

After an Intensive 4-Year Investigation . . .

REC-51

# Top Authority on JFK Assassination Photos Says 4 Gunmen Murdered the President

By RICHARD E. SPRAGUE

President John F. Kennedy was killed by a savage crossfire of bullets, fired at his motorcade from four separate locations by four assassins.

And Lee Harvey Oswald was not even one of them. Oswald never fired a single shot that earth-shaking day.

Kennedy was struck four times in all — not twice, as the Warren Commission insisted. And the bullet that finally killed him came from a grassy knoll in front of the Presidential car — not from the Texas School Book Depository at the rear, where Oswald was supposedly firing alone.

Up to 50 conspirators plotted and carried out the precision, military-style maneuvers that culminated in JFK's tragic death on Nov. 22, 1963, on that crowded Dallas street.

Some were Dallas policemen. Some were agents of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. Some were Cuban exiles.

Later, in their heavy-handed attempts to erase, blot out or cover up vital evidence, some of the top leaders in American government became accessories after the fact to the most frightful crime of the century.

These, basically, are my conclusions, formulated after four years of painstaking study of hundreds of photographs and thousands of frames of movie film taken either at the moment of the ambush or in the frantic minutes that followed. I was aided by more than 100 people in my research work and collection of new evidence. Most of these were members of the Committee to Investigate Assassinations.

JFK's assassination was the most photographed murder in

Richard E. Sprague, 48, an engineer and computer specialist, heads his own company, Personal Data Services of Hartsdale, N.Y., and is an active member of a Washington-based organization known as the Committee to Investigate Assassinations.

He is also the country's top authority on photographs taken the day President Kennedy was shot in Dallas. He has spent four years studying photos and has also made three trips to Dallas to talk with assassination eyewitnesses and other researchers.

In the course of his investigation, Sprague has turned up dramatic new evidence indicating that dozens of conspirators were involved in a complicated plot to kill the President. He condemns the "lone assassin" verdict of the Warren Commission as a glaring falsehood.

Assisted by a trade magazine, "Computers and Automation," — which carried a 32-page feature on his probe — Sprague is now feeding details gleaned from all available assassination photos into a computer in hopes of learning still more about who the plotters were and how they carried out their vicious job. In this ENQUIRER exclusive he tells of the amazing discoveries he has made so far.

## ... Lee Harvey Oswald Was NOT One of the Assassins

communication and each other. Another four probably acted as backup teams.

I base this conclusion on the photographic evidence, which also shows that shots were fired at Kennedy from four different locations. I do not believe that people who were





**COMPUTER SPECIALIST** Richard Sprague points to second-floor window of Dal Tex Building, from where he believes one of the gunmen, fired at JFK.

photographers have taken more than 200 photos and movie sequences of the movie film in the shooting, 17,000 frames.

Yet no effort has ever been made to correlate the great mass of evidence contained in these unsorted, hidden away or "lost" in the ignored.

The Warren Commission, for instance, examined just 26 photographs in its hand, I have personally looked more than 400 of these sequences, and I am convinced that one the Warren Commission story from the Warren Commission sketch (above, far right) by both to investigate assassination of the Communistally illustrates what situations, described.

I believe that highlights why I want every single photo analyzed by a computer. In this way, photo taken at Dealey Plaza can be all the other way we may ever be able to prove in this is to solve a crime, and must credit the Warren Commission's findings are totally false.

Our findings credit the Warren Commission's findings are totally false. I have analyzed — Lee Harvey Oswald's — fired any shots from the school Book Depository, where Oswald allegedly crouched as a

There are several photographs in circulation of a person exactly 5.7 seconds before the Presidential motorcade, a

These are several photographs in circulation of a person exactly 5.7 seconds before the Presidential motorcade, a

also shown in the photograph. to the also shown in the photograph. to the also shown in the photograph. to the

Another was taken 3.5 seconds after the last shot — the photograph was made from a press car in the motorcade — and by plotting the car's position from other films, we worked out the exact time the photograph was taken.

In both photographs, the window is empty. Thus, these two pictures alone destroy the Warren Commission's contention, based on the testimony of one confused witness, that Oswald leaned far out the window with his rifle to fire the fatal shots, and then slowly withdrew a rifle. If he did, he would have appeared in one of these photographs.

Photos also prove that someone tampered with the storeroom from which Oswald supposedly fired. Three bullet casings found on the floor near the window and three boxes arranged so that they could be used as a "gun rest" were key pieces of evidence in the Warren Commission's decision that Oswald was the killer.

But the original setting up of the bullet casings was too obviously faked. A deputy sheriff who arrived on the scene first saw the three casings, side by side, neatly pointing in the same direction, just inches apart. But by the time the official police photographer arrived, the casings had been scattered

about on the storeroom floor. Similarly, the position of the boxes on which Oswald is said to have steadied his gun was obviously changed. Originally, the boxes were stacked three high, as shown in several photos. They were far too tall to rest a gun on, so someone later rearranged them so that they were stacked only two high.

This was not done for several hours, however. Jack Beers, a Dallas Morning News photographer took pictures of the boxes at 4 p.m. — three and a half hours after the shooting — and they were still in their original position.

Sometime later, when the police photographer got around to taking the picture, the boxes had been rearranged. This mass of photographic evidence totally disproves the Warren Commission's neat verdict about a "lone assassin." While Oswald was, most likely, one of the plotters, it was no solitary fanatic with a mail-order rifle who triggered the mayhem in Dealey Plaza.

From microscopic bits of evidence found in numerous photographs, as well as from interviews with eyewitnesses and Kennedy researchers, I have pieced together what I believe to be the true picture of the plot.

