

Washington Insiders Are Talking About a Fantastic Story

By JOHN HENSHAW — ENQUIRER Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON — The hottest story making the rounds here is that the U.S. Justice Department prevented the arrest of Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby BEFORE the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Oswald and the man who killed him, Ruby, were suspected of being partners in crime seven months before the President's death.

The incredible details of the story are so explosive that officials won't even answer "no comment" when queried about it. But the story being discussed by top-level government officials reveals:

1. That the Justice Department deliberately kept Oswald and Ruby out of jail before the assassination.
2. That Dallas cops suspected Oswald of being the gunman and Ruby the paymaster in a plot to murder former

EXCLUSIVE

There is a suspicion among the American public that there is more to the story behind the assassination of President Kennedy and his slayer, Lee Oswald, than has been disclosed.

The ENQUIRER prints this article in the hope it will lead to the solution of the mystery surrounding these tragic events.

Major General Edwin A. Walker — seven months before the President was assassinated.

3. That the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency was using Ruby to recruit commandos for raids against Castro's Cuba. To prevent this explosive information from being disclosed, the CIA asked the Justice Dept. to step in and stop the Dallas police from arresting Jack Ruby, as well as Oswald.

A top-secret document — a letter signed by a high offi-

cial of the Justice Dept. — was sent in April 1963 from the Justice Dept. to Dallas Chief of Police Jesse E. Curry requesting the Dallas police NOT to arrest Oswald and Ruby in connection with the attempted slaying of General Walker.

After a sniper shot at, but missed, General Walker in Dallas, April 10, 1963, Dallas police suspected that Oswald was the sniper and Ruby the payoff man.

The cops were set to arrest the pair. But they never got the chance because of the heavy pressure brought to bear by the Justice

Dept. And so Oswald and Ruby were allowed to remain free. And seven months later, on last November 22 in Dallas, Oswald was able to kill the President of the United States.

The top-secret document — a copy of it is reportedly in the hands of the Presidential commission investigating the assassination — bares a web of intrigue that involves the Federal Bureau of Investigation, along with the Justice Dept. and the Central Intelligence Agency.

It is so politically explosive that the Presidential commission, headed by Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren, has even withheld it from one of its own members, Senator Richard Russell (D., Ga.).

It is feared that Senator Russell, who leads the South in the fight against the civil rights bill, might use the document as a weapon against the Justice Dept. and its chief, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, a leader in the fight for civil rights.

The document — requesting the cops not to arrest Ruby and Oswald — contradicts the FBI report on the assassination and the subsequent murder of Oswald.

According to the New York Times, the FBI report, which was turned over to the Justice Dept. on December 4 and then to the Presidential commission five days later, concludes "that there was no link between Oswald and Jack Ruby."



LEE OSWALD



JACK RUBY

The Times added, in its issue of December 10:

"Speculation that Oswald and Ruby knew each other, or in some way were part of a prior vendetta or association, is completely discounted in the report."

The ENQUIRER learned, however, that on the day Ruby killed Oswald, a man named Bill DeMar told reporters he saw Oswald in Ruby's Carousel night club.

DeMar, under the stage name of Bill Crowe, was then master of ceremonies at the club.

The ENQUIRER traced DeMar to an Evansville, Ind., night club and questioned him on April 11. He told our reporter that he had seen Oswald sitting in the Carousel on the night of November 21 — the night before Oswald assassinated President Kennedy.

DeMar said: "I gave the FBI a statement about seeing Oswald in the club and that was it. I told them the same thing I'm telling you.

"I signed it and have heard nothing more about the incident to this day."

And, on March 17, just three days after a jury voted the death penalty for Ruby, the Associated Press reported from Dallas:

"District Attorney Henry Wade has disclosed how prosecutors made the 'big decision' of the Jack Ruby murder trial.

The decision: They would

not call witnesses who swore they saw Ruby and Lee Harvey Oswald together before a sniper assassinated President Kennedy here.

