

By PENN JONES, JR

Deaths

Installment No. 10.

This writer did not put the death of Karen Kupicinet on the list of strange deaths during the first three years of work. While a guest on a TV show—"The Kup Show" in Chicago, I did not even discuss her death with Irv Kupicinet, star of the show and father of Karen. Now, for the first time, we list her as one of the strange deaths.

A few days before the assassination, teenage Karen Kupicinet was trying to place a long distance telephone call from the Los Angeles area. According to reports, the long distance operator heard Miss Kupicinet scream into the telephone that President Kennedy was going to be killed..

Two days after the assassination, Miss Kupicinet was found murdered in her apartment. The case has never been solved.

Yet another of those many strange coincidences: Irv Kupicinet and Jack Ruby grew up and were acquainted with each other in the same neighborhood in Chicago.

We include the death of Miss Kupicinet now because she was not the only person to scream that Kennedy was going to be killed before the event took place. A rightwinger in Miami was laconically telling an undercover policeman on November 9, 1963 that Kennedy was going to be killed and related many of the details of the plan.

There was an Associated Press dispatch printed in the Chicago Daily News of November 23, 1963 originating from Oxnard, California which told

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approximately the same story as we have on Miss Kupicinet.

A telephone company executive said that 20 minutes before President Kennedy was assassinated a woman caller was overheard whispering:

"The President is going to be killed."

Ray Sheehan, manager of the Oxnard division of General Telephone Co., said the caller "stumbled into our operator's circuits," perhaps by misdialing.

Sheehan said the woman "seemed to be a little bit disturbed." Besides predicting the President's death, he said, she "mumbled several incoherent things."

Sheehan said the call was reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Los Angeles, but not until after the President had been shot. Until then, he said, it appeared to have been just another crank call.

Sheehan said there was no way to trace the call. All he could say was that it originated in the Oxnard-Camarillo area, some 50 miles north of Los Angeles.

The FBI in Los Angeles declined to comment.

Sheehan said one telephone supervisor called another onto her line to verify what she was hearing. He said both supervisors heard the woman say the President would be killed.

Sheehan said the call was received at 10:10 a.m., Pacific time. The President was shot in Dallas shortly after 10:30 a.m. Pacific time.

Sheehan said he doesn't think the caller was ever connected with another party. He said she may not have known she had the supervisors on the line and may have just been talking to no one in particular.

On November 20, 1963, Rose Cherami, 40, employee of Jack Ruby, was in a car with two men headed for Florida to get a load of "dope" for Ruby. When disagreements among the three developed, the girl was thrown from the moving automobile near Eunice, Louisiana. Miss Cherami was hospitalized for injuries and dope withdrawal agonies. At that time Rose told the authorities that President Kennedy and other officials were going to be killed on their visit to Dallas.

After the assassination, when Miss Cherami had calmed down, she again discussed the assassination. When shown a story in which Ruby denied knowing Oswald, Miss Cherami laughed and said: "They were bed mates."

After her release from the hospital, Rose returned to Texas and was the victim of a hit and run accident which killed her on September 4, 1965. While walking down a highway at 2 a.m. near Big Sandy, Texas she was hit and killed.

Because of knowledge, at least one person had to die before the assassination. Robert L. Perrin must have been among the lowest forms of human life, but he had done many things in many places in this world.

Perrin forced his wife to be a prostitute, and Mrs. Perrin seemed to be in love with the man. According to his wife's testimony in the Warren Hearings, Perrin had agreed to do gun running for Ruby and others out of Dallas. What else he may have agreed to do is unknown, but when Perrin refused to carry out his assignments, he may have had more information than could be afforded a quitter.

Mrs. Nancy Perrin Rich told the Commission that her husband committed suicide by taking arsenic in New Orleans in August of 1962. The explanation satisfied the Commission; however it added that they had learned the man was discharged from the service for hysteria. This tag of hysteria insanity, or psychiatric treatments or some mental instability has been placed on many

of the people who have died after their connection with the assassination had become clear.

Compared to Hank Killam, Karen Kupicinet, Robert Perrin or Rose Cherami, Gary Underhill probably had the best credentials. Underhill was a CIA agent, but he had also been many other things. His great-great-grandfather had been a general in the Revolutionary War, and his family had afterwards been active in military-political affairs. Underhill had been military affairs editor of Life Magazine and a by-line columnist on military affairs for several newspapers.

Gary Underhill was well known in the Pentagon, being on a first name basis with the very top brass.

Underhill's troubles seemed to start with the assassination. He left Washington for New York, according to informed sources soon after the tragic events in Dallas. In New York he begged his friends to keep him out of sight. Almost out of his mind, he told his friends that he knew who killed President Kennedy, and he was sure they would soon get him.

After a few weeks in New York, Underhill

returned to Washington. He died on May 8, 1964, of gunshot wounds in the head. Ruled suicide.

According to friends, Underhill was not the suicidal type, however, other reports are that he had been under psychiatric care for several months after the assassination.

Underhill stated that the CIA had Kennedy killed. He further said that the most active group in the assassination was the far eastern branch of the CIA who was unhappy with Kennedy's looking into their activities in the Far East.