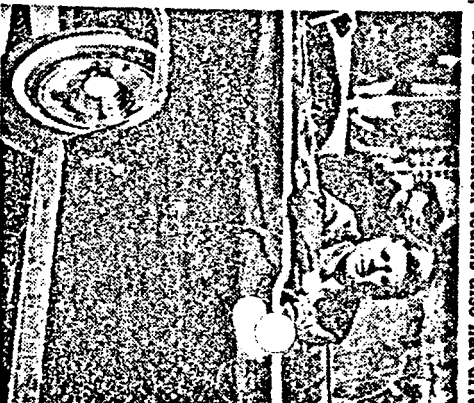
A crack team of about 12 persons was on the scene to carry out the assassination. There were four snipers, and each sniper almost certainly had someone to pick up the spent shells and aid in

execute such a plan would leave anything to chance — like leaving spent shells after shooting Kennedy. No spent shells were found at these locations.

Therefore, I believe each sniper had an assistant who had as a primary task the collection of these spent shells. Again, because the assassination was so well planned, I am sure there would be at least two backup teams — each with two people — in case one of the other teams couldn't get in position.

They had a visual system of communication, and very likely a radio system as well. Those who acted as communicators signaled the firing on the motorcade with split-second timing. I know one person who was at Dealey Plaza at the time of the shooting, Jim Hicks, claimed he was a radio communicator, and although he has been officially discredited, that doesn't mean he wasn't telling the truth.

The assassination teams also had drive OPEN CAR leaves President John F. Kennedy with Texas Governor John



OPEN CAR leaves President John F. Kennedy with Texas Governor John

In the first pictures where he shows up, this "umbrella man" is holding the umbrella closed. Then, just before the first shot, he is holding it open and low over his head. And finally, just before the last shot, he raises the umbrella — which is still open — about two feet higher.

Several moments after the rest of the crowd dispersed in the frantic wake of the tragedy, the "umbrella man" can still be seen standing in the same spot, his umbrella now folded again.

I think it highly likely that the man with the umbrella was the visual coordinator of the team's deadly mission and the man who had to make the final decision to "go."

Of all the strange things I have uncovered in the course of my four-year investigation, none to me is stranger than the action — or, more accurately, the inaction — of the Warren Commission.

The commission ruled, for example, that only two shots hit JFK. Yet the commission did not even examine the autopsy X-rays and photographs — and the photos in fact were not developed until two years after Kennedy's death.

And the commission raised no questions at all over the fact that Commander J.J. Humes, chief surgeon at the autopsy, personally burned his preliminary notes in the fireplace of his home on Nov. 24, 1963.

For reasons that are far from obvious, the Warren investigators interviewed only a few of the 30 professional photographers who took pictures at the scene, even though 15 of them were in the motorcade itself, no farther than six car lengths from JFK's limousine.

And finally, the commission steadfastly ignored the violent backward motion of Kennedy's head as shown in the Zapruder film and other assassina-

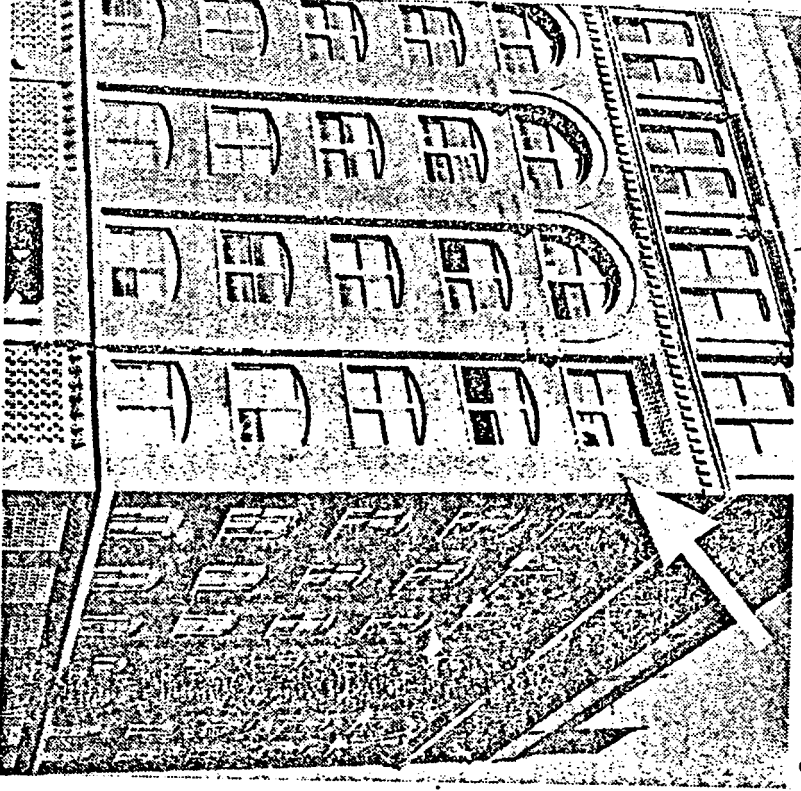
tion unobtainable congressional investigation could pin down.

I feel certain that once these high officials realized that the Central Intelligence Agency was involved with the conspirators and decided the truth could not be told to the American public, there would have been such an outcry that it would probably have meant the end of the CIA.

photos was made. Then, by pinpointing the exact location and camera angle of each picture, we can trace the movements of every person and object appearing in the photos.

Admittedly, this will take time, not to mention a great deal of more work and expense.

With the help of the magazine, "Computers and Automation", I have already started this work. The maga-



**SHOOTING PLACE:** Arrow points to sixth-floor window of the Texas School Book Depository from where, according to the Warren Commission, Oswald fired at JFK. Sprague says the shots were not fired from this window.

including what appears in them, was taken from what angle. Testimony of witnesses will also be fed into the computer.

Once all this is done — and it will take a long time — it will be possible to ask the computer to analyze the information.

This will be done, for example, by programming the computer to answer questions like: "Do the photographs show that shots came from the grassy knoll in Dealey Plaza? And if so, do they show individuals who could have fired the shots, and where these individuals were afterward?"

It will sift through the information on angles, Kennedy's reaction, times, placing precisely, and give an answer, yes or no.

Another question could be: "Do the photographs show that witnesses did what they have claimed to have done?" That is, if someone shown in the photographs has not stood in the same spot for 10 minutes after the shooting, or ran immediately away, the computer will be able to check through all the photos and see if he did so.

