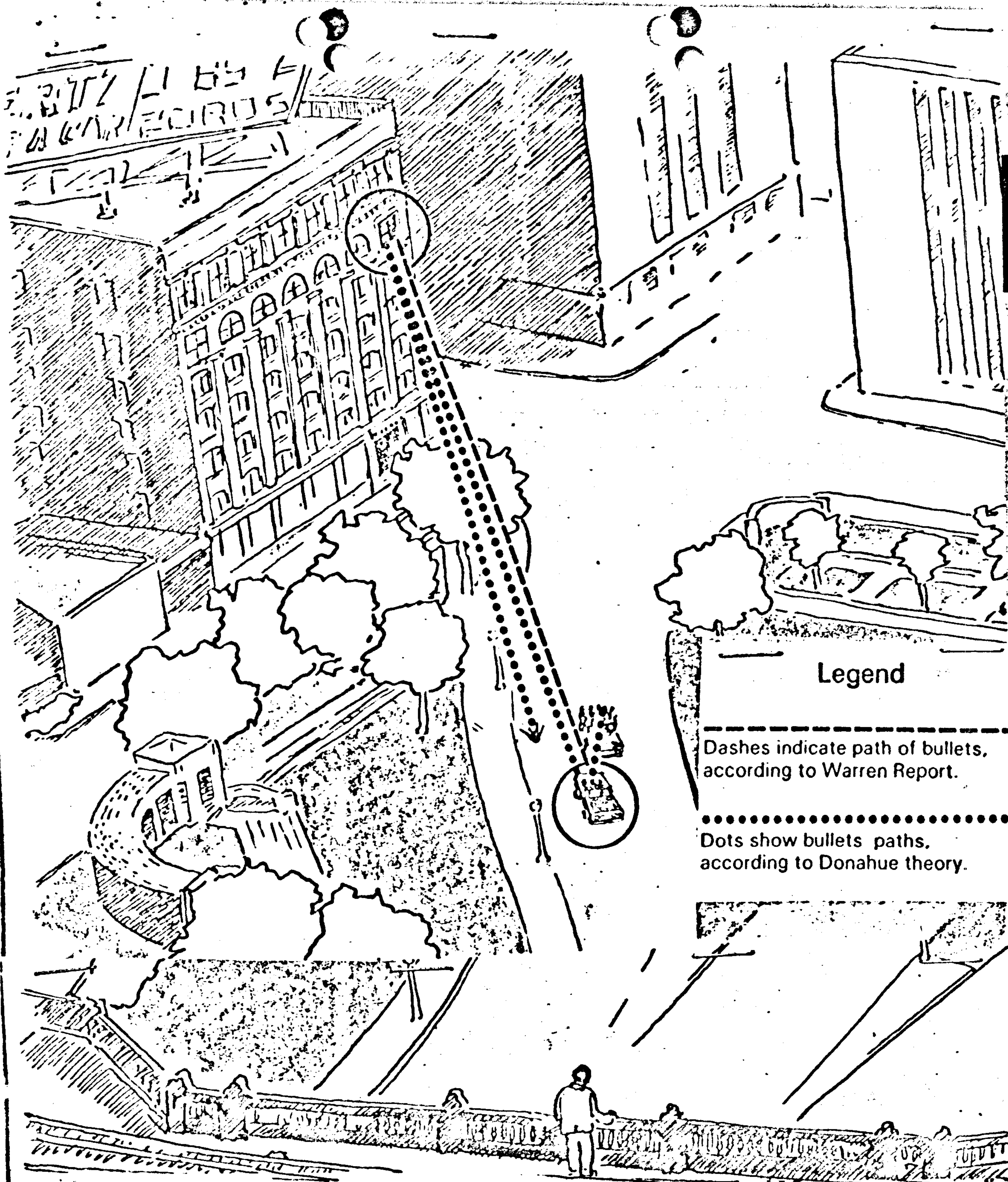
"If all the bullet fragments recovered were analyzed, and if the spectrographic tapes of all match up perfectly, then the evidence becomes overwhelming that Lee Harvey Oswald's rifle was the only weapon involved in the assassination.

"But if any one of those tapes differs from the others, then a second type of bullet, fired by somebody else, from a different position and with a different type of firearm, was without a doubt one of the bullets which killed President Kennedy.

"I think the American people have a right to know whatever story the tapes have to tell." □



Plaster skulls were drilled and painted by Howard Donahue. The one on right shows the flight of the bullet as described in the original autopsy. Skull, left, is Mr. Donahue's interpretation of the path of the bullet as redefined by four investigating physicians. It indicates the bullet moved from the left rear to the right front, which Mr. Donahue feels would rule out a shot from the book depository.



