

FORGIVE MY GRIEF

VOL. II

By PENN JONES, JR and SHIRLEY MARTIN

First part of Installment 4 —

Two weeks before John Fitzgerald Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, a man sat in a Miami apartment and told how it would be done.

He said that the President would be shot with a high-powered rifle from an office building. He said that the gun would be disassembled, taken

into the building, assembled, and then used to murder

No mention was made about disassembling the gun again to take it out of the building.

He then said: "They will pick up somebody within hours afterwards . . . just to throw the public off."

The man told his tale on Nov. 9, 1963. On Nov. 22—shortly after noon—President Kennedy was shot with a high-powered rifle while riding in an open car which had just passed the Texas School Book Depository building on Elm Street in Dallas.

Besides being a warehouse for school books, the Texas School Book Depository is also an office building.

Just a few hours later, Dallas Police captured Lee Harvey Oswald. They said he had assassinated the President. But Oswald said: "I haven't killed anyone . . . I'm just a patsy."

Oswald was echoing the man who said in Miami that somebody would be picked up for the murder—quickly—"just to throw the public off."

The public gobbled up stories about Oswald—accused killer of the President—who had been drummed out of the Marine Corps and who had defected to Russia and who had a Russian wife and who had a record of mental instability and who was a political agitator of extreme causes.

If Oswald was a patsy, whoever had picked him for the role had picked well.

The Warren Commission later concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald was the lone assassin. It said that he owned a high-powered rifle . . . a 6.5

Mannlicher-Carcano, bolt-action, fitted with a sniper scope.

The Commission said that Oswald had disassembled the rifle, 34" long, put the parts in a paper bag, and carried the bag under his arm into the book building on the morning of the 22nd. The Commission said Oswald then assembled the rifle on the sixth floor of the building and fired it three times at the President when he went by in his open car.

The Commission said Oswald did not try to remove the rifle from the building. The police found it behind some boxes.

The man who had predicted the method of assassination two weeks before it also said this: "He (Kennedy) knows he is a marked man."

He was asked: "They are really going to kill him?"

He answered: "Oh, yeah, it is in the working."

Perhaps Kennedy did know that he was a marked man.

On the morning of Nov. 22--while Lee Harvey Oswald was allegedly taking his disassembled rifle into the book depository where he worked--President Kennedy was in a Fort Worth hotel room with his wife.

He was waiting for his flight to Dallas. Somebody showed him a full page ad which had been run that morning in the Dallas newspaper. The ad accused the President of treason. His close aide, Ted Sorenson, later wrote that Kennedy turned to Jackie and said: "We're really in nut country now."

The President and Jackie both read the ad through. Both reacted as if they had been struck physically. William Manchester, in *THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT*, describes what happened next.

Kennedy began pacing the room talking about assassination.

He said: "Last night would have been a helluva night to assassinate a president. I mean it. There was the rain, and the night, and we were all getting jostled. Suppose a man had a pistol in a briefcase."

He raised his right hand, pointing it like a pistol, and he fired off some shots, using his thumb as the rising and falling action of the pistol's hammer.

He said: "Then he could have dropped

the gun and the briefcase . . . and melted away in the crowd."

Kennedy then went to Dallas--to his murder. But the assassination did not happen the way that he had figured it. It happened the way the man in Miami had said it would--two weeks before.

It was not done under the concealment of night, in the confusion of a rainstorm, by a man in the street with a pistol and with a mob in which to lose himself. It was done in bright sunlight, at midday. The Warren Commission has said it was done with a high-powered rifle from an office building.

The man in Miami also named one man who was gunning for Kennedy. He said: ". . . (he) is just as likely to get him as anybody . . . he tried to get Martin Luther King . . . he followed him for miles and miles, and couldn't get close enough to him."

The man he named was not Lee Harvey Oswald. The person named is a Klan leader from Tennessee. He, and the man talking in Miami, were working with Right Wing groups--trying to form a third American political party.

The party was to be called the Constitutional Party for States Rights. The man in Miami said the party was to be used as a front for several activities.

He said: "There is a party movement, and there is also an individual movement. And they are distinct and separate."

The party movement, he added, concentrated on state's rights politics. The individual movement, he said, concentrated on terror.

He said that the Klansman whom he named as the man who might kill the President was a member of the hard-core underground. He said that the Klansman was in on the bombing of the Birmingham church in which several Negro children were killed.

He said: "If he wants to blow up the National Capitol, that is all right with me. I will go with him. But not as a party though, as an individual . . . after the conversation, and the way he talked to us, there is no question in my mind about who knocked the church off in Birmingham."