It will also be possible to say to the computer: "An X is seen at a certain spot in a certain photo or film frame. Does it appear again in any of the other photos? And given certain routes it could have taken to get there, which one did it take?"

By again checking all the information, including the time it would take by each route, the computer will be able to give a very accurate idea of left, which street the shooting the car photographs might have gotten into the car. In this way it will be possible to build up a very clear picture of the getaway sequence.

The computer analysis is the nation's only hope in clearing up the man-made mystery of what really happened in Dallas. Photographs don't lie. Neither do the computers. We may learn the truth, yet.

**'CROSSFIRE' SKETCH** was made after Sprogue personally studied over 400 photos taken at the time of the assassination.

**MARVEY OSWALD** — photos show how getaway cars — photos show how the assassination — Mexico City was arrested by Dallas policemen, and released away from the area as part of the plot. Minutes after the shooting, at least two cars had driven off. Again, nothing was left to teams. Again, nothing was left to cars for the various team members also had to be a field commander and Dealey Plaza directing or operation and making a last-minute decision on whether or not to fire. And these actual assassins was a work of conspirators who helped plan finance the operation and then command the situation afterward. They believe that eight or 10 persons, not usually present at Dealey Plaza that day, did the bulk of the planning. And approximately 30 persons were involved in the conspiracy in some respect, making a total of up to 50 in all. This is not just guesswork, although previously these latter people do not appear in the photographs. I know of meetings between various people prior to the assassination — Mexico City was arrested by Dallas policemen, and released away from the area as part of the scene of one such meeting. These meetings were to discuss killing President Kennedy. They involved people who had been overheard discussing the assassination of the President, people who were known to want him dead. Although we don't have records of what they discussed at their meetings, the only common ground these people had was their dislike of the President. Their names constantly crop up in investigations of the killing.

Some of them were Cuban exiles, angered at the lack of anti-Castro action by the United States and the failure of the Bay of Pigs Invasion. They had been trained by the Central Intelligence Agency to fight against Castro, and in their ranks were some people being paid by the CIA.

Without the help of some Dallas policemen, the assassination teams on Dealey Plaza could never have made the clean getaways that they did. In fact, I believe some members of the teams were arrested by Dallas policemen, and released away from the area as part of the plot.

Again, there is strong photographic evidence to support the idea that a group of four snipers carried out the assassination by spraying the Presidential limousine with bullets from all directions. Or all the photographs taken in Dealey Plaza that fateful day, the color movie sequence of some 480 frames taken by Abraham Zapruder is the most important.

It clearly shows President Kennedy's head jerk backward from the impact of the fatal bullet — and this simple fact is enough to prove that that shot could not have come from the School Book Depository, or, indeed, from anywhere to the rear of the Presidential car.

To cause such a backward jerk, the bullet had to come from a point slightly in front of the car.

It is interesting to note that the Warren Commission, in an error it has since admitted, published the two crucial frames of the Zapruder film in reverse order, making it appear that Kennedy's head was slammed forward by the bullet's impact, rather than backward.

Undoubtedly, millions of readers of the commission's report have been confused by this reversal.

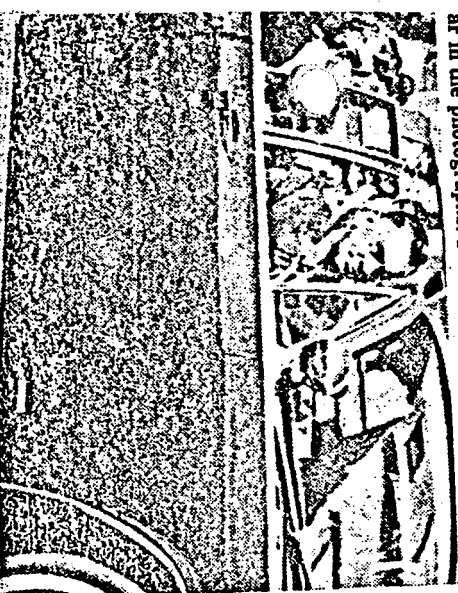
The film clearly shows that no sudden speedup by the car caused the violent backward snap of the President's head, as some have claimed. The speed of the car remains unchanged and Mrs. Kennedy's head does not move at all.

Unfortunately, no official attempt has yet been made to follow up or expand on the revelations of the Zapruder film by comparing it to the many other photographs made at the time.

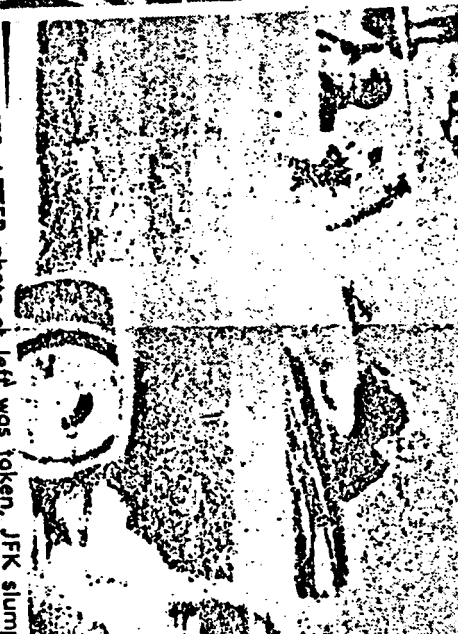
When I studied the film and checked it against all the other photos showing the effects of the shots, I became convinced of two things:

