

'The rise of the Fourth Reich'

Garrison points toward a high-level government conspiracy

In the four years since the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, a great many Americans (a majority if one can judge by recent polls) no longer believe the official government explanation as presented in the Warren Commission Report.

To better understand the implications of Garrison's case, the Free Press offers the following complete text of his speech given at the University of New Mexico last week.

Ladies and Gentleman, I want to thank you for the applause which apparently you gave me when I came in. If I didn't acknowledge it, graciously, it was because I wasn't sure who it was for.

I'm used to having a couple of bricks thrown at me, and I never know what sort of response I'm going to get, and I do appreciate the reception.

I thought that perhaps the best format tonight would be for me to make a rather short talk and leave an unusually long time for questions. And, with the exception of any questions about Mr. Shaw, because as I have said since the day we charged him, we have presumed his innocence until he is proven guilty. With that exception you can go in any area you want; if you want to know about my connection with the Mafia, which I understand *Life* is featuring, there is no area which is excluded. So I will give you an extra long time for questions if you want.

If I had to give a working title, for my comments tonight, I think I would call it "The Rise of the Fourth Reich," or "How To Conceal the Truth About an Assassination Without Really Trying."

You know, sometimes it is hard to distinguish between illusion

and reality. When we are younger, we take it for granted that we see what we see, and objects in the world in front of us, are precisely as we see them. And then of course, as time goes on, we have more and more doubt about that. As you will recall, going back to when you were younger, I'm sure that everyone in this room had the feeling when they were a child, it was impossible for you to conceive of dying, so you assumed we continued to live more or less forever, even though nobody does of course. It's an illusion, a childish illusion

that most people have.

Of course, that goes with time, but other illusions continue to remain. Sometimes a government takes advantage of it. One illusion that stays with us to a great extent, unless we have the good fortune—or the misfortune—as the case may be, to have detachment, one illusion is the idea that we are living in the best of all possible worlds. This is a favorite strategy of the fascist type of government, and totalitarian types of government not just fascist, in order to keep people from being restless. And actually, you are seeing it applied, rather systematically, in a number of areas in the government of the United States today.

Again, and again, I think you are being assured you are living in the best of all possible worlds. Again and again, you see different tactics being used to make the government's power loveable. Actually there's nothing new about this, as early as the Roman Empire, and probably even before that, the patricians and their counterparts found ways to make their power loveable so they wouldn't have too much trouble from the plebians.

There's a duplicity in that, there's a duplicity in making power loveable with false slogans, and in making things to appear better than they are—which I don't happen to like. For example; I am very conscious of saying 'fascist tendencies in our government today.' I suppose that right now that places me in the FBI file under—I'm probably filed with a lot of people being investigated under the title of "Anti-fascist Activities"—which is a derogatory file under Mr. Hoover's point of view.

This is very relevant to the entire subject of the assassination.

Let me go back to the way things were, about this time before the assassination.

We had a young president who was showing increasing signs of being a forceful president, and a liberal president, in the sense he was going to make changes that had not been made before. And a very strong reaction was occurring in a number of places, particularly in areas such as

Dallas, Texas. And this is not in indictment of the people of Dallas, but there are individuals in Dallas who have an unusually strong control over individuals on the police force, which causes Dallas to be somewhat different than other cities.

President Kennedy was also moving in the direction of doing away with the 27 1/2% deduction on the income tax for men in the oil business, which of course was a primary concern of some individuals in Dallas.

President Kennedy had reached a rapport of sorts with Russian Premier Khrushchev and was in the process of reaching an understanding with Castro. I am sure that it is possible to have a great many views on the value of these conclusions, these decisions he had made—but the fact is, he was the President, and he should have made them. His basic objective was to try and minimize involvement in a war which would lead increasingly and increasingly to escalation and more escalation until we finally became involved in a hydrogen war which is more or less the situation in which we find ourselves today.

