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# The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly:

A Review of *The Kennedy Detail*, a Compelling but Dangerous Mix of Fact, Faction, and Fiction

# by Vince Palamara

EDITOR'S NOTE: In advance of the Discovery Channel's latest annual attempt to bolster the flagging Lone Gunman Myth—via their production of *The Kennedy Detail*—CTKA welcomes Vincent Palamara's review of former Secret Service Agent Gerald Blaine's recently published book of the same title, on which the Discovery Channel production has been based. Without question, the JFK research community is heavily indebted to Vince for his decades-long diligence in his pursuit and collection of first-hand accounts from Secret Service Agents in regard to procedures, directives, and actual eye-witness testimony surrounding the fateful events of November 22, 1963.

While reading through Palamara's own account of the testimonies that he has collected over the years in refutation of Gerald Blaine's own personal remembrances, CKTA readers should keep in mind the controversial nature of sources such as Sv Hersh (The Dark Side of Camelot) and Peter Jennings (Dangerous World: The Kennedy Years) which Palamara references in this review. For the purpose of a balanced perspective, readers would do well to read an excerpt of an article by Jim DiEugenio: The Posthumous Assassination of JFK, Part II Sy Hersh and the Monroe/JFK Papers: The History of a Thirty-Year Hoax. (The complete essay may be found in The Assassinations: Probe Magazine on JFK, MLK, RFK. and Malcolm X, edited by Jim DiEugenio and Lisa Pease.)

Finally, and most importantly, CTKA readers should bear in mind that both Blaine's book *The Kennedy Detail* and the Discovery Channel production on which it is based find "big picture" questions "radioactive." In other words, Blaine and the Discovery Channel keep a very safe distance from the most important questions involving the Secret Service's performance surrounding the events of November 22, 1963:

- Who in the Secret Service approved the motorcade route that resulted in the dogleg 120-degree turn, which slowed the limousine considerably beside a seven-story high-rise building and in front of an inclined and protected knoll, which together provided the cover for a virtual ambushed assault on the president they were sworn to protect?
- 2. What of the "Chicago plot" of early November '63? To what extent did the Secret Service's involvement with the events in Chicago foreshadow those of a few weeks later in Dallas? And how much of its Chicago investigation has the Secret Service either altered or

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<u>Privacy Information</u> James DiEugenio and Lisa Pease are co-editors of *The Assassinations*, compiling some of the best of *Probe's* research, including articles have never appeared online. *The Assassinations* includes entirely new pieces, including a section on the Malcolm X

#### Donald B. Thomas

Hear No Evil: Social Constructivism & the Forensic Evidence In the Kennedy Assassination Reviewed by Martin Hay, "...the problem is not the evidence but how it has been interpreted in the cause of "social constructivism."

Inside the ARRB Reviews of Douglas Horne's multi-volume study of the declassified medical evidence in the JFK case by Jim DiEugenio, David Mantik and Gary Aguilar.

#### Coming Soon:

The Consequence of Truth CTKA is the exclusive site which will excerpt Mitchell Warriner's new study of the Garrison investigation. purged from the record for the purpose of—as former Secret Service agent Abraham Bolden alleges (page down for Agent Bolden's amazon.com review)— "cya"?

- Who in the Secret Service is to be held responsible for authorizing the initial bucket-sponging of the "crime scene on wheels"—i.e., the presidential limousine, followed by its all-too-quick restoration? —/ a blatant destruction of evidence.
- What about the Secret Service's "stealing of the body" from Parkland Hospital, arguably the cornerstone for the resulting vagaries and obfuscations of the Bethesda "autopsy?"

It's "big picture" questions such as these that hold the key to either the exoneration or culpability of the Secret Service in regard to JFK's assassination. To that extent, as Blaine and the Discovery Channel skate around these issues, it seems Palamara does indeed have his finger on the pulse: Ultimately, as regards the Secret Service, it all does appear to become a question of "Survivor's Guilt."