- (1) Six shots were fired, of which four

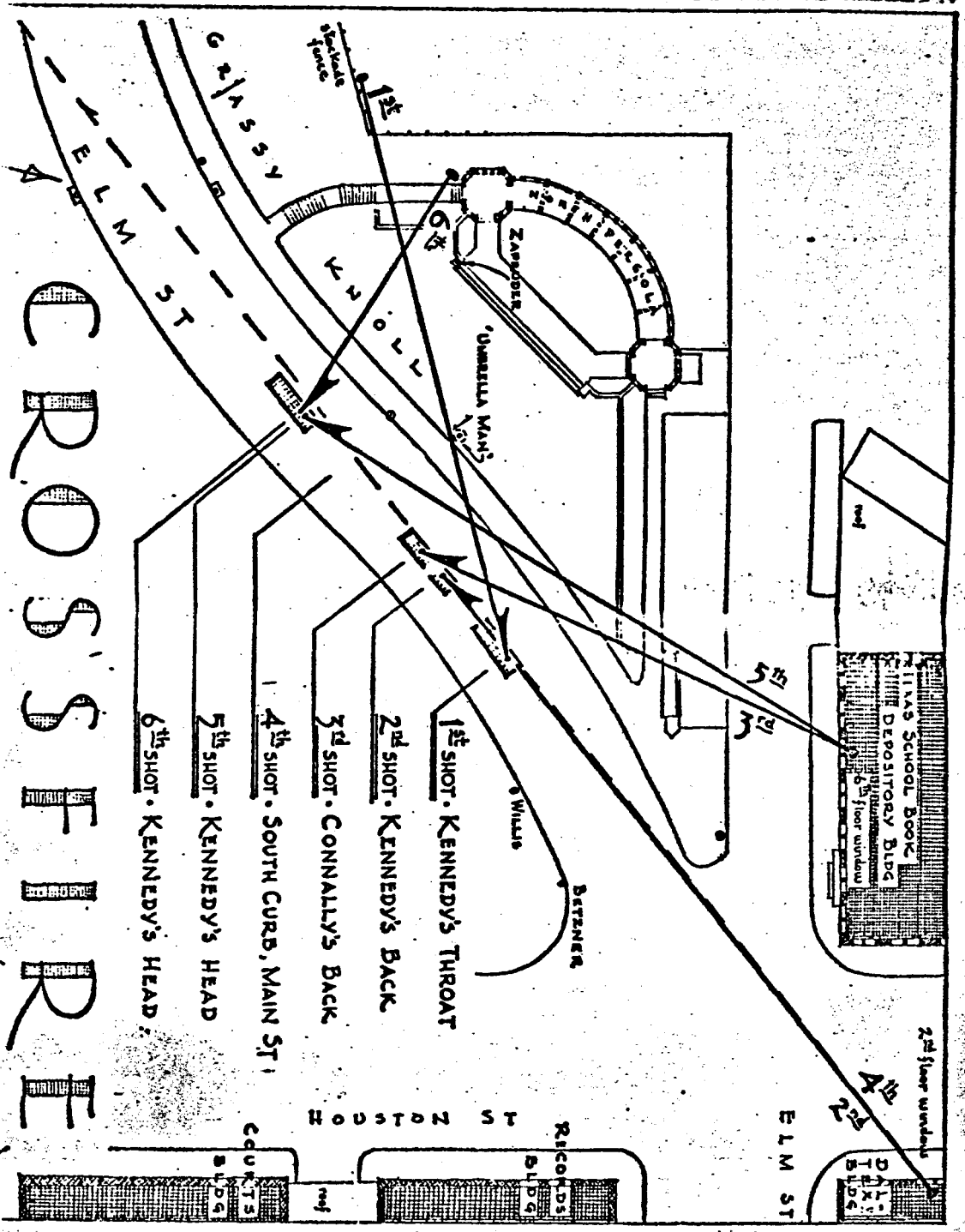
(Continued on next page)



Kennedy an open target to snipers as he rides in motorcade. Jackie is hidden behind Connolly.



MINUTES AFTER photo at left was taken, JFK slumps into Jackie's arms (above) after assassin's bullets slammed into his head.



# CROSS'S FIRE

- 1<sup>st</sup> SHOT - KENNEDY'S THROAT
- 2<sup>nd</sup> SHOT - KENNEDY'S BACK
- 3<sup>rd</sup> SHOT - CONNALLY'S BACK
- 4<sup>th</sup> SHOT - SOUTH CURB, MAIN ST.
- 5<sup>th</sup> SHOT - KENNEDY'S HEAD
- 6<sup>th</sup> SHOT - KENNEDY'S HEAD



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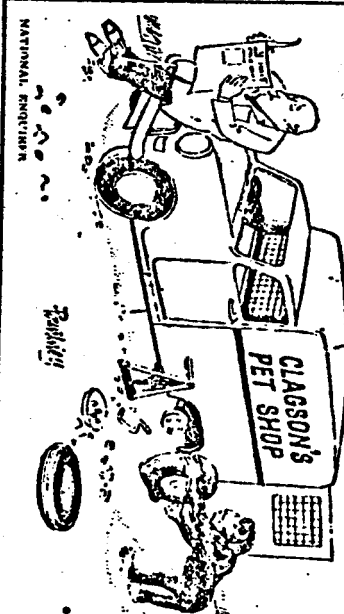
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(Scoring for answers to test on page 12)

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2. Yes — 10 points, No — 0 points; 3. Yes — 0, No — 10; 4. Yes — 0, No — 10; 5. Yes — 0, No — 10; 6. Yes — 10, No — 0; 7. Yes — 10, No — 0; 8. Yes — 10, No — 0; 9. Yes — 10, No — 0; 10. Yes — 0, No — 10; 11. Yes — 10, No — 0; 12. Yes — 0, No — 10; 13. Yes — 10, No — 0; 14. Yes — 10, No — 0.