"Testimony from these witnesses would have made worldwide headlines. And, if jurors had believed the testimony, it would have provided a motive for the slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald.

"Wade said FBI agents and other investigators provided him with a list of witnesses who insisted they had seen Ruby and Oswald together at various times.

"The district attorney said he decided not to call these witnesses because he had doubts

about the accuracy of their statements."

And the New York Times, in an article from Dallas dated March 15, reported:

"Some law enforcement officials in Dallas continued to believe that a connection (between Ruby and Oswald) was possible but, if so, that it was personal and did not necessarily involve the assassination."

The FBI became involved in the undercover maneuverings to stop the arrest of Oswald and Ruby shortly after the attempt to snuff out the life of Gen. Walker, who had been preaching ultraconservatism since he was relieved of his command in Germany.

Walker then resigned from the Army.

A high FBI official was asked by a top official in the Justice Dept., after it was notified by the CIA of the potentially volatile situation in Dallas, to request Dallas police not to arrest Oswald or Ruby.

The FBI official refused to do it, saying it would be obstructing justice and therefore would be a crime.

The FBI man said he would make the request only if he were officially directed to do so in a communication signed by the official.

The FBI official then received a signed directive. He contacted Dallas police and urged them not to arrest Oswald and Ruby.

But the Dallas police also wanted an official signed communication.

Thereupon the Justice Dept. sent the communication to Dallas Police Chief Curry asking

that Oswald and Ruby be left strictly alone.

The department explained it didn't want Oswald and Ruby arrested because of "reasons of state."

The Justice Dept. was making the request on behalf of the CIA.

Because the CIA was deeply involved with Ruby — and probably Oswald, too!

CIA agents had been using Ruby to recruit men in the Dallas area to serve as commandos against Castro's government in Cuba.

And they didn't dare let Ruby be arrested and chance such information getting out.

There were also indications that Oswald himself might have

been working both sides of the fence — as a double agent for both the Communists and the CIA.

So both Oswald and Ruby were left at liberty.

For the next few months Oswald took part in demonstrations in support of Castro, then went to Mexico City and tried to get a visa to visit Russia by way of Cuba.

Oswald's application for a visa was turned down.

Last October 3 he arrived back in Dallas. A week earlier it had been announced that President Kennedy would visit Dallas on November 22.

On October 14 Oswald got a room in a rooming house near the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas. The next day he

got a job at the depository as an order filler.

And it was from a sixth-floor window of that depository that Oswald, last November 22, fired the shots that killed President Kennedy and wounded Texas Governor John Connally.

Oswald escaped and was captured an hour and a half later, but not before he had shot Dallas policeman J.D. Tippitt to death.

Two days later, as a stunned world watched on television, Jack Ruby dashed up and shot Oswald to death as police were leading the handcuffed Oswald through a basement corridor of City Hall.

Ruby, the Dallas night club owner, went on trial for that killing on March 4. He was convicted of "murder with malice"

on March 14.

But after the assassination of President Kennedy and the killing of Oswald the investigations came.

And no satisfying answers were really found, except that evidence was overwhelming that the President had been killed by Oswald.

The same Oswald who had gone to Russia in 1959, pledged allegiance to the Soviet Union and tried to become a Russian citizen.

The Russians supposedly, for whatever reason, turned him down and he finally came back to America with his Russian-born wife, Marina, and their baby daughter in June 1962.

From then on he tried to get mixed up in left-wing activities, ordering all kinds of Communist literature and eventually becoming a loud supporter for Castro's Cuba.

He and his family lived first in Fort Worth, Tex., and then moved to Dallas.

In addition to the apartment he had with his wife and child he rented a room under the name of "A. Hidell."

On March 20, 1963, he received a rifle under that name from a mail-order firm located in Chicago.

On April 10 a sniper fired a rifle bullet through a window of the Dallas home of Gen. Walker.

Gen. Walker was working at his desk on his income tax returns.

The bullet missed his head by scant inches, went through a 9-inch wall and came out in another room.