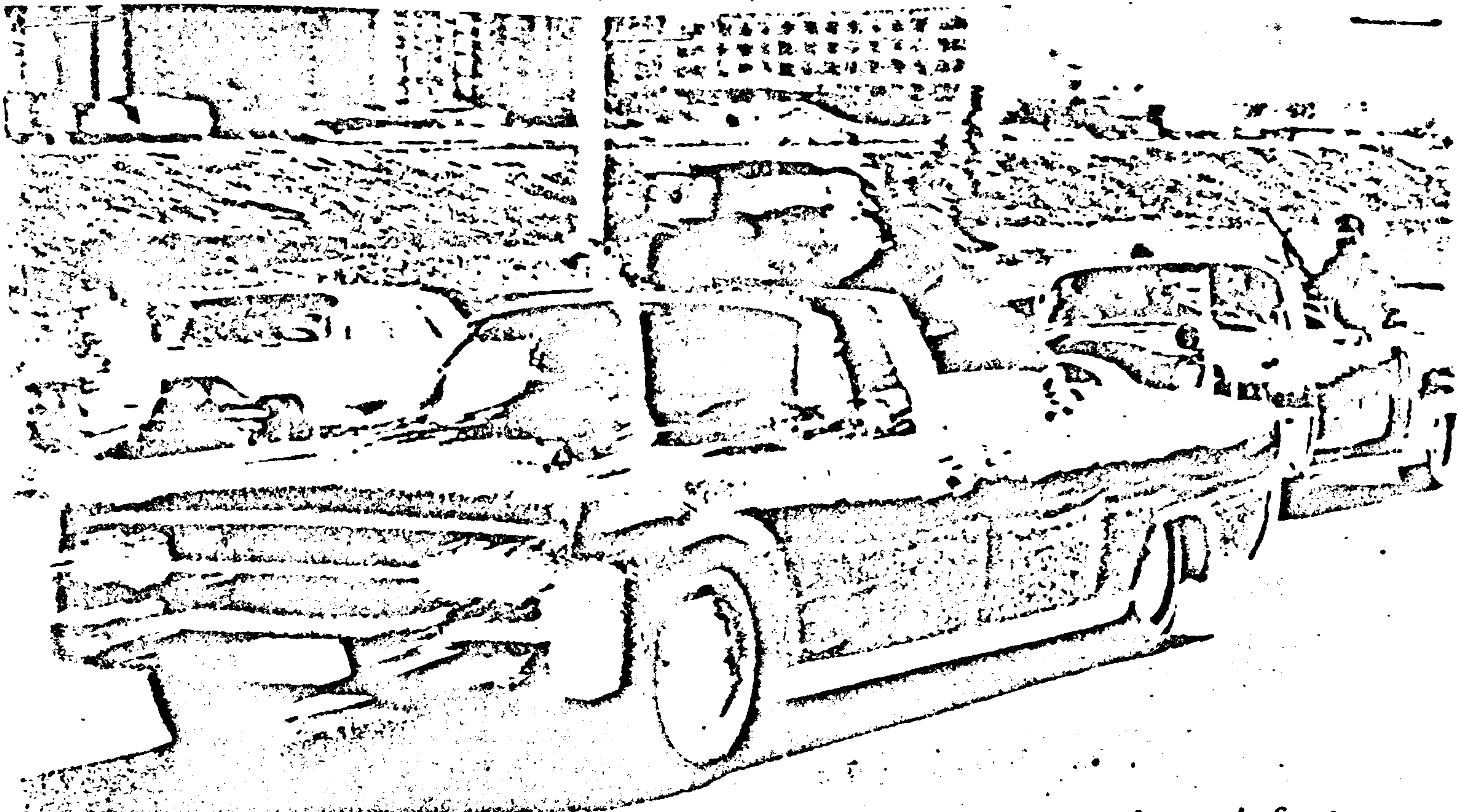
**Legend**

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Dashes indicate path of bullets,  
according to Warren Report.

.....  
Dots show bullets paths,  
according to Donahue theory.

Drawing of Dealy Plaza in Dallas, with the Texas School Book Depository, upper left, and the overpass, foreground, where S. M. Holland said he was standing.





*Moments after President Kennedy was fatally wounded and was being rushed to the hospital in the limousine, foreground, a Secret Service man rides with raised machine gun in follow-up car.*



*Howard Donahue works in his gun shop in Towson. "As a gunsmith," he says, "I had a natural curiosity about the different kinds of firearms and ammunition known to have been in and around Dealy Plaza on the day of the assassination."*

FBI

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Date 4/29/77

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep. AD Adm.	_____
Dep. AD Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Serv.	_____
Ext. Affairs	_____
Fin. & Pers.	_____
Gen. Inv.	<i>Bill</i>
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgt.	_____
S & T. Serv.	_____
Spec. Inv.	_____
Training	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)  
 (ATTENTION: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (89-35) (RUC)

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
 JOHN F. KENNEDY,  
 NOVEMBER 22, 1963,  
 DALLAS, TEXAS  
 (OO: DALLAS)

Re Miami airtel and LHM to the Bureau dated 4/15/77.

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of an LHM captioned as above.

Enclosed for Dallas is one copy of the LHM inasmuch as they are office of origin.

ADMINISTRATIVE

*[Redacted]* requested protection in information furnished to the FBI in that he fears for his personal safety if it becomes known that he is supplying the FBI with information concerning events related to the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY.

The Bureau is requested to note the following information regarding *[Redacted]* which was furnished previously by Miami airtel to the Bureau dated 8/25/76, under same caption:

ENCLOSURE

- 17(3) - Bureau (Encs. 5)
- 1 - Dallas (Enc. 1) (89-43) (Info)
- 3 - Miami (2 - 89-35)
- (1 - 62-6603)

DJD:mes  
(7)

*1 - Criminal Division*  
*1 - Congressional Inquiry Unit*  
*0-70(F) 8/4/77*  
*EEH / dip*

23 MAY 6 1977

Approved: *[Signature]*

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_

(Number)

(Time)

Per \_\_\_\_\_

97 MAY 12 1977

MM 89-35

On 8/19/76, [redacted] Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), Key West, Florida, was contacted and advised he has known [redacted] for 20 years or more and considers him a close friend. [redacted] advised, however, that several years ago, [redacted] sustained a broken neck and is currently suffering from high blood pressure and a bad heart. [redacted] stated he feels that [redacted] is prone to exaggeration, and although not intentionally, [redacted] has been known to fabricate stories and tell them because he believes in his own mind that they are true. [redacted] was asked specifically if any Cuban Transport planes could have come into Key West to pick up passengers in late summer of 1962 or 1963 and he stated that to his knowledge they did not as the United States had broken diplomatic relations by that time. [redacted] stated he would not accept any story put forth by [redacted] without hard evidence to substantiate it.

Also on 8/19/76, [redacted], Major, Monroe County Sheriff's Office, Key West, Florida, advised in his opinion he has never known [redacted] to tell an outright lie, however, he does feel that [redacted] is prone to exaggeration and making more of an incident than there is to it.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. 89-35

Miami, Florida  
April 29, 1977

RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN F. KENNEDY  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963  
DALLAS, TEXAS

On April 12, 1977, [redacted] as previously reported, provided the following information:

[redacted] stated that a roll of .35 millimeter film which he had taken of a group known as "Fair Play for Cuba", in the summer of 1962, was given to a National Airlines pilot. This pilot was told to forward the film to FBI, Miami to be routed on to FBI Headquarters, Washington D. C.

[redacted] further advised that during a recent business trip he had occasion to pass through Atlanta, Georgia, and during a layover in Atlanta, Georgia, on the weekend of April 2 and 3, 1977, he was approached by a National Airlines pilot whom he thought could possibly be the one to whom he gave the 35 millimeter film taken in 1962 of the "Fair Play for Cuba" group. [redacted] stated that this possibility came to mind after he had departed Atlanta, Georgia. The only information which [redacted] could provide which might help in locating the pilot was that he did fly for National and had only seven years remaining before retirement which would make him 53 years old. In addition on the weekend of April 2 and 3, 1977, this pilot was assigned to standby duty for Los Angeles and San Francisco, California, on flights utilizing a DC-10 aircraft.