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By E. A. Carey

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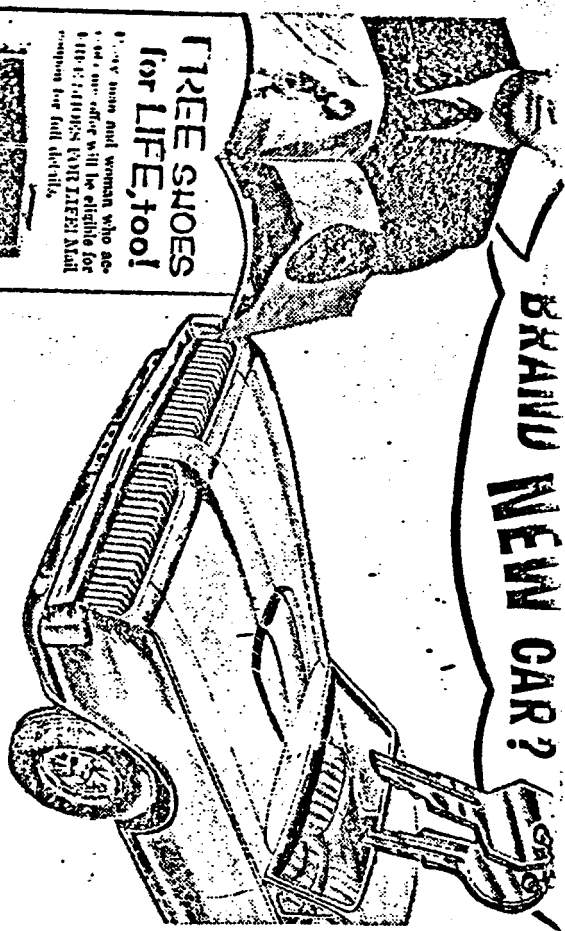
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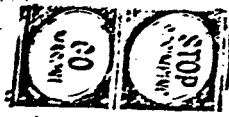
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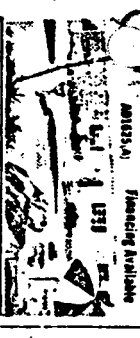
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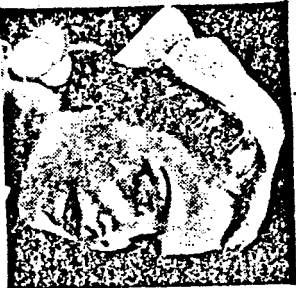
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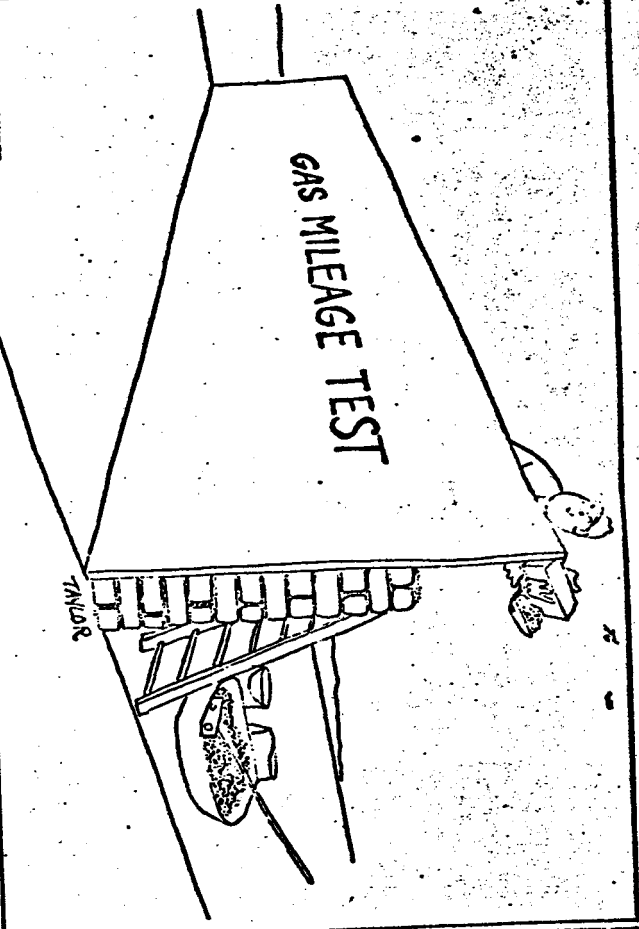
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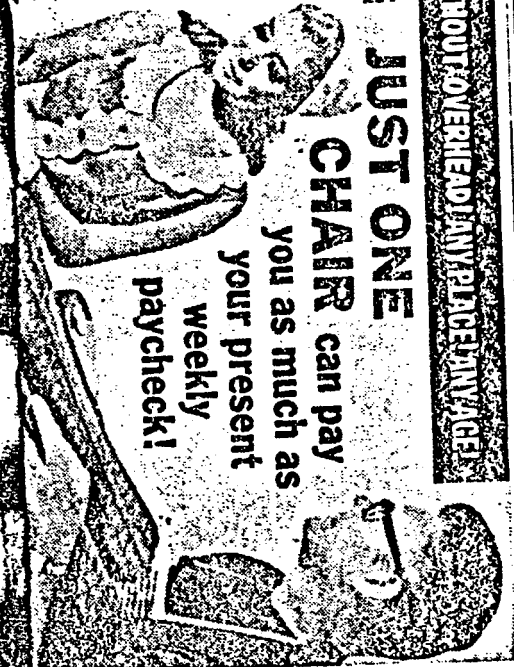
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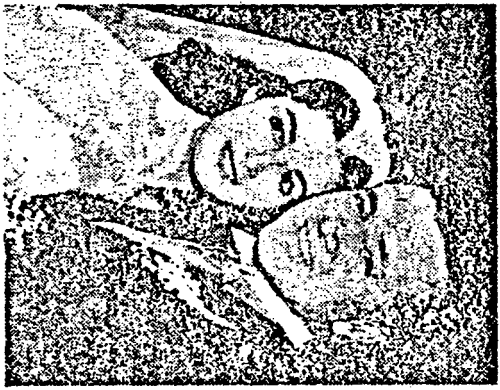
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breakdown all the time that Anna



**BRIDE:** Pier married singer Vic Damone in November 1954 and was divorced two years later.



**SON** Perry Damone (then 9) is kissed by mom, Pier, who had just gained custody of boy from ex-husband Vic Damone.

Maria Pierangeli, told of being obsessed by haunting fears.

"I have sudden fits of terrible fear," she said. "I call the janitor on the house phone and beg him to come up and see if there is someone outside my door. I know there is someone there and that they will strangle me. I can feel it."