Sitting in an armchair in a cream-colored parlor

in Miami, on Nov. 9, 1963, two weeks before the President was killed, the man said:

"Well, we are going to have to get nasty. We have got to be ready, we have got to be sitting on go, too. There ain't any count-down to it. We have just got to be sitting on go. Count down and they can move in on you. And on go they can't. Count down is all right for a slow, prepared operation. But in an emergency operation, you have got to be sitting on go."

Somebody said to the man: "Boy, if that Kennedy gets shot, we have got to know where we are at. Because you know that will be a real shake if they do that."

The man said: "They wouldn't leave any stone unturned there no way. They will pick up somebody within hours afterwards . . . just to throw the public off."

Sitting calmly in the Miami apartment on Wednesday, Nov. 9, two weeks before the President was assassinated, the man talked on. Behind his chair were some holes in the wall. Inside the holes were wires. The wires led through the wall to a box hidden on top of the refrigerator in the kitchen.

The box was a tape recorder owned by the Intelligence Division of the Miami Police Department.

Several days later, a copy of the tape containing information about the planned assassination of President John F. Kennedy was given to the Secret Service.

On Nov. 18, President Kennedy came to Miami. The Miami Police took extraordinary measures to guard the President's life. They insisted that he abandon the plan to take a long and open motorcade from the airport into town. They put him on a helicopter instead.

He left Miami in good health. It was a Monday.

That Friday there was no count down in Dallas. Somebody was sitting on "go."

The President was shot dead.

The Miami tape was two weeks old.

And the Secret Service had had it for over a week . . .

In 1963, the Miami Police were fighting a new

kind of foe.

All over the country--and especially in the South--a traditional but small political force had been gathering strength and members. The force vowed to fight back against the growing power and influence of the Civil Rights Movement.

The force called itself the State's Rights Movement. In 1963, it was organizing units in most of the United States. And, in 1963, some of its organizers were moving into Florida.

An informer for the Intelligence Division of the Miami Police had infiltrated the hierarchy of the national group. What he told his Miami contacts made them sweat a little. They envisioned busted heads rolling in the dust of Seventh Avenue, and they feared that blood would run in the gutters of Flagler Street in Miami.

The busted heads would have been Negro heads. And the blood would have been the blood of Jews.

The Miami police wanted to smash the extremists before they brought their violence downtown where integration was proceeding quietly--and smoothly.

The Informer made his first contact with a national leader in July. They met in Atlanta at a chicken cafeteria operated by Lester Maddox--the new ax-handle governor of Georgia.

The Informer was briefed on the plans and present organization of the new third party. There were some nationally prominent names involved. One of the names belonged to one of the greatest political families in American history.

The Informer was told that one of the immediate goals of the party was to persuade South Carolina Sen. Strom Thurmond to run for president on the State's Rights ticket in 1964.

The National Leader said that he was soon going to make an inspection tour of local organizations in several states and he invited the Informer to go along.

They left in the National Leader's truck in October. They attended State's Rights meetings from Georgia to Indiana. On the way back, they stopped in Tennessee to visit with one of the group's top officers.

He was also a high Klan official. The Informer learned to know the Klansman as an underground terrorist for the national party—a man who allegedly had a liking for bombing churches and killing Negroes.

The Informer was told that the Klansman had participated in the bombing of the Birmingham church in which several Negro children were killed.

He was also told the Klansman had tried to kill Dr. Martin Luther King and that, now, he had his gunsights trained on the President of the United States.

The Informer returned to Miami and told his police contacts that everywhere he had been he had heard talk about the plans to kill John F. Kennedy. He was told to get the National Leader

down to Miami—quickly.

(Installment No. 4 was furnished to us by Bill Barry of the MIAMI NEWS. We feel this is one of the most important developments in the unfolding assassination story. How many times do we have to prove there was a conspiracy? The names of all parties mentioned in the story are known to the police agencies of this nation. This is the first of two parts of the installment.) *END*

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Second Part of Installment 4

Kennedy was due in Miami on Nov. 18. The police wanted to know more about the assassination talk. And they wanted to "bug" the National Leader so that they would have the talk on tape.

The Informer told the National Leader that everything was set up for him to come to Miami to talk to the local Patriots about organizing a main Florida chapter of the State's Rights Movement.

The National Leader came to Miami in November.

On Nov. 9, he sat in the parlor of a Miami apartment and talked to the Informer about organization and violence. He also talked to the hidden microphone of a police tape recorder.

The two men talked about people high up in the movement. The Informer said that he was worried about some of these people who seemed to have a propensity for shooting their mouths off in front of people they didn't know.

He said that some of the higher-ups had a habit of talking about the bomb and demolition operations in front of relative strangers.