So in addition to Vince Palamara's review here, CTKA readers can soon look forward to former Secret Service Agent Abraham Bolden's own detailed review of Gerald Blaine's *The Kennedy Detail.* As for any survivor's guilt on his part, Agent Bolden tells us: "I sleep well at night knowing that I did everything that I could do to save the life of President Kennedy. Can the agents standing on the running board of the follow-up car in Dallas, Texas and watching the president's head blown to pieces, say the same thing?"

Stay tuned to these pages for a true hero's account.

#### I: Ruffled Feathers

On June 1, 2005, I sent a 22-page registered letter, signed receipt required, to former Secret Service agent Clint Hill<sup>1</sup> (infamous for his leap onto the back of the limousine during the assassination of President Kennedy on November 22, 1963). My letter was, in essence, a "Cliff Notes" version of my own book "Survivor's Guilt: The Secret Service & The Failure To Protect The President"2, focusing mainly on the issue of the agents' presence-or lack thereof-on the rear of the presidential limousine on 11/22/63, as well as the actions and inactions of three specific agents I have many misgivings about: Floyd Boring (the number two agent on the Kennedy Detail and the Secret Service planner of the Texas trip), Shift Leader Emory Roberts (the commander of the agents in the follow-up car in Dallas), and William Greer (the driver of JFK's limousine). When I phoned the gentleman on June 13, 2005, I received a very cantankerous "non-reply", so to speak: "[Referring to my letter:] About what? Yeah, I'm here. I'm just not interested in talking to you." I did not really expect much, but it was worth a try (having received an unexpected recommendation to talk to Mr. Hill from former agent Lynn Meredith, who was gracious enough to provide Mr. Hill's unlisted address and phone number).

On June 10, 2005, I phoned fellow former agent Gerald Blaine (having previously spoken to the gentleman on 2/7/04). Blaine confirmed his deep friendship with Hill and, much to my surprise, seemingly out of nowhere, said: "Don't be too hard on Emory Roberts. He was a double, even a triple-checker. He probably took Jack Ready's life into consideration." It was at that moment that I realized that Clint Hill shared the contents of my letter to Blaine; probably with a good dose of anger and indignation, as well. When I received word that Blaine was coming out with a book called *The Kennedy Detail* AND that Clint Hill switting the Foreword, I KNEW that I was responsible, as a catalyst, for their endeavors! Blaine and Hill are now on a book tour together, as well as appearing jointly on several news and media outlets, including an upcoming Discovery Channel documentary, based on the book.

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CTKA Chairman Jim DiEugenio provided additional narrative content for the new DVD release of Oliver Stone's film *JFK*. Click the link above to order the DVD. Order the DVD today from Amazon.com!



Read about the earliest Warren Report critics in John Kelin's new book, *Praise from a Future Generation.*  In fact, Blaine even admitted to *Grand Junction Sentinel* reporter Bob Silbernagel that it was during this exact time that he "began contacting all he could of the 38 agents who were in the Kennedy Detail on Nov. 22, 1963," adding further that once "he began seeing all the misinformation and outright deceit about the assassination on the Internet, as well as in books and films, he decided, "Essentially, it was a book that had to be written."<sup>3</sup>

There was no question in my mind that I ruffled feathers with Blaine and Hill. If all this weren't enough, Blaine's attorney even sent me a certified letter in November 2009, a year before his book was to appear, asking me to take down a blog that Blaine noticed on my main Secret Service blog<sup>4</sup> that merely announced their forthcoming book. Blaine thought I was trying to say that I was the co-author, which was the furthest thing from the truth—I was innocently telling my readers of a book they might find of interest. In any event, after writing back to Blaine and his lawyer, I decided to take that specific blog down... but this incident let me know, in no uncertain terms: Blaine and Hill were men on a mission.