After her screen debut 20 years ago in the Italian film, "Tomorrow Is Too Late," Pier came to the U.S. where she made a series of hit films for M-G-M, including "Teresa," "The Story of Three Loves," "Flame and the Flesh," "Sombrero," and "Silver Chalice."

She said she still receives periodic offers from movie producers, but that she turns down every proposal.

"I can't face even the most common tasks," she said. "That is why I have buried myself behind these four walls. I don't belong to the world and the world doesn't belong to me."

"Often I remember to eat only when I get stomach cramps. I am only surviving. It would be better if I was already dead."

Later, her marriage to Vic Damone ended in divorce after only two years. And a second marriage, to Italian jazz musician Armand Trovajoli, met with the same unfortunate fate.

Pier was left with two sons — one by each marriage — but she rarely sees either of them. Perry, 14, is a cadet at an American military school. Her other son, Popino, 8, lives in England.

"He is a he-man, my Perry," she said fondly of her oldest. "He is the image of me. He is tender and sweet."

"He says to me, 'Mommy, you musn't work again. You must sit in a wheelchair and I will take care of you.'"

Pier paused to shake her head.

"That would be marvelous," she said emotionally.

None of the long succession of men who have passed through her life seems to mean anything any longer.

She is interested only in her two sons.

"Men are all the same," she said.

"If only I could have my children with me all the time then I might be happy."

Even most of her family, which includes her famous actress sister, Marisa Pavan, appears to have given up on Pier.

In Pier's opinion, at any rate, "I have annoyed all the Pier-angels. I know," she said.

"They have all been very pa-

netronic she was and now she the other hand — as she didn't take care of herself." Pier herself — obviously dis-said Antonio Frate, a resident agree.

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N-8-16

By BILL SLOAN

Few Americans would believe that the forlorn figure in this exclusive photo (below, right) was ranked among the most beautiful women on the screen a few short years ago.

She was the great love of doomed screen idol James Dean, the wife of singer Vic Damone, the costar of such super-heroes as Paul Newman.

A decade ago, U.S. film audiences worshipped her as the lovely, dark-eyed actress, Pier Angeli.

But time has dealt harshly with both her beauty and her career.

Now frail and emaciated at 38, Pier was discovered recently by an Italian reporter, living alone and penniless in a Rome apartment.

Hiding from a hostile world like a frightened rabbit, Pier spends her time wishing for death.

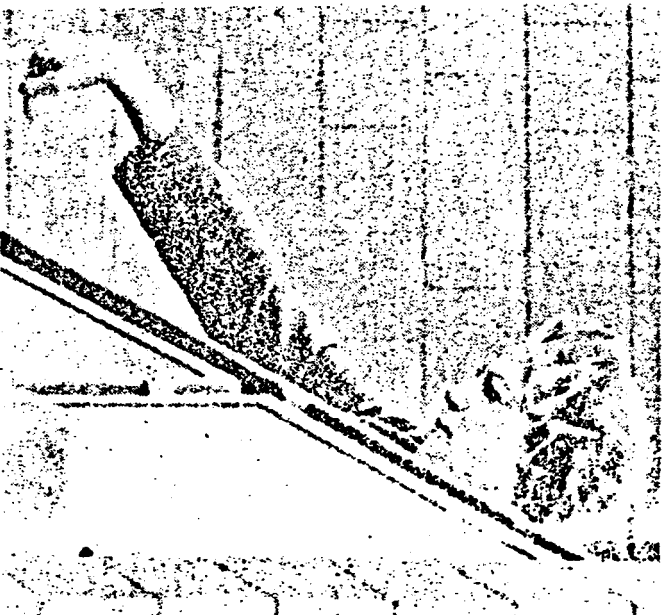
"I was not born to live," she said brokenly. "I only want to die."

Irrationally frightened by every sound, unable to accept any of the film offers that still trickle in, too forgetful even to remember when to eat, the once-lovely actress was a stunning shock to her neighbors before she moved from the apartment last May.

"She used to wake me up at 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning and ask for something to eat," said her next-door neighbor, Mrs. Maria Muscinelli.

"She had no furniture, except for a bed and some pictures she said she had painted. She was really in a bad way. She needed help, but not the kind that could give

# Alone & Penniless at 38, Former Screen Beauty Pier Angeli Spends Her Time Wishing for Death.



**FORLORN:** Frail and emaciated, her hair in curlers, Pier Angeli leans over railing to point to something below.

she lived in this building." As Luigi Pavolini, the porter in Pier's apartment building recalled: "She hardly ever went out. Sometimes, no one would see her for days and then she would come down and ask for food. I know she drank alone until she was emaciated and in a terrible state." Before she moved out, the