To substantiate the foregoing, on April 12, 1977, [redacted] Secretary in the Chief Pilot's Office, National Airlines, Miami International Airport, was requested to attempt to determine the identity of National Airlines pilot [redacted] said he had seen as described previously.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE

RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN F. KENNEDY,  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963  
DALLAS, TEXAS

On April 28, 1977, [REDACTED] Secretary in Chief Pilot's Office, National Airlines, Miami International Airport, advised that their efforts to identify the pilot [REDACTED] said he has seen at Atlanta, Georgia, were unsuccessful. [REDACTED] stated there were over 600 National Airlines pilots and it is not feasible based on the information supplied concerning the pilot to identify him.

However, she advised that she would continue their efforts to identify him and if his identity is determined, she will immediately advise the Miami Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation,

FBI

Dep. AD Adm.	_____
Dep. AD Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	_____
Ext. Affairs	_____
Fin. & Pers.	_____
Gen. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Serv.	_____
Training	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- Airtel

PRIORITY:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- E F T O
- CLEAR

Date 4/29/77

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (89-35) (RUC)

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN F. KENNEDY,  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
(OO: DALLAS)

Re Tampa airtel to the Bureau dated 4/4/77.

On 4/13/77 and 4/29/77, [redacted] Sears and Roebuck Automotive Service Center, Northside, 7900 N. W. 27th Avenue, Miami, Florida, was contacted regarding any details in that company's files concerning information furnished on 4/2/77, to the Tampa Division of the FBI by [redacted] Alcoholism Unit, Lakeland General Hospital, Lakeland, Florida, as follows:

[redacted] said he had information concerning an individual from Texas who purchased tires at the aforementioned store on the date of the President's assassination or one or two days after. This individual while at the store had made a violent verbal attack against the deceased President.

[redacted] advised that Sears and Roebuck, Northside Automotive Center, maintains records for only two years after a sale. He further stated that there were no other records available which would help to identify this individual, inasmuch as the purchase occurred almost 14 years ago.

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - Dallas (89-43) (Info)
- 1 - Tampa (62-455) (Info)
- 2 - Miami (1 - 89-35)
- (1 - 62-6603)

DJD:mes  
(6)

23 MAY 6 1977  
Airtel incorporated into an LHM  
sent to RUC, et al. Dir. by [redacted]  
DJG/gjw  
5/5/77  
[signature]

7754

Approved: [signature]

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_

(Number)

(Time)

Per \_\_\_\_\_

27 MAY 10 1977

MM 89-35

In view of the foregoing, no further investigation is being conducted into this matter by the Miami Division.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

**Memorandum**TO : Assistant Attorney General  
CRIMINAL DIVISION

DATE: May 9, 1977

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963  
DALLAS, TEXASReference is made to \_\_\_\_\_ memorandum dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(your file \_\_\_\_\_).There is enclosed one copy of ~~the report of Special Agent~~ an ~~IIM~~  
dated 5/4/77 at Dallas, Texas.A.  This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning  
a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.B.  The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of  
reports as they are received.C.  The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless  
advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.D.  Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will  
be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.E.  Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.F.  This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further  
developments.G.  This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will  
be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.H.  This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be  
taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

Enc. (1)

1 - CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION (enc. - 1)

FBI

Date: 5/4/77

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Precedence)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)

FROM: SAC, DALLAS (89-43) (P)

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

OO: DALLAS

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten initials]*

Re Bureau airtel to Dallas, dated 4/8/77.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau is the original and four copies of an LHM dated and captioned as above.

One copy of LHM is being designated for the Jacksonville Office in the event future investigation be requested.

The background investigation set forth in the attached LHM was obtained from the following:

1. Dallas report of SA MANNING C. CLEMENTS, dated 12/19/63, captioned, "JACK L. RUEY, aka; LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka - VICTIM (Deceased), CR, OO: DALLAS", Bureau File 44-24016, Dallas File 44-1639. Page 194 sets forth an interview with WANDA JOYCE KILLAM

*ENCLOSURE*

REC-30 62-109060-7756

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 5)
- 1 - Jacksonville (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Dallas

ST-126

MAY 7 1977

UHS:bjw  
(6)

*1 - Criminal Division*  
*1 - Civil Right Division*  
*1 - Congressional Inquiry Unit*  
*0-70 (6) 5/9/77*  
*EHH/dkp*

*[Handwritten initials]*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

56 MAY 19 1977

2. Dallas report of MANNING C. CLEMENTS, dated 1/31/64, captioned same as above. Page 80 of that report contains an investigative insert setting forth interview with HENRY THOMAS KILLAM.

3. Jacksonville airtel to the Bureau, dated 2/23/67, captioned, "HENRY THOMAS KILLAM, aka, Thomas Henry Killam, Red Killam, Hank Killam, INFORMATION CONCERNING," Jacksonville file 62-NEW, set forth information concerning KILLAM as it appeared in the "Pensacola Journal" on 2/22/67, as well as background information on KILLAM as provided by SMYTH R. GILL (NA), Investigator, County Solicitor's Office, Pensacola, Florida.

Dallas indices are negative concerning [REDACTED] and GERTRUDE HENDRICKS, nee Hardy, aka, "Trudy".

Since the KILLAM allegation has come to the Bureau's attention in the past, no additional investigation is being requested or conducted by Dallas, UACB.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Dallas, Texas

May 4, 1977

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963  
DALLAS, TEXAS

This investigation is predicated upon receipt at  
FBI Headquarters, Washington, D. C. of the letter dated  
April 1, 1977, from [REDACTED]  
Dallas, Texas. The letter states as follows:

This document contains neither recommendations  
nor conclusions of the FBI; it is the property of the FBI  
and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not  
to be distributed outside your agency.



ENCLOSURE

62-107060-7756

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT

"Dallas, Texas  
April 1, 1977

"FBI,  
Washington, D. C.

"Dear Sir, I am [REDACTED]  
Street, Dallas, Texas. I am writing you this letter  
concerning the late President Kennedy.

"I lived in Pensacola, Fla. at the time of  
his death. I had never been in Dallas, never heard of  
Jack Ruby or Candy Bar until this happened.

"I knew this man and his wife who later were  
divorced.

"The story as is this man was a real hoodlum,  
anything for a fast dollar.

"What I am going to tell you about this  
man is no prank. I am honest in what I am writing you.  
I don't drink or take drugs. I am a reliable citizen.  
And this has been on my mind ever since this happen.  
I think it should be known true or not. So I'm going  
to tell you just the way I got the story.