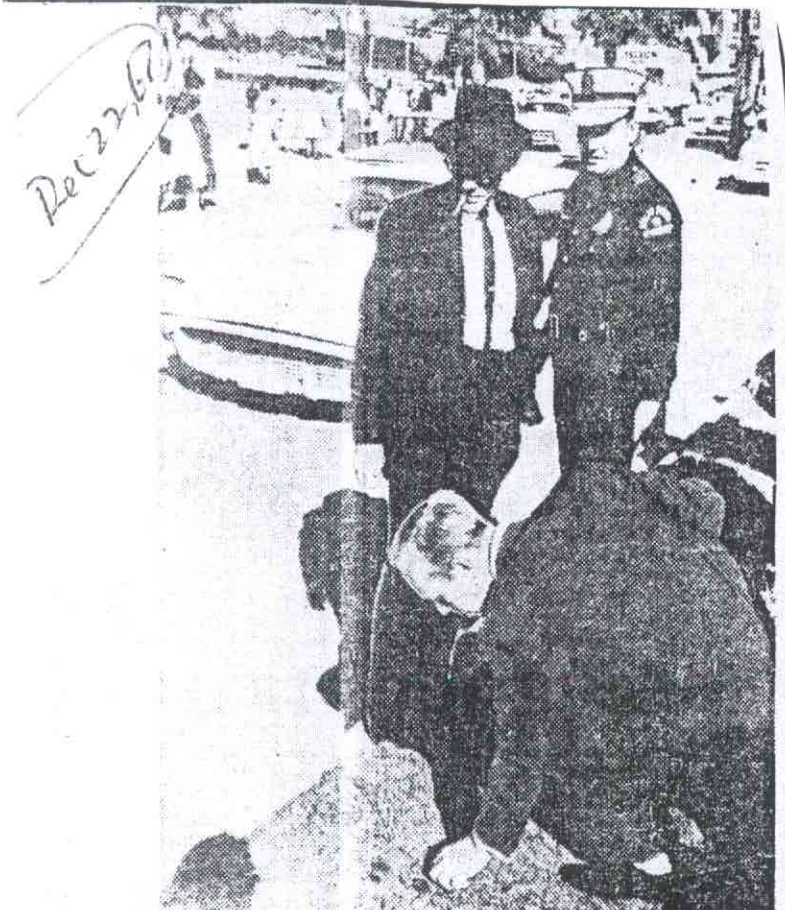
Now, the reaction of a number of individuals, especially in certain areas of Texas, was that President Kennedy, in ending the Cuban adventures, in trying to reach an understanding with Khrushchev, and making statements as he made in his speech before the American University on June 10, that "we breathe the same air as the Russians" which is perfectly true and should have been made and is something we don't think about very often. But the fact that he made these statements caused him to be regarded by a number of extreme individuals as a Communist, or, a person selling out to the Communists. So, there was a certain side of the spectrum, that of essentially the right wing area, especially in Southern states, that had a venomous attitude towards John Kennedy.

Now, this is just a brief, perhaps over simplified summary of the situation as it existed when John Kennedy visited Dallas.

Now, with that background, let

us now jump from reality to the world of illusion for a moment. We'll describe the official Lyndon Johnson Administration version of what happened. It has no connection at all with reality. It has exactly as much substance as the story of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, but it has the Gold Presidential Seal on the outside and that's good enough for NBC.

Anyway, the official story is that every possible safeguard had been taken to protect the President. And he was proceeding down Elm Street, having made the turn on Houston, when from



DISTRICT ATTORNEY Jim Garrison said Tuesday that this picture shows an official bending down to pick up one of the bullets which killed President Kennedy. Garrison said the bullet was never introduced as evidence before the Warren Commission and indicates the "fraudulent activity of federal agencies."



IN THIS PICTURE, Garrison said the official has observed the photographer and has turned away, but can be seen clutching the bullet in his hand. The sign-clock on top of the Texas School Book Depository in background reads 12:40, 10 minutes after the President was shot.

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 his lair in the Sixth Floor of the School Book Depository, a Marxist Communist was crouched. I think, actually, there's some difference between a Marxist and a Communist, but it doesn't really matter in fairy tales, you can make them the same thing. So he's a Marxist-Communist, and he's crouched there, with his Manlicher-Carcano. He fires 3 rapid shots—shots of fantastic marksmanship—as a result, of course, the President is killed and the Governor of Texas is wounded, and, as I know Mark Lane has explained to you at

some length—this is such an unusual rifle and the ammunition is so unusual, that one bullet created seven different wounds and emerged in pristine shape.

As a matter of fact, there was a delay of approximately a second and a half between the time the bullet finished going through President Kennedy and began its journey through the Governor.

No matter, the President's Seal was on the outside and that was good enough for Newsweek.