Dallas police investigation showed that the sniper shot from an alley 150 feet from the Walker home, using a fence to steady the rifle.

Dallas police also had the report of a witness who was near

the Walker home at the time of the slaying.

The witness told them shortly after the attempt on Walker's life that he saw two men, not one, run to an auto and make their getaway.

And within a few days after the shot was fired Dallas police felt they had a complete case.

Then came the fantastic series of maneuvers cloaked in secrecy

which kept Oswald — the man who was to assassinate President Kennedy — a free man.

After the slaying, President Johnson appointed a seven-member commission, headed by Justice Warren, to inquire into the assassination.

Then, just after the commission began work, it was reported by United Press International on December 6 that Oswald's wife, Marina, had informed the FBI that her husband told her excitedly in April 1963 that he tried to kill Gen. Walker.

The FBI declined to comment



OFFICER J.D. TIPPITT

on this news but said its investigation was continuing.

The New York Times reported, in a story datelined from Dallas on December 7, that "evidence developed this week showed that it (the rifle used to kill President Kennedy) was first used April 10 to fire into the home here of Edwin A. Walker."

On February 4, the day after Marina Oswald's first appearance before the Warren commission, Chief Justice Warren told reporters that Marina's testimony "may not be released in your lifetime."

The Chief Justice said that the testimony would be preserved for the public but that it may be suppressed for decades. He finished his statement to the press with: "I say this seriously."

J. Lee Rankin, general counsel to the Warren commission, also talked to reporters on that day. He said that Mrs. Oswald's testimony dealt with her husband's activities in the U.S. after he returned from Russia. Rankin also said that Mrs. Oswald offered the commission some "new evidence."

Later that same day Warren refused to confirm Rankin's reference to "new evidence."

Two fantastic turns in the Oswald-Ruby mystery were front-paged in the New York

Journal-American of Sunday, February 23.

First, the paper revealed that one of the men who put the finger on accused assassin Oswald also had been shot.

The man, Warren Reynolds, said he saw Oswald running away, putting new shells into a pistol as he did, after officer Tippitt was shot to death.

Then, in January, Reynolds was closing up his office when

he was shot in the temple with a bullet fired from a .22-caliber rifle.

The Journal-American said that "a local desperado named Garner was picked up by the police after the shooting but was cleared."

And this resulted in the second startling revelation: Garner's girl, Betty (Mooney) McDonald, took a lie detector test that helped to clear him. And this same Betty McDonald had worked as a stripper in Jack Ruby's Carousel.

In early February, Betty was arrested for engaging in a public brawl with a roommate — and a week later she hanged herself in her cell.

Another person who has added to the deepening mystery of the Ruby-Oswald link is Mark Lane, a former New York Assemblyman, who claims to represent Oswald.

According to the New York Times of Thursday, March 5, Lane gave sensational evidence in Washington to the Warren commission.

The Times said that Lane, who has frequently challenged the view that Oswald was guilty of shooting Kennedy, had told the commission he'd heard of a secret meeting in a Dallas night club eight days before the President was killed.

Lane told the commission that at the secret meeting November 14 were J.D. Tippitt, the Dallas patrolman who was slain while trying to arrest Oswald; Bernard Weissman, a New York resident who had placed an anti-Kennedy advertisement in a Dallas newspaper the day the President was shot, and a third person.

The mystery deepened even further when Lane would not state publicly who this third person was.

But the commission knows



JFK'S LAST RIDE: President and Mrs. John F. Kennedy ride in the rear seat of an open limousine in Dallas last November 22, just before the Chief Executive was assassinated.

Dallas Cops ^{5/17 Nat'l Enquirer} Linked Pair in Murder Try in April 1963

U.S. Justice Dept. Letter Blocked Their Arrest Seven Months Before JFK Slaying

the identity of the Mystery Man because Lane told it to them after the hearing room was cleared of newsmen and spectators.