"This man's home was in Pensacola, Fla. his family  
lives there. His name was Henry Kellam known to his friends  
as Red Kellam. At the time of President Kennedy's death  
Henry Kellam was living in Dallas, Texas. A wk. or so later  
after this he arrives back in Pensacola. His family called  
his ex-wife to come to their home. Red Henry Kellam was  
there when she went to see what they wanted.

"This Henry was really messed up. He kept  
repeating over and over. They are after me they are going  
to kill me because I helped kill President Kennedy So his  
family kept him locked in the house for more than a wk.  
Then one night a wk. later he managed to get out. While  
everyone was sleeping He managed to get to the main street  
in downtown Pensacola. The bars closed at 2:30 am. I  
imagine he was trying to get to the bar where his ex-wife  
was So at 2:30 am. they found him dead on the corner of  
Intendencia and Palafax Street. There was a gift shop

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT

there on that corner. They stuffed alligators in the window. So they said he had jumped through this plate glass window. But when the police found him he was hanging on a parking meter and died. Now this man was about 6 ft. 3 in., and weighed around 240 pounds. Don't you think if a man of his size jumped through a plate glass window he would have had cuts and scratches. But only his throat was cut and his diamond ring was missing which was never found. But really he had such bad background. Nobody cared enough to really find out what happened so they ruled it suicide and forgot all about it.

"He has one brother in Fla. His name is Jack Kellam. he was a car salesman. He lived with his mother but I am pretty sure she has passed on for she was so old and sick when I moved to Dallas. This Henry Kellam's ex-wife was married again when I moved. She married Larry Woods. He played in the band at this night club on Palafax St. the name of the place was Trader Johns. And her mother's name was Myrtle Hendricks. She lived in Myrtle Grove there in Pensacola. I am sure they would probably deny any of this. But from my heart this is the true story I got from her his ex-wife. And now you can decide what you think But knowing this I am sure if there was a dollar in for him he was willing.

"All my friends ask me not to write you this letter but being a citizen it is my duty. And believe me what I have written you I believe every word of this was true.

"Now my conscience and my heart is clear this I wanted to write you this for so long.

"Thank you, [REDACTED]

Dallas, Texas 75232."

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT

On April 28, 1977, [REDACTED] Dallas, Texas, Telephone Number [REDACTED] furnished the following information to SA [REDACTED] FBI, Dallas, Texas. She advised that the information contained in her letter to the FBI, Washington, D. C., dated April 1, 1977, was obtained sometime in 1964, from Gertrude Hendricks, whose maiden name was Gertrude Hardy, also known as "Trudy", a former wife of Henry "Red" Killam. She stated that in her April 1, 1977, letter, she spelled the name as Kellam, but that the name should be spelled "Killam".

She described Gertrude Hendricks as [REDACTED] whom she has known for many years. Gertrude was at one time married to Henry Killam and he apparently visited her when he returned to Pensacola, Florida, from Dallas, Texas, in the latter part of 1963, or the early part of 1964. Gertrude Hendricks told [REDACTED] she obtained information from Henry Killam and Killam's family. [REDACTED] advised she moved to Dallas, Texas, approximately 10 years ago and that she has lost contact with Gertrude Hendricks and does not know her present location. Gertrude Hendricks has been married at least four times and after she was divorced from Killam, she married a Larry Woods.

[REDACTED] advised that when she lived in Pensacola, Florida, she worked at the Southsea Bar and the Anchor Bar, located on Palafax Street for 20 years. Gertrude worked at Trader John's Nightclub which was located in the same vicinity, and they became friends.

[REDACTED] advised that she did not know Wanda Killam. [REDACTED] has been employed [REDACTED] at Phil's Delicatessen, North Central Expressway, Dallas, Texas, for the past five years.

For the purpose of background information, the following previously conducted investigation is set forth concerning Henry Thomas Killam and Wanda Joyce Killam. Also attached hereto are three copies of newspaper articles which in part deal with the Killam allegations.

TP 44-187

JRB:cwp

1

On January 22, 1964, HENRY THOMAS KILLAN, 8114 Newport Avenue, Tampa, Florida, employed Wheels, Inc., Tampa, advised SA JOHN R. BRETT he had been in JACK RUBY's club in Dallas approximately three times and did not know RUBY well. He said he considered RUBY to be a violent man, basing this on two incidents, one being when his wife, an employee of RUBY, fed some pizza to RUBY's dog and RUBY became so enraged that Mrs. KILLAN was afraid he was going to attack her.

On another occasion KILLAN overheard a bartender telling RUBY about some customers heckling the emcee, and RUBY asked the bartender why he did not hit them in the head. KILLAN stated he had no information on RUBY's background or associates, that he did not know LEE OSWALD, and knew of no connection between RUBY and OSWALD.



WANDA JOYCE KILLAM, also known as Davis, 1351 Galloway Avenue, furnished the following information:

She has known JACK RUBY for about 15 years through her patronizing of the clubs in the Dallas area. In July, 1963, she went to work for RUBY at the Carousel Club as a waitress and/or cigarette girl. RUBY asked her to leave about one month ago, when her husband HANK KILLAM continued to come to the club while she was on duty and RUBY felt it was interfering with her work. She went back to work at the Carousel Club about one week ago, after her husband left town.

She likes JACK RUBY and feels he is a wonderful employee even if he is very tempermental. She last saw RUBY about one month ago. She does not know of any trips made by RUBY and has never seen RUBY with a gun.

She does not know LEE HARVEY OSWALD and has no information regarding any connection between RUBY and OSWALD. However, JOHN CARTER, a close friend of her husband's, lives at the rooming house where OSWALD resided. CARTER has never been at the Carousel Club, to her knowledge, and is not acquainted with RUBY.

The only Dallas policemen she has ever seen at the Carousel, to her knowledge, were two uniformed patrolmen and one uniformed sergeant, all of whom appeared to be on business at the time.

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on 12/13/63 at Dallas, Texas<sup>6</sup> DL File # 44-1639  
by Special Agents JOHN E. DALLMAN and  
R. NEIL QUIGLEY :lp Date dictated 12/14/63

# TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS?

## Ferrie's Is 10th Mysterious Death

By NEIL SANDERS

The name of David William Ferrie, New Orleans, now can be added to the list of those who have met mysterious deaths following, and possibly related to, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Ferrie died under suspicious circumstances, just as did nine other men and women thought to possess scraps of knowledge about the killings of Kennedy, Officer J. D. Tippit or Lee Harvey Oswald.

Murder, suicide or death of a puzzling nature was the fate of all 10.