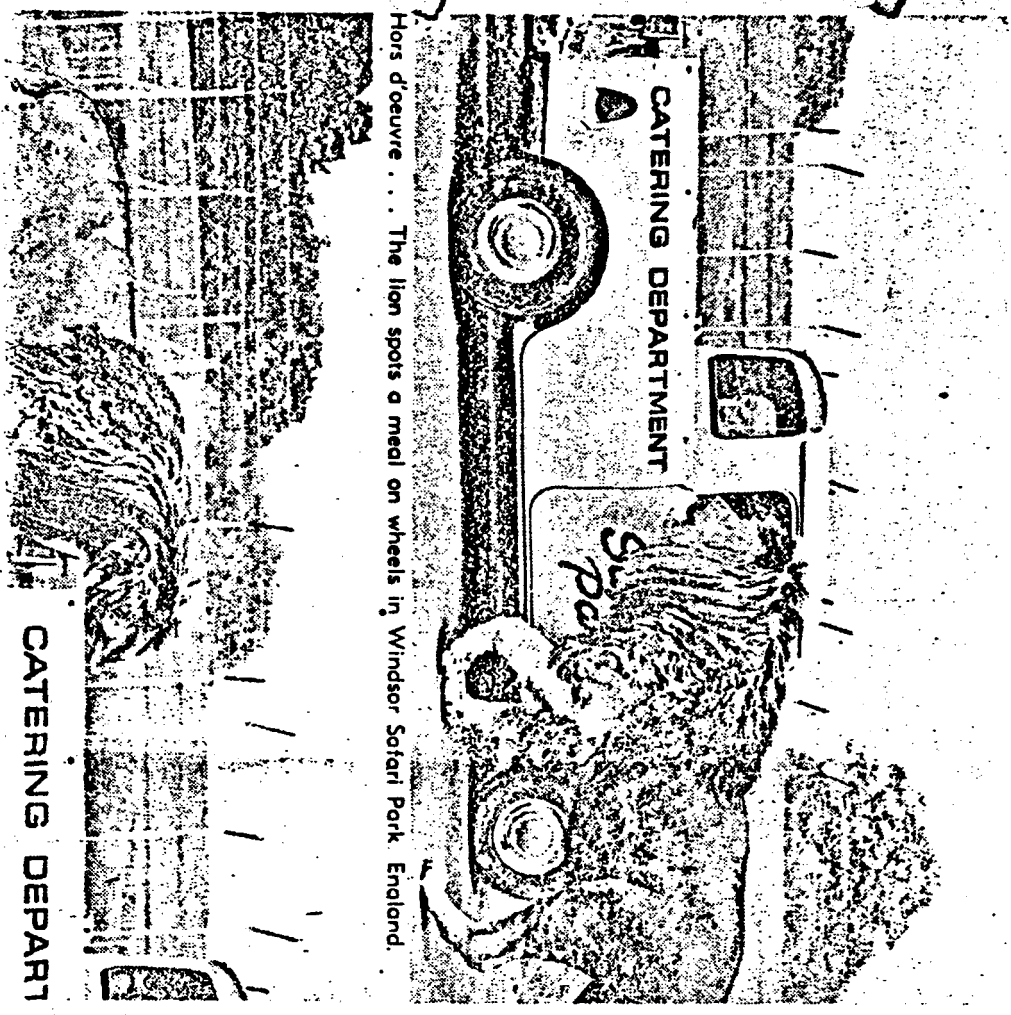


**SCREEN BEAUTY:** Pier Angeli, shown in 1962 photo, was one of the most beautiful women on the screen.

to die — and maybe soon I will die." Many of her neighbors in the Rome apartment building were deeply concerned about Pier. They wondered about what had caused her strange fear and disillusionment with life itself. Her love life was one of the most commonly mentioned tent with me. Too patient! even. What am I living for?" Soon after the interview with Pier appeared in the widely read Italian magazine "Oggi" last May, the actress was taken from her Rome apartment by her mother and reportedly admitted to a Swiss clinic, possibly because of the magazine article. In Rome, Pier's neighbors remain concerned.

At the moment, Pier is somewhere in Paris, according to her agent, Rita Darnesi. But the agent would not say exactly where. "She went to Paris after resting in a Swiss clinic. She needed to take it easy," the agent said. "Her love life was unhappy, but I would certainly not describe her as desperate."

# SELF-SERVICE LION STYLE



Hors d'oeuvre . . . The lion spots a meal on wheels in Windsor Safari Park, England.

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## Senator Fulbright Charges State Dept. Deceived Congress

By MICHAEL ADLER

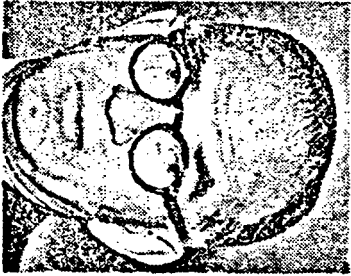
Senator J. William Fulbright says the Department of State deceived Congress on a Honduras shipment of supplies to Vietnam refugees which was actually made on a U.S. Air Force plane — with Uncle Sam footing the flight bill.

Sen. Fulbright (D-Ark.) said the Vietnamese flight doubled as a 34-day sight-seeing junket for Honduran officials and reporters. He said the cost of "this pilgrimage" has not been disclosed, adding "I think we can take judicial notice that it undoubtedly exceeded the cost of supplies delivered to the Vietnamese."

According to Fulbright, the Honduran Red Cross collected supplies for refugees and then borrowed the USAF plane which was repainted with Honduran Air Force colors. He said Congress was duped into thinking the trip was made at the expense of Hondurans when it was, he said, "kind of a lark for the Hondurans."

"Disguising this trip as a Honduran venture was intended to deceive Congress and the American people," Fulbright, who is chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, told **THE ENQUIRER**.

"This is one of the most disgraceful incidents which has come to my attention in more than 25 years of public life," Sen. Fulbright said the "airborne wayward bus" took 13 days — from Jan. 31 to Feb. 12, 1967, to go from Honduras to Saigon, making stops in California, Hawaii, Wake Island, Guam and the Philippines. After a stop of five days in Vietnam, the



SENATOR FULBRIGHT

Entire . . . At the back of the unattended truck the lion gets down to the job at hand.



Main course . . . Success! He has grabbed the lion's share. The joint of meat is safely between his teeth.

For reasons which do not appear on the record — but which I think we can all guess, it was found desirable to return via a different route — one which naturally included Hong Kong. Other stops were made in Taiwan, Japan, Midway, Hawaii, California, New Mexico and Texas.

The Senator explained that in 1967 he asked the State Department for information about Free World aid to Vietnam, which was encouraged by the Johnson administration. He said he was told that "Honduras has contributed drugs and goods for refugees, flown there on a Honduran Air Force plane."

In March 1970, he read a report by the General Accounting Office that said that "due to the limited range of Honduran Air Force cargo aircraft it was determined to use USAF plane to transport the supplies . . . the plane was repainted and with a U.S. navigator, made the flight."

Fulbright wrote Secretary of State William Rogers about the discrepancy between what the State Department told Congress in 1967 and what the GAO reported in 1970.

In the letter, Sen. Fulbright told Rogers: "If the GAO report is correct, then the Congress was clearly misled by the State Department in 1967.

"Indeed, the whole operation smacks of fraud, particularly offensive kind of fraud."