Lane had said that the secret November 14 meeting was held in Ruby's Carousel Club, and when the public hearing of the commission resumed, Justice Warren asked a question loaded with dynamite:

"Mr. Lane, what was the PURPOSE of his meeting in Dallas?"

But the purpose remains a secret, because Lane answered that his information did not indicate what they were talking about.

But, Lane said, Tippitt, Weissman and the Mystery Man

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(Continued from preceding page) spent more than two hours conferring.

According to the Times, Weissman had been asked by one reporter to comment on Lane's statement.

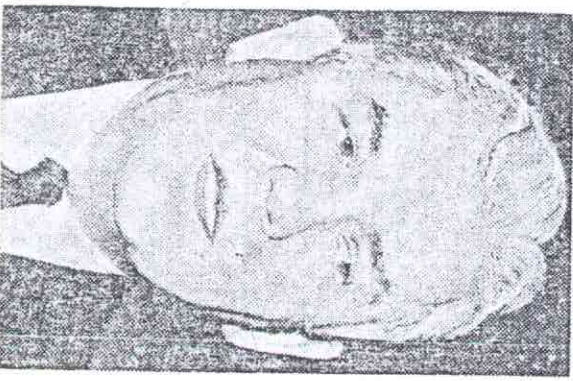
Weissman said that he had never met Tippitt or Ruby or Oswald.

And Weissman also said he had never been in Ruby's Carousel Club.

Then columnist Dorothy Killegallen raised this "important question" in her nationally syndicated column on April 14:

"Why did Lee Harvey Oswald, presumably fleeing from the police after the assassination, approach Patrolman J.D. Tippitt's car — in broad daylight, with witnesses standing by — and shoot the policeman three times, although Officer Tippitt had not said a word to Oswald?"

"A man who knows he is



HENRY WADE

wanted by the authorities after a spectacular crime does not seek out a policeman, usually, unless he has decided to give himself up, and certainly Oswald was not doing that.

Washington Insiders Are Talking About Story

Jack Ruby and Lee Oswald

"By shooting Officer Tippitt, instead of trying to make himself inconspicuous, Oswald put himself in double jeopardy. His act almost guaranteed his arrest.

"Why?

"A whodunit fan would infer that the policeman knew something about Oswald that was so dangerous he had to be silenced at any cost, even Oswald's chance of escape and freedom."

Oswald's mother, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, pointed to still another possible explanation for the murder of Tippitt.

When Mrs. Oswald was asked, "Who killed Tippitt?" by Bob Considine of the Journal-American, she replied in his column of March 13:

"Nobody seems interested in how Lee got out of the Book Depository the day of the assassination. The place was surrounded by police, absolutely surrounded. Yet Lee walked right by them.

"You know how?

"Because Tippitt took him out.

"Then the higher-ups in the conspiracy ordered somebody to kill Tippitt. Part of the master plan, the way I figure it. Marina's (Oswald's widow) part of it, too. CIA or one of those agencies.'"

Speculation that Oswald was not working alone was also voiced in a United Press International dispatch from London which was printed in the Newark, N.J., Star-Ledger on April 19.

"Millions of Europeans refuse to believe that the assassination of John F. Kennedy was not part of a larger conspiracy that has still not been exposed," the dispatch said.

"The most respectable newspapers and radio and television stations in western Europe feed this viewpoint by giving prominence to reports that insist that the late President was slain as part of a left-wing or a right-wing plot.

"On both sides of the Iron Curtain, the belief is widespread that Lee Harvey Oswald was not a psychopath who acted alone.

Very probably Ruby killed him to shut his mouth forever, for Oswald could not have acted alone."

In the United States, the Warren commission continues to listen to testimony from the many people concerned in the case.

But the most fantastic revelation to come to the commission was the communication from the Justice Dept. to the Dallas Police Department.

If this document exists, The ENQUIRER feels it is the right of the American public to know of it.

Is the Warren commission — and all other interested agencies and officials — keeping the lid on this shocking secret?

Only time will tell.