**PENN JONES**, editor of a Texas weekly newspaper and writer for "Ramparts" magazine, is responsible for digging up the series of mysterious deaths. He lists them one by one in a recent Ramparts article entitled "The Kennedy Curse."

He does not, of course, include the death of Ferrie, whose nude body was found in bed at his apartment yesterday morning. The cause of death had not been definitely pinned down today.

The airplane pilot and private investigator was a central figure in Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's revival of the Kennedy assassination probe. Garrison said he had planned to arrest him next week.

Before he died, Ferrie told a States-Item reporter that he had supposedly been "pegged" as the getaway pilot in an elaborate plot to kill Kennedy.

He was, in fact, picked up and questioned shortly after the President's murder. But the district attorney released him after the killing was blamed on Oswald, a former New Orleansian.

A REPORTER who interviewed Ferrie a short time before his death said he seemed "in good spirits." The youth who found the body told a

newsman he didn't know Ferrie and "just happened to wander in."

Penn Jones tells what happened to the other nine, along with the strange circumstances surrounding their deaths:

**JIM KOETHE**, young Dallas reporter, was found dead on the floor of his bachelor apartment Sept. 21, 1964. He died of asphyxiation from a broken bone at the base of the neck—apparently the result of a karate chop.

Koethe was one of five persons present at a meeting in Jack Ruby's apartment Nov. 24, 1963, several hours after Ruby shot and killed Oswald. He later started a book, with two other journalists, on the Kennedy assassination. The notes were taken by whoever killed him.

A suspect was arrested but the grand jury refused to indict him on allegedly secret instructions from Dist. Atty. Henry Wade.

**BILL HUNTER**, Long Beach, Calif., police reporter who covered the Kennedy assassination, was killed April 23, 1964, when two detectives burst into the press room of the Long Beach public safety building and one of them shot him in the heart.

The officer claimed he and his partner were playing cops and robbers when the pistol slipped from his hand and went off. The two were convicted of involuntary manslaughter, but sentence was suspended.

Hunter was one of the five present at the meeting in Ruby's apartment.

**TOM HOWARD**, 48-year-old Dallas defense attorney, died in a hospital here March 27, 1965.

He had been taken to the hospital by an unidentified person and the doctor, without benefit of autopsy, said he suffered a heart attack.

Howard, a friend of Dist. Atty. Wade and a close acquaintance of the late Jack Ruby, served for several days after the Oswald murder as Ruby's chief attorney and public spokesman. He also attended the meeting in Ruby's apartment.

Friends observed that for three days before his death, the normally gregarious Howard seemed unusually preoccupied.

**EARLENE ROBERTS**, plump widow who managed the rooming house where Oswald was living under an assumed name, died Jan. 9, 1965, in a Dallas hospital. Police said she suffered a heart attack. No autopsy was performed.

Mrs. Roberts had told the Warren Commission that shortly after the President was shot, Oswald rushed to his room. While he was in there, she said, a police car pulled up in front of the house and the driver honked the horn twice. She said the car then moved on and Oswald left the house.

**NANCY JANE MOONEY**, a former stripper in Jack Ruby's Carousel Club, was found dead in her private cell at the Dallas City Jail. Police said she hanged herself with her forehead man's.

Miss Mooney had earlier provided the alibi that freed a

young hood of an attempted murder charge in the shooting of Warren Reynolds, Dallas used car-dealer.

Reynolds was the man who witnessed the flight of the killer (or one of the killers) of Patrolman Tippit. He was shot

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 23

New Orleans States-Item

Date:

2-23-67

Edition:

Final

Author:

Editor:

Title: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY 1/22/63

Character:

or

Classification:

89-

Submitting Office:

N.O.

Being Investigated

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED  
FEB 23 1967  
FBI - DALLAS

two days after telling the FBI about the fleeing man.

HANK KILLAM, house painter whose name was used to sell cigarettes at Jack Ruby's club, was found dead St. Patrick's Day, 1964, on a Pensacola, Fla., sidewalk. He was lying in front of a broken plate glass window, his jugular vein slit. His wallet and diamond ring were missing.

Wanda Killam said "federal agents" visited her husband repeatedly after the assassination, causing him to lose one job after another. (If the FBI did interview Killam, there is no indication in the Warren Report.)

The Killams were good friends of another painter who lived at a rooming house at the same time Oswald was there. The painter worked several jobs with Killam and used to visit his home.

Revival of the assassination investigation has prompted the county solicitor at Pensacola to reopen the Killam case.

WILLIAM WHALEY, a cab driver who was one of the few given an opportunity to talk alone with Oswald between the assassination and the accused killer's arrest, was killed in a head-on collision on a river bridge.

He had been driving since 1936 and had a perfect accident record. The general manager of the cab company told Penn Jones, "If you're smart, you won't be coming around here asking questions."

EDWARD BENAVIDES, brother of a mechanic who witnessed the murder of officer Tippitt, was fatally shot in the back of the head in a Dallas beer joint about mid-February, 1964.

Benavides' brother, Domingo, testified he "really got a good view" of the slayer. But he was not asked to see the police lineup in which Oswald appeared. He said he was repeatedly threatened by Dallas police and told not to talk about what he saw.

The brothers resemble each other, and Domingo is convinced that Eddy's death was a case of mistaken identity and he was the intended victim.

LEE BOWERS, former railroad man who was one of 53 witnesses who thought shots were fired at the President from the area of the Grassy Knoll, died Aug. 4, 1966, of injuries received when his new car veered from the road and hit a bridge.

A farmer said the car was traveling 50 miles an hour, a slow speed for the road. There were no skid marks to indicate braking. There was no autopsy and doctors reported no evidence of a heart attack.

A doctor who rode in the ambulance with Bowers said, "He was in a strange state of shock, a different kind of shock than an accident victim experiences. I can't explain it. I've never seen anything like it."

Bowers told the Warren Commission he saw three unfamiliar cars slowly cruising the parking area near the Grassy Knoll 35 minutes before the shots rang out.

A third car, he said, paused "just above the assassination site" about eight minutes before the shooting. He said it had out-of-state plates and mud up to the windows.

He also recalled seeing two unfamiliar men standing on top of the knoll at the edge of the parking lot. When he heard shots, Bowers said he looked toward the men's direction and saw "some commotion" at the spot. He said the commotion may have been "a flash of light or smoke."

Bowers testified he saw a motorcycle policeman leave the Kennedy motorcade and pull up to the men. The officer dismounted, he said, then after a moment climbed on his motorcycle and drove off.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# '64 Death of Man Quizzed in JFK Case

## to Be Probed

### Left Dallas Because of Hounding, Claim

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — Escambia County authorities Wednesday began investigating the 1964 death of a man whose brother said feared he was being pursued by "agents" connected with the assassination of President Kennedy.