This is further evidenced by what Blaine himself wrote on his blog<sup>5</sup>: "At the annual conference of the 2,500 member former Secret Service Agents Association [AFAUSSS] last week (8/26-8/28/10) in New York City, Lisa McCubbin and I [Gerald Blaine] presented an overview of the book at the business meeting to ensure the agents that the publication was "Worthy of Trust and Confidence."; "At the conference opening reception *Clint Hill, Lisa McCubbin and I [Gerald Blaine] met with Secret Service Director Sullivan and discussed the book from the perspective of today's operations. Clint Hill, who lives in the Washington DC area, had previously briefed the Director on the accuracy and purpose of writing the book."; "I [Gerald Blaine] am the sole surviving charter member and a past president of the organization. The association was conceived by Floyd Boring and Jerry Behn with the assistance of fifteen charter members. Jerry Behn was the Special Agent in Charge of the Kennedy Detail and Floyd Boring was an Assistant Agent in Charge. The organization's mission is to maintain social and professional relationships, to liaison with the Secret Service and other law enforcement agencies" (emphasis added)* 

To quote from a popular commercial, "Can you hear me now?"

I knew their "mission" was to circle the wagons, so to speak, and attempt to counter my prolific research on the failings of the Secret Service on November 22, 1963, specifically, the statements by many of their colleagues—including BLAINE himself—that President Kennedy was a very nice man, never interfered with the actions of the Secret Service and, to the point, did NOT order the agents off his limousine… ever! These men, as well as several important non-agency personnel (such as Dave Powers, Congressman Sam Gibbons, and Cecil Stoughton, among others), provided information, on the phone and/ or in writing, to a total stranger—myself—with no trepidation whatsoever. "Official" history—the Warren Report, the HSCA Report, William Manchester's "The Death of a President", and Jim Bishop's "The Day Kennedy Was Shot"—espouses a decidedly different verdict: President Kennedy was reckless with his security and did order the agents off his limousine-not in Dallas, but during the major trip before, in Tampa, FL, on 11/18/63, which allegedly had grave consequences for JFK's protection on the day he was assassinated.

First, a detailed look at the contents of The Kennedy Detail is in order.

# II: A Major Myth Demolished

The book gets off on the wrong foot with myself and others right away with the bold pronouncement: "JFK's Secret Service Agents Break Their Silence" (which is also the subtitle of the book). This is hogwash: not only did several agents, including Clint Hill, testify to the Warren Commission, many of the agents spoke to the aforementioned William Manchester (including Blaine and Hill<sup>6</sup>), Jim Bishop, and the HSCA, as well as to, among others, Prof. Philip Melanson (for his book *The Secret Service: The Hidden History of an Enigmatic Agency*), several prominent Secret Service television documentaries between 1995 and



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2004 (Hill was involved in all of these productions that made their way to VHS and/ or DVD, as well), and, last but certainly not least, to myself, Vince Palamara, between 1992 and 2006 (again, including Blaine and Hill)! Things only get worse once one gets to the inside flap jacket: Blaine writes that JFK "banned agents from his car", which is patently false-as Winston Lawson, the lead advance agent for the fateful Dallas trip, wrote to me in a letter dated 1/12/04: "I do not know of any standing orders for the agents to stay off the back of the car. After all, foot holds and handholds were built into that particular vehicle ... it never came to my attention as such. I am certain agents were on the back on certain occasions." For his part, ATSAIC (Shift Leader) Art Godfrey told this reviewer on May 30, 1996, regarding the notion that JFK ordered the agents not to do certain things which included removing themselves from the rear of the limousine: "That's a bunch of baloney; that's not true. He never ordered us to do anything. He was a very nice man ... cooperative." Godfrey reiterated this on June 7, 1996. In a letter dated November 24, 1997, Godfrey stated the following: "All I can speak for is myself. When I was working [with] President Kennedy he never ask[ed] me to have my shift leave the limo when we [were] working it," thus confirming what he had also told the author telephonically on two prior occasions. As we shall see, Blaine makes much ado about this issue... for obvious reasons (Thou Protest Too Much).

