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

REVILO P. OLIVER, Professor at the University of Illinois, recently made a speech in Santa Ana, California, wherein he made numerous allegations concerning the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY. One of the allegations was to the effect that the Secretary of Defense ordered the United States Army to begin rehearsing for the funeral more than a week before the funeral.

On September 2, 1964, OLIVER stated that his source for such statement was a news article which appeared in the "Clarion Ledger," a newspaper in Jackson, Mississippi, February 21, 1964. According to OLIVER, this article pertained to statements made by Captain RICHARD CLOY, United States Army. OLIVER added that Captain CLOY was in charge of protocol for state funerals.

The Friday, February 21, 1964, issue of the "Clarion Ledger," Jackson, Mississippi, daily newspaper, page 3, reported an article entitled, "A Lot to Remember, McComb Army Officer Big Part in Kennedy Funeral," by KENNETH TOLLIVER. This is an interview, according to the article, with Captain RICHARD C. CLOY, who until recently was in command of the Headquarters Company of the First Battalion, Third Infantry Division, and was a member of the military staff which revised the manual regarding honors due to a deceased chief of state.

The article in part states that the military orders governing President KENNEDY's inauguration filled a manual containing 84 pages, but according to CLOY who helped conduct the President's funeral, the orders for that ceremony covered 160 pages. CLOY was in charge of the caisson which carried the President's coffin, the saluting battery which fired the 21 gun salute and the pipe and drum corps which marched with the cortege.

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CLOY is quoted as saying, "We were preparing the actual funeral arrangements less than an hour after the President was shot."

"We were in a state of readiness and had just finished a funeral rehearsal because there was grave concern for President HOOVER's health; but we never expected that our practice was preparing us for President KENNEDY."

CLOY stated that although his command was ready for the state funeral the actual site for the burial was not known until the day before the ceremony. He is quoted as saying, "We issued all orders prior to being informed that it would be at Arlington, so that we would be prepared to conduct the rites either in Washington or Boston."

The article reported that CLOY at that time was in McComb, Mississippi, on leave and was en route to his new assignment with the general staff of the Third Infantry Division in Germany.

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