Thomas Henry Killam died beside a broken shop window on a Pensacola street March 19, 1964 with a slashed throat. Authorities differed on the cause of death with police ruling it accidental and the coroner terming it suicide.

Earl Killiam, the dead man's brother, has asked County Solicitor Carl Harper to exhumate his brother's body to determine the exact cause of death. He said his brother knew he would be killed.

Killiam, a 35-year-old auto salesman, said his brother told him he fled Dallas in December, 1963, because he was being harassed by "agents." Killiam said his brother didn't specify whether the agents were federal, state, or someone else.

#### QUESTIONING TOLD

When Thomas Killam left Dallas, his wife, Wanda remained behind. She had been employed for several years as a hostess in a Dallas night club owned by Jack Ruby, accused slayer of Lee Harvey Oswald, charged with the assassination of President Kennedy in November, 1963.

Contacted Wednesday in Dallas where she works as a cigarette girl in the theater lounge, Wanda Killam told the Pensacola News-Journal her husband had been questioned several times by federal agents about

the assassination.

However, she said she didn't know whether her husband was referring to federal agents when he told his brother he was being pursued. She said he left Dallas in early December, 1963, after telling her he was going back to Florida to look for a job.

Earl Killiam said one of the reasons he had asked for the investigation two years after his brother's death was because of the current assassination probe in New Orleans.

#### FAVORS PROBE

Mrs. Killam said she was in favor of an investigation into her husband's death.

She said she was certain her husband wouldn't have committed suicide. "No, Hank (her husband) wouldn't do that."

She said Killiam was employed for a short while in Dallas as a house painter with a man named Jack Carter. Carter

once roomed in the same Dallas boarding house with Oswald, Earl Killiam said.

Killiam said "agents and plotters" drove his brother out of Dallas and back to Florida where he came to Pensacola in December, 1963, and then spent the next four months working in Tampa. He returned to Pensacola March 15 to live with their mother, Killiam said, and was dead two days later.

The day he returned his brother said Thomas told him: "I'm a dead man. I've run as far as I'm going to run."

The News-Journal said on the morning of March 17, 1963, Thomas Killiam received a phone call at his mother's home at 4 a. m. The newspaper quoted the mother as saying her son dressed and left the house. She heard a car drive off, the mother said, although Killiam

didn't own a car.

#### 3-INCH LACERATION

About a half hour later, two street sweepers heard a crash on a city street. They turned their truck around and saw a man staggering in front of a broken display window, police said.

Killiam died before he got to a hospital. The police report said based on the presence of blood four feet inside the show

window "in my opinion the expired jumped through the window and then crawled back to the sidewalk."

The coroner, A. H. Northrup, said Killiam died of "a long, three-inch deep laceration over the lower left side of the neck. Apparently sustained deep laceration in throat when he fell through plate glass window."

Earl Killiam is skeptical. "Did you ever hear of a man committing suicide by jumping through a plate glass window?" he asked.

Meanwhile, Harper would not discuss his investigation except to say he was seeking concrete evidence "not suspicions." But he added he was very interested in the case.

Harper said he planned to talk with New Orleans District Atty. James Garrison who is conducting an assassination probe.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 4

The Times-Picayune  
New Orleans, La.

Date: 2-23-67

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
PRESIDENT JOHN F.  
KENNEDY 1/22/63

Character:

or

Classification: 89-

Submitting Office: N.O.

Being Investigated

1964 DEATH PROBED

# Seek JFK Link. In Fla. Mystery

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP)—Authorities are investigating the death of a Florida man two years ago at the request of his brother who said he wanted a fresh probe because of the current investigation in New Orleans of the Kennedy assassination.

The brother, Earl Killam, said the dead man, Thomas Henry Killam, told him he fled Dallas in December, 1963, because he was being harassed by "agents." Killam said his brother didn't specify whether the agents were federal, state or some other type.

"I'm a dead man," Killam quoted his brother as saying. "I've run as far as I'm going to run."

WANDA KILLAM, the dead man's wife, reached yesterday in Dallas by the Pensacola News-Journal, said her husband had been questioned several times about the assassination by federal agents.

Killam died beside a broken shop window on a Pensacola street March 19, 1964. His throat had been slashed.

Police said the death was an apparent suicide. The coroner called it accidental.

Earl Killam, 38, a car salesman, has asked Escambia County Solicitor Carl Harper to exhume his brother's body to determine the exact cause of death.

HARPER SAID he took a statement from Earl Killam yesterday morning and would investigate immediately. He would not discuss his investigation except to say he was seeking concrete evidence, "not suspicions."

Harper said he planned to talk to New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison, who is conducting an assassination probe.

Wanda Killam said her husband returned to Florida in early December, 1963, saying he was going to look for a job. She stayed in Dallas, where she had been employed for several years as hostess in a night club owned by Jack Ruby.

RUBY, WHO died of cancer with the slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused of killing President John F. Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

Mrs. Killam said she, too, favored an investigation of her husband's death and said of the suicide ruling: "No, Hank wouldn't do that."

She said her husband was briefly employed in Dallas as a house painter by a man named Jack Carter. Earl Killam said Carter once roomed in the same Dallas boarding house as Oswald.

KILLAM SAID that after his brother returned to Florida he spent four months in Tampa and then returned to Pensacola March 15 to live with their mother.

Two days later, he was dead. Killam said: "Did you ever hear of a man committing suicide by jumping through a plate glass window?"

Thomas Killam received a phone call at his mother's home at 4 a.m. March 17, 1963, according to his mother. She said

he dressed and left the house. She heard a car pull away, although Killam did not own a car.

ABOUT A half hour later, two street sweepers heard a crash on a city street. Police said they turned their truck around and saw a man staggering in front of a broken display window.

Killam died before he could be hospitalized. The police report said that, based on the presence of blood four feet inside the show window, it was concluded "the expired jumped through the window and then crawled back to the sidewalk."

Coroner A. H. Northrup said Killam died of a long, three-inch deep laceration over the lower left side of the neck. The coroner added: "Apparently sustained deep laceration in throat when he fell through plate glass window."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 6

New Orleans States-Item

Date: 2-23-67  
Edition: Red Comet  
Author:

Editor:  
Title: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY 1/22/63

Character:  
or  
Classification: 89-  
Submitting Office: 40.