Although this information about the '67 flight was marked "classified," as affecting the national security, Sen. Fulbright informed Secretary Rogers, "The whole episode is so outrageous that I am forced to conclude the classification is simply to avoid embarrassment."

Fulbright told **THE ENQUIRER**: "The State Department's 1967 statement was intended both to mislead Congress and give the impression that the Johnson administration's Vietnam policy had wide support."

**NATIONAL ENQUIRER**

# ASSASSINATION

(Continued from preceding page)  
 hit President Kennedy, one struck Governor John Connally of Texas and another slammed into curbside on Main Street.

(2) The sixth and final shot — the one that virtually blew the President's head off and killed him — struck Kennedy from the front and the right, hurling his head backward and to the left in accordance with the laws of physics.

Still basing my conclusions on firm photographic evidence, I find that the shooting went like this:

• Shot One, fired from behind a fence on a grassy knoll on the north side of Elm Street at a point well ahead of the motorcade, struck Kennedy in the throat.

• Shot Two, fired from the second floor of the Dal Tex Building across Houston Street from the School Book Depository, hit the President in the back.

• Shot Three, fired from a sixth-floor window of the Book Depository — but not from the same window Oswald allegedly used — struck Gov. Connally in the back.

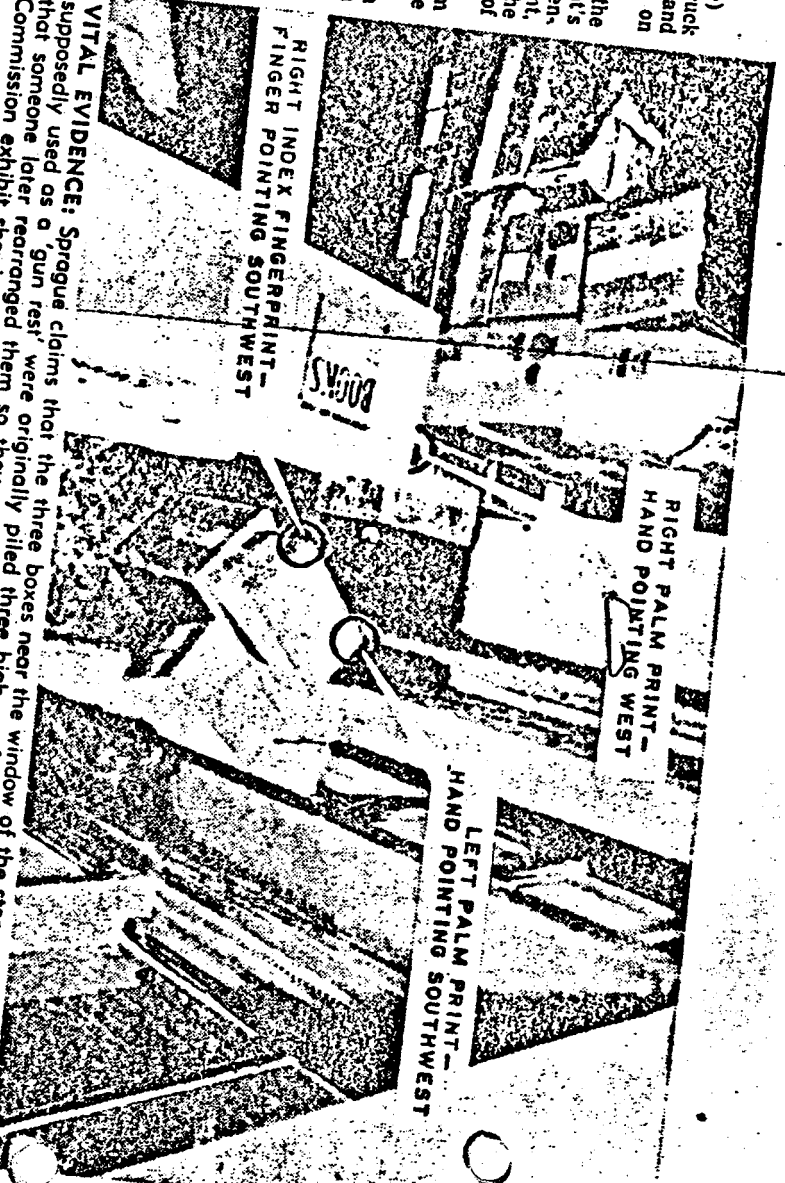
• Shot Four, fired from the Dal Tex Building, hit the curb on the south side of Main Street, 100 yards or so in front of the motorcade.

• Shot Five, fired from the Book Depository, struck Kennedy in the head.

• Shot Six, fired from the grassy knoll over the heads of the crowd in the plaza, hit Kennedy at near point-blank range at almost the same instant as Shot Five.

The man I believe was the "field commander" for the assassination team can be seen in a number of photos standing among the crowd on the north side of Elm Street.

Despite the fact that it was a bright, sunny afternoon with the temperature at a mild 68 degrees, the man is car-



**VITAL EVIDENCE:** Sprague claims that the three boxes near the window of the storeroom, which Oswald supposedly used as a "gun rest" were originally piled three high — far too tall to rest a gun on — and that someone later rearranged them so they were stacked only two high. (Photo is an official Warren Commission exhibit showing palm and fingerprints used to illustrate one phase of their investigation.)

tion photographs that I have since for some of the officials who have made the CIA possible.

In the commission's investigation lead I strongly feel that only a full committee to conclude that — while they certainly did not participate in the conspiracy beforehand — many prominent. By using the Zapruder and several

**'Photographs don't lie. Neither do the computers. We may learn the truth yet.'**

officials helped cover it up afterward. Other films as a time sequence guide. This involvement may well have touched some of the highest levels of the government.

It has made access to a computer, which is available to me.

At the moment, we are working out a program to feed into the computer every piece of evidence we have obtained. It is impossible for any person to store all these facts in his head.

The computer will be able to do so. Then I — or any person researching the Kennedy assassination — will be able to ask the computer: "Tell me about so-and-so," and will immediately get all the known facts.

That is the first step