The Informer said: "Now, I will tell you between me and you, because we are talking, we aren't going to talk to everybody like we are talking here . . . but I don't think it is a good idea for people to discuss things like that in front of strangers . . . if you are going to take (name deleted) in, and he is going to be one of the head men, the man behind you, then you have got to talk to him a little bit and tell him, you know, 'You have got to be a little more conscientious,, especially on these bombings, and killings.'"

"After all, he comes right out with it."

The National Leader agreed that security demanded that loose talk be curbed.

The two men also talked about several of the group's demolition squads which were led by former American soldiers.

The National Leader said that he had been

contacted by an underground chief in Delaware who had his eye on the Supreme Court Building in Washington. The National Leader had worked on the construction of the building for three and a half years.

He said: "He wanted me to give him the layout there so they could go over there and do some things there, you know. But he called it off. I don't know why. I didn't ask him why. That was his affair. But he called it off. But I was ready to go with him. I gave him the damn information he wanted."

The informer said they had to be careful transporting dynamite across state lines because that was a Federal offense. The National Leader said that the organization would be strictly secret with nobody but himself exposed. He said: "And we have to set up a little fund there to get it operating."

In a while, the Informer said: "I think Kennedy is coming here on the 18th, or something like that, to make some kind of speech."

The National Leader stated: "You can bet your bottom dollar he is going to have a lot to say about the Cubans, there are so many of them here."

The Informer: "Yeah, he will have a thousand bodyguards. Don't worry about that."

The National Leader: "The more bodyguards he has, the easier it is to get him."

"What?"

"The more bodyguards he has, the more easier it is to get him."

"Well, how in the hell do you figure would be the best way to get him?"

"From an office building, with a high-powered rifle," the National Leader said. Then he said that it was in the works, and that Kennedy knew it.

He said that the Klan leader in Tennessee could be the one to do it. He said: "He ain't going for play, you know . . . He is going for broke."

The Informer tried to coax the National Leader into saying where, and from which office building the assassination might be done. But all the National Leader would say was that the Secret Service usually covered only buildings which appeared suspicious to them.

He said that the rifle to be used in the

assassination would be taken disassembled into the building. He said: "... you don't have to take a gun up there. You can take it up in pieces."

The conversation again turned to the heavy work the group was doing with explosives. But explosives were never mentioned as a weapon to be used by those plotting the President's assassination.

He then said the police would be quick to pick somebody up for the killing, just to throw the public off.

The Informer and the Secret agent rode around in a car while the Informer gave a statement about the assassination plans.

More than a week later, the President was killed. It was apparently done in the exact manner described by the National Leader of the Right Wing movement then strongly emerging in American politics.

After the assassination, Miami Police again brought the tape to the attention of the Secret Service. The Informer said that the National Leader was picked up by the FBI on Nov. 27, 1963. His name does not appear in the report published by the Warren Commission at the conclusion of its investigation into the assassination.

Recently, talking about the National Leader, the Informer said: "He was glad that Kennedy had been killed.

"But he was scared too. He didn't plan to be in on it. But he knew the people who did. It was a general idea—a subject of general discussion in all the groups. There were maybe five, or ten groups, which could have been in on it.

"But he thought it was probably pulled off by the Klan group in Dallas headed by a man named (deleted). When it happened, he figured they were the ones that did it. He was a little scared because he had been around these groups when they had been discussing the plan."

The Informer said: "The Secret Service and the FBI had this information. They knew that the threat was there. They knew how it was to be done. And they didn't protect the President from it. They were out drinking and running around the night before and Mr. Kennedy got killed."

The Secret Service agent who had met that night with the Informer was asked recently about the tape. He said: "I can't comment. And you can't

quote me on my no comment." He was serious.

An FBI agent, named as a contact by the Informer, said, "We had nothing to do with the tape." He was asked if he knew about the existence of the tape. He said: "I wouldn't be able to answer your question."

Neither the Informer, nor the Miami Police intelligence officer who supervised him, know what has happened to the National Leader. The intelligence officer said his investigation leads him to believe that the assassination idea germinated within a group working in Louisiana.

And Texas editor, Penn Jones, who has been

chasing assassination clues for over three years, said: "I think that the planners of the assassination had operating units in Miami, Dallas, and New Orleans. Also there is a little country place in the backwoods of Louisiana which is involved."

Less than three weeks after the assassination, the National Leader took a political trip. He just

left Miami and he was headed for New Orleans, the Louisiana outback, Houston, Dallas, and Fort Worth.

Right now he is a little hard to find.

And Penn Jones said: "He wasn't supposed to be talking like that. I will bet you four dollars that he will soon be dead . . ." *END*