Being Investigated

19-43-5711  
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....  
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....  
FEB 2 1967  
FBI - DALLAS



**A POSSIBLE MISSING LINK** in the Kennedy assassination is the death of Thomas Henry Killam, who claimed "agents" were trying to get him for special knowledge of the Kennedy slaying. Killam's wife Wanda (in drawing) and his brother have asked for a reopening of an investigation into the death, which was termed variously a suicide and an accident. Escambia County (Fla.) Solicitor CARL HARPER said he will confer with New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison on the matter.

FBI

Date: 4/28/77

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)  
FROM: LEGAT, MEXICO CITY (89-6) (RUC)  
SUBJ: ASSASSINATION OF  
PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
11/22/63  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Enclosed for the Bureau are four (4) copies each of two (2) interview report forms of which the original and one copy each are for passage to Dallas.

Re: Dallas airtel to the Bureau, 3/24/77.

For the information of the Bureau and Dallas, Commissioner of Police, [redacted] advised on 4/15/77 that his Department does not have a Polygraph and to his knowledge, there are no Polygraph facilities in the entire country of [redacted]. In addition, personnel at the U.S. Consulate, [redacted] were queried and they advised to their knowledge, there were no Polygraph facilities available in the country of Belize.

No leads are being set forth for Dallas, inasmuch as Legat, Mexico City is not aware of the extent of investigation in this matter.

It should be noted that during the interview of [redacted] he advised that he would be more than willing to take a Polygraph examination in order to

- 5 - Bureau (Enc. 8)
  - (1 - Foreign Liaison Unit)
  - (2 - Dallas, 89-43)
- 1 - Mexico City
- SAP/esj
- (6)

REC-53 62-109060-1757

3 - SAC DALLAS  
3 - CONGRESSIONAL  
INQUIRY UNIT  
0-7 5/9/77  
DJC/jlp  
See file copy

9 MAY 13 5 1977  
4/28/77  
89 88

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

54 MAY 18 1977

MEX 89-6

show that he is not fabricating any of the  
information he has previously furnished to  
SA [REDACTED]

No further action is being taken and  
this case is being placed in an RUC status.





EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Date April 25, 1977

On April 14, 1977, [redacted]  
Prisoner at the [redacted] Prison, [redacted]  
[redacted] was interviewed by Assistant Legal Attache  
[redacted] in the presence of Vice  
Consul [redacted] United States Consulate,  
regarding pertinent details and for additional  
information he had previously furnished in the  
form of a signed statement on July 18, 1975, and  
again on October 21, 1976.

[redacted] stated that the information he  
had furnished on the two statements as indicated  
above, were completely factual to the best of his  
knowledge and that he would be more than willing to  
take a polygraph examination to attest to that  
fact. He stated that he had never mentioned the  
incidents; as related on his signed statements  
to anyone, to include his ex-wife [redacted]  
who during 1975, was employed by Sooner Ford  
Motor Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

[redacted] advised that J. E. EBB ROSE,  
[redacted], Houston,  
Texas, is acquainted with MOORE, and in fact,  
[redacted] worked in an office adjacent to ROSE's  
at the trucking company for two weeks, in the  
Houston Office. [redacted] stated that ROSE also  
played poker with [redacted] at the guest house at  
the Los Angeles Terminal of Rose Truck Lines, in  
which BOB REED, Terminal Manager, BOB WHITE and  
JAMES WILBURN, were in attendance. WHITE leased  
trucks to ROSE, and his whereabouts are unknown to  
MOORE. WILBURN is believed to be in Odessa, Texas,

On 4/14/77 at [redacted] File [redacted]  
By [redacted] Assistant Legal Attache Date [redacted]  
[redacted] SAP/esj Dictated 4/25/77

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(1) 1001-7151

and also leased trucks to ROSE. In addition, his ex-wife [REDACTED], ROY HILLARD, Safety Officer for [REDACTED], and BENTON SINCLAIR, who leased trucks to ROSE, can all attest to the friendship that existed between ROSE and [REDACTED]

In 1962, ROSE went to California to purchase two racing cars, which he was going to utilize during the Indianapolis 500 Race, and at that time, [REDACTED] assisted in the loading of the two cars on vans in the presence of ROSE. The day after the loading, ROSE invited [REDACTED] to accompany him in his rented Thunderbird to Tijuana, Mexico for drinks [REDACTED]

The attorney who assisted in the labor disputes in California from Fort Worth, Texas, and whose name [REDACTED] believed to be SCOTT, is also known to BOB REED, Terminal Manager for [REDACTED] Los Angeles. [REDACTED] and REED met with the attorney at the Ramada Inn, believed to be located at Pico Rivera, California, or the next town north of Pico Rivera. SCOTT was a white male, about 5'9" tall, slender build, full brown hair, wore glasses and would be about 55-60 years old at the present time. [REDACTED] recalled that the Ramada Inn the attorney checked into, and where [REDACTED] and REED spoke to him, is located just north of the Sky Lane or Skyline Hotel. SCOTT had an office either on Commerce Street or very near it near two popular movie theaters in Fort Worth, Texas.

While employed at the C and H Transportation Company, [REDACTED] was a rate clerk and earned about \$1.65 per hour. He supplemented his income by assisting two salesmen from C and H during heavy equipment auctions, by calculating the rate for hauling the heavy equipment. One of the salesmen for C and H was a (First Name Unknown) REYNOLDS, who had several trucks that hauled the heavy equipment. [REDACTED]

[redacted] recalled that after a period of time in the Los Angeles area, his wife [redacted] was disgusted with the school in which their children were attending and wanted to return to Texas. He [redacted] approached EBB ROSE and informed him of the trouble he and his wife were having with the school and their wish to return to Texas. ROSE informed [redacted] that he could not hire him in Texas, however, told [redacted] to fill out an application with C and H at Dallas, Texas. He believes that ROSE must have told someone at C and H because when he arrived in Dallas and filled out the application, they immediately hired him without checking any references. In this manner, MOORE is of the opinion that ROSE helped him obtain the job at C and H.

[redacted] described JAMES HOLLAND as being a white male, about 30-35 years of age in 1963, about 5'10" tall, heavy build, dark hair, and seemed to always wear dark glasses. He always wore a big silver belt buckle that had the initial "W" on it. [redacted] observed HOLLAND driving a 1961 or 1962 Chevrolet, white in color, with red interior. To his knowledge, this vehicle had Texas license tags.