Anyway, this is the official version. In reality, what happened was this:— and I'm going to have to be general for a great many reasons. One, because there are a great many things I don't know about the assassination. I have never tried to pretend to know more than I do, although I have read magazine articles which have me saying things I haven't said and indicating that I pretend

to know more. But another reason I can't go into great detail is because some of the details we have would indicate, would cause certain people to move from where they are, and create problems for the rest of our investigation.

But, I can tell you generally what happened. Generally, what happened was this: an elaborate conspiracy had been worked on for a very long time. There were 3 levels—of course, classification, as you well know, is an arbitrary thing, but for reasons of convenience, we classify as Operating Level: individuals pulling triggers, operating radios driving cars; Intermediate Level: individuals providing services, such as David Ferrie, Jack Ruby, and others; and the Sponsor Level: which I can't go into in much detail—that gets kind of high up. But those are the three general levels.

Anyway, by the time the President made his turn, the men who were to kill him were set to go. There had to be no less than four basic points from which the shooting occurred. There had to be no less than four, possibly five. I might add before I even go into them, that anybody who has ever been at Dealey Plaza or who has ever seen a picture of Dealey Plaza, will know if there was a lone assassin sitting in the Sixth Floor of the Book Depository, he would have had to have his shot at the President as the President approached slowly towards him on Houston Street.

This was the best shot he would ever have. The fact that this was passed up indicates, along with many other things, that the lone assassin was not there. The reason they waited until the Presi-

dent almost reached the sign, was so that he was a central point that could be hit from many directions. The objective was not to wound him, not to hit him several times, but to make sure that he was dead or dying before he reached the triple underpass,

so that there would be no danger of his surviving and having control of major investigative agencies such as the FBI. Because, had he survived, and had he been in control of the FBI, every individual involved would have been caught by now. So it had to be assured that there was 'overkill.' That's why you can't see the autopsy pictures; that's why no one can see them; that's why a pathologist selected by this community cannot look at them. Because the autopsy pictures will show that President Kennedy was hit from a number of different directions. The autopsy pictures will show that he was hit in the front of the head at least twice; it will show there is a hole in the President's forehead at the temple line; and will show that the right side of his head had been torn off by a bullet coming from the right; and God knows how many other wounds. But at least two in front. And you aren't supposed to see that. Because you are supposed to be dutiful Americans and believe the fairy tale of the lone assassin, because that is what the President wants you to believe.

But in order for you to believe that, you cannot see the autopsy pictures. Even as I point this out I must caution you, and this may be hard for some of you to accept. But, please believe me, I've never been more sincere—I am sure that if the Government is able it will one day produce autopsy pictures which will appear to be autopsy pictures and support the lone assassin theory. I think they are having some technical problems.

I'm just trying to say, that there is nothing they will not do. They didn't hesitate to kill Jack Kennedy in Dealey Plaza, and there is nothing they will not do.

The operation for all practical purposes continues. You can see that again and again. We can, in the constant interference with our investigation, in witnesses

being harrassed, moved away, one thing after another, constant monitoring of telephones. What this means, is there is a unique interest on the part of high officials in the Federal Government in the truth being concealed from the American people.

The significance of that I will

go into a little further.

I mentioned that there had to be four groups of shooters. There had to be a rifle firing from Houston Street, from the Records Building or the Dal-Tex Building. I think most of the serious critics are informed of that by now because the shot that hit Governor Connolly was at such an angle it could not have come from the Book Depository.

It appears likely that there was shooting from the Book Depository, although it was obvious that Lee Oswald had nothing to do with it. He didn't shoot any weapons that day, and there is no indication that he was in any way involved in the assassination. As a matter of fact, the indications are quite the opposite.

It is very clear that there was shooting from the grassy knoll, not only from behind the stone wall, but further back from behind the picket fence towards the overpass area. As a matter of fact, on the day of the assassination, such a large percentage of witnesses saw and heard the shooting

from that area—heard, I should say, because only a few of them 'saw'—heard shooting from that area, that it was taken for granted that the President was shot from the grassy knoll. It took about twenty-four hours before the official scenario had been issued and the emphasis was put on the shots from the Book Depository. But the main bulk of the shots came from the grassy knoll area, and 60% of the witnesses in the Dealey Plaza area heard those shots. And we have talked to at least one person who was in the grassy knoll area and saw one of the men behind the stone wall, and other witnesses have seen the men running away after, from behind the stone wall, throwing something into the back of a car and driving away at great speed. Of course these things were rather irrelevant so they weren't brought into the Warren Commission Hearing. This is what happened.

Now, the last apparent shooting place, is something we have come across recently, several months ago, and you may have seen it; it got some attention from the news services, which was a surprise to us, and I'll just mention it in passing—if you're interested in it and want to ask questions I'll go into it more later.

It appears that the subsurface drainage system in Dealey Plaza was also used. Dealey Plaza used to be a residential area, they had a lot of houses there, before they moved the houses and cleared it out to make this incredibly beautiful plaza with these instant Mussolini arcades and all these beau-

tiful pergolas and things that you have seen in pictures.

Prior to that there were many houses, so there had to be a drainage system. Well, the drainage system is rather complete and is an interconnecting maze of tunnels, the narrowest of which is fifteen inches wide, the largest 30 inches wide, through which men can crawl. For example, one of the entrances to the tunnel system is behind the grassy knoll. You lift up a three-by-three foot grate, and you find yourself going down and it has tunnelways leading in several directions. If you go south towards Elm Street, you will

find yourself in one of the sewers, which is alongside Elm Street.

The sewers that go alongside Elm, Main and Commerce, look to a person riding in a car like six-inch high slits through which the drainage goes. But actually inside they are like concrete pillboxes. They are approximately five and a half feet deep,

and a man standing inside can easily see into the back of a convertible. We had one of our investigators get in, inside of Dallas, one morning—we had him get in before dark—because we were afraid that if the wrong people saw him get in, he might be cemented in there, and we'd never see him again.

I just heard recently, just after we really found the application and the likelihood that this sewer system was used, (and I'll give an example of what appears to have been used) that Dallas is planning to dig up this entire area, in Dealey Plaza, the entire sewer system, and create a great underground parking garage, and the name of it is supposed to be the John F. Kennedy Parking Garage.

Well, if I had not had a single thought of the possibility of the sewer system having been used before, this would arouse my curiosity, because this is the last bit of physical evidence that remains to be seen. There has been a pattern of destroying, and shifting and removing everything, and I wouldn't be surprised but what this was related to it.

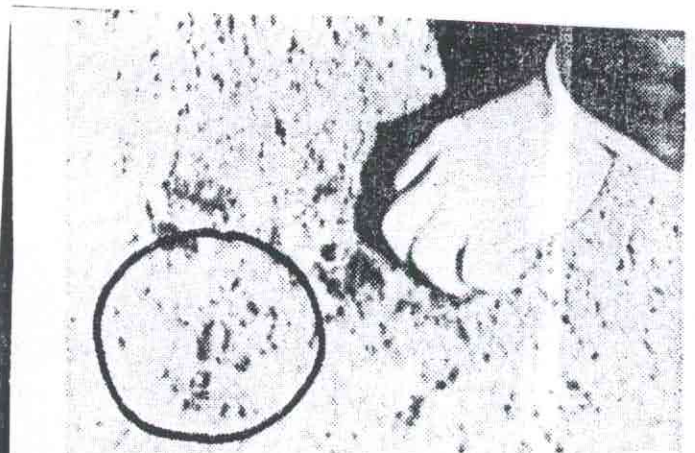
On the other hand, it might be entirely coincidence. Anyway, the sewer system, the closeness of these sewers to a man riding in a convertible down a street becomes very significant when you consider a bullet was found on the south side of Elm Street, in the neutral ground. It landed on its base among pieces of the President's head. We have photographs of the bullet, and in the photograph we see Deputy Sheriff Eddy Wal-

thers of Dallas, smoking a cigarette and looking down at the bullet, and you see a Dallas policeman firmly standing on top of a manhole cover which leads down into the sewer system. I don't

know why he is standing there at this time, but it would be kind of hard to get in there if he was standing there. And, the clock over their shoulders shows 12:40. This picture was taken 10 minutes after John Kennedy was shot. His heart was still beating when

the third man in the picture, who appears to be a Federal Agent, although we are unable to identify him, because there is no way to get any kind of cooperation from the Federal Government, is picking up the 45-caliber bullet. The size of the bullet has been identified by comparison with real bullets. There is no question of the fact that this is a 45 caliber bullet which landed on its head among pieces of the President's head.

Now this was never admitted into evidence in the Warren Commission, nor was it ever mentioned in the Warren Commission



DISTRICT ATTORNEY Jim Garrison released this photograph. He said it shows an unnamed official picking up a bullet which the district attorney identified as the one which killed President Ken-

Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

WEDY IN DALLAS ON NOV 22, 1963