[redacted] advised that he had never confided to anyone in the United States about his involvement with LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He stated that on one occasion, he did admit to someone that he had been involved in a killing, however, he never mentioned what it was. He stated that he was dating his ex-girlfriend, [redacted] and on one occasion was mad at her mother, Mrs. [redacted], who was manager of an apartment complex located on South Post Oak, Houston, Texas. He recalled the argument with Mrs. [redacted] took place around 1973 and he had indicated to her that he had been involved in a killing, and nothing else was mentioned. [redacted] stated that possibly, his ex-wife could tell interviewing Agents how upset he was when he learned of the Assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY, and perhaps she might be able to shed some light on his past activities.

[redacted] advised that after he received the \$3,000.00 for turning over to JAMES HOLLAND and LEE HARVEY OSWALD the \$100,000.00, and after the KENNEDY assassination, he was so upset that he went out and "got drunk, went to parties and screwed" the money away. He does not recall where he spent the money, however, his ex-wife could perhaps corroborate the fact that he was upset and absent from their home.

With reference to the statement dated October 21, 1976 he had furnished to Reverend [REDACTED] regarding the numerous slayings he had participated in in the Fort Worth, Texas area, [REDACTED] advised that he had purposely given wrong names to Reverend [REDACTED] knowing that the statement would perhaps get into the "wrong hands". He stated that otherwise, the statement was true and correct to his best knowledge. When asked for additional details regarding his participation in the murders he had previously mentioned, he stated that he would provide all the details only after he had been assured in writing that he would not be prosecuted for the crimes. At this point, [REDACTED] stated that he did not wish to discuss the statement of October 21, 1976 any further.

Thereafter, [REDACTED] stated that the information he had provided in two signed statements regarding the payment of \$100,000.00 to HOLLAND and OWSALD was true and correct to the best of his knowledge, and swore to it as God as his Witness. MOORE was asked to consider the details in this matter and that the interviewing Agent would speak to him on April 15, 1977.



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Date April 27, 1977

On April 15, 1977, [REDACTED] Prisoner at [REDACTED] Prison, [REDACTED] was recontacted by Assistant Legal Attache [REDACTED] and Vice Consul [REDACTED] United States Consulate, [REDACTED], at which time, he advised as follows:

He recalled that after he terminated his employment with C and H Transportation Company in Dallas, Texas, during 1964, he attempted to obtain trucks and trailers in order to start his own transport company. Inasmuch as he had a limited amount of cash, approximately \$2,000.00, he was refused credit by all truck dealerships. He stated that he then telephonically contacted J.E. EBB ROSE of the [REDACTED] Houston, Texas, to ascertain if ROSE would give him some sort of assistance in attempting to obtain the trucks. ROSE told him to call after lunch, one day unrecalled by [REDACTED] and when [REDACTED] did contact ROSE, ROSE sent him to see the manager of "Trail Mobile Company" located on Navigation Canal, Houston, Texas. When he arrived at Trail Mobile Company, he spoke with the manager, MARTIN (Last Name Unknown) and MARTIN placed him in contact with a salesman by the name of JOE (Last Name Unknown). JOE advised [REDACTED] that Trail Mobile Company did not have any trucks for sale or for lease, at which point, JOE travelled with [REDACTED] to Dallas and placed him in contact with another truck dealer, whose name [REDACTED] could not recall. [REDACTED] believes in view of the above, EBB ROSE did help him obtain the necessary credit to lease trucks.

On 4/15/77 at [REDACTED] File [REDACTED]

By [REDACTED] Assistant Legal Attache Date  
[REDACTED] SAP/esj Dictated 4/26/77

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ENCLOSURE

7/15/77

[redacted] recalled that he was sent by ROSE to the Rose Truck Company in Los Angeles, California, to be Assistant Manager to ROBERT REED, although [redacted] title was listed as "Dispatcher". [redacted] advised that when he arrived in Los Angeles, the Rose Truck Company was having union troubles and he and BOB REED were the two individuals who could fire and hire employees. [redacted] advised that REED could attest to the fact that while [redacted] was in Los Angeles, [redacted] was associated with and personally knew EBB ROSE. In addition, a woman by the name of MARY (Last Name Unknown), has been employed with Rose Truck Company in Los Angeles for many years and could attest to the fact that ROSE and [redacted] were associated. In addition, [redacted] advised that another individual by the name of PETE (Last Name Unknown) has also been associated with Rose Truck Company in Los Angeles and would also know that ROSE and [redacted] had been associated while [redacted] was in Los Angeles.

[redacted] advised that the individual introduced to him as "Webby" in the offices of J.E. EBB ROSE in the presence of the attorney named SCOTT, just prior to [redacted] delivering a brief case full of money to LEE HARVEY OSWALD, was described as a white male, approximately 50-55 years of age, at that time, heavy build. [redacted] could not estimate how tall this individual was inasmuch as "Webby" was seated in a chair and wore a hat. [redacted] advised that he only saw "Webby" on that one occasion and had the impression that "Webby" was "in charge". [redacted] did not know the name for the individual introduced to him as "Webby".

[redacted] recalled that some time after the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY and approximately during 1965, he was employed by the Bob Walter Funeral Home at Houston and attending mortician school at Commonwealth College of Houston, Texas. He advised that at one time when he was coming out of the funeral home and getting into his car, he was shot at, however, was not injured.

He stated that he reported this incident to the Houston, Texas Police Department and in addition, telephonically contacted EBB ROSE and informed him that if anyone shot at him again, "they'd better get me good". ROSE denied the incident to [redacted] advised that the Teamster's Union was during that time, trying to organize mortuary workers and it is possible that the Teamsters may have had something to do with the shooting incident.

Regarding the conversation of [redacted] dated October 21, 1976, wherein he advised that in the mid-1950s there were numerous gang-land type killings, [redacted] advised that he did not wish to discuss this matter, unless he could be given immunity from any prosecution. He stated that he would only make one comment regarding the gang-land type killings, by stating that he was "connected with CARLOS MARCELLO of New Orleans". He described MARCELLO as being close to 60 years old, with salt and pepper hair and involved in Mafia activities in the Southeast. When questioned for more specifics regarding the killings that had taken place in Texas during the 1950s, [redacted] reiterated that he would not comment upon these killings unless given immunity from any prosecution.

At this point in the interview, [redacted] advised he could provide no additional details to substantiate the signed statements he had previously furnished, however, stated that if in the future he recalled any additional details, he would alert Mr. [redacted] through the United States Consulate at [redacted]. Again, [redacted] stated that everything he had told Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] on April 14, 1977 and on April 15, 1977 was true and correct to the best of his knowledge.