Although very well written and containing some nice photographs, The Kennedy Detail provides the reader a generous dose of fact, "faction" (playing hard and loose with alleged 'facts' and encompassing reconstructed dialogue and supposed meetings that allegedly occurred without documentation) and fiction. In fact, there are no footnotes, endnotes, sources, or a bibliography to be found (although, to his credit, Blaine did include an impressive index). It is important to note that many important former agents and officials, such as "the brass"-Treasury Secretary Douglas Dillon, Asst Sec. G. d'Andelot Belin, Chief James Rowley, Aide to the Chief Walter Blaschak, Deputy Chief Paul Paterni, Assistant Chief Russell Daniels, Assistant Chief Ed Wildy, Chief U.E. Baughman, Special Agent In Charge (SAIC) Gerald Behn, ASAIC Floyd Boring (the planner of the Texas trip), ASAIC Roy Kellerman (rode in JFK's limo), ASAIC John Campion, ATSAIC (Shift Leader) Emory Roberts (rode in follow up car), ATSAIC Stu Stout (on Texas trip), ATSAIC Art Godfrey (on Texas trip), SAIC of Personnel Howard Anderson, SAIC of PRS Robert Bouck, ASAIC of LBJ Detail (and former JFK agent) Rufus Youngblood, Head Inspector of PRS Elliot Thacker, Chief Inspector Jackson Krill, Inspector Thomas Kelley, Inspector Gerard McCann, & Inspector Burrill Peterson-and many "privates", such as Bill Bacherman, Glen Bennett (of PRS; rode in motorcade), Andy Berger (on the Texas trip), Bert deFreese (on the Texas trip), Jerry Dolan, Paul Doster, PRS Dick Flohr, Morgan Gies, William Greer (the driver of JFK's limo), Dennis Halterman (on the Texas trip), Ned Hall II (on the Texas trip), Harvey Henderson, George Hickey (rode in the follow-up car), Andy Hutch, Jim Jeffries, Sam Kinney (drove the follow-up car), PRS Elmer Lawrence, James Mastrovito, John "Muggsy" O'Leary (on the Texas trip), Bill Payne (on the Texas trip), PRS Walter Pine, Wade Rodham<sup>7</sup>, Henry Rybka (on the Texas trip), Thomas Shipman (deceased 10/14/63!), PRS Frank Stoner, & PRS Walter Young-not to mention countless agents from field offices (such as the SAIC of the Dallas Office Forrest Sorrels and his assistant Robert Steuart AND Charlie Kunkel), DIED YEARS BEFORE THIS BOOK WAS EVEN A THOUGHT. In addition, since there are no specific references, it is hard to know exactly WHO among the living WAS interviewed, as Blaine recently admitted that "three agents still cannot discuss the emotional aspects of that day in Dallas" and he was unable "to contact three other agents who served."8 In addition, several OTHER agents (such as Lynn Meredith, Bob Foster, Paul Burns, Jerry Kivett and Stu Knight) passed away during the time Blaine was writing his book, so we are unable to know if they were contacted, as well.

That said, it is most telling that Blaine admitted that three agents—Larry Newman, Tony Sherman, and **Tim McIntyre (rode in the follow-up car)**—were not contacted because they had "responded to Seymour Hirsch's [sic] book, *The Dark Side of Camelot*, which violated the code of silence."<sup>9</sup> Yet, the fourth agent, Joe Paolella, apparently WAS interviewed for Blaine's volume. Why wasn't he banished from his work, as well? Using this "code of silence" criteria, several (perhaps many) of the agents who spoke to myself and others should have been ignored, as well (example: former agent Walt Coughlin told me that LBJ was "a first-class prick"<sup>10</sup>). It was obvious why Blaine ignored former agent Abraham Bolden: the controversial nature of Bolden's beliefs and so forth.<sup>11</sup> So.



it appears a little selectivity, necessary and otherwise, was used regarding former agent interviews for *The Kennedy Detail*.<sup>12</sup>

As for the aforementioned Newman, Sherman, McIntyre, and Paolella, they waxed on to Seymour Hersh (and others, including the December 1997 ABC/ Peter Jennings special Dangerous World: The Kennedy Years) about their anger and disgust over JFK's private lives. Incredibly, even Emory Roberts' concerns over these issues was voiced by McIntyre. This is very disturbing because it shows a MOTIVE FOR INACTION on 11/22/63. For his part, McIntyre told ABC News, regarding JFK's private life: "Prostitution-that's illegal. A procurement is illegal. And if you have a procurer with prostitutes paraded in front of you, then, as a sworn law enforcement officer, you're asking yourself, 'Well, what do they think of us?' " McIntyre felt this way after having only spent a very brief time with JFK before the assassination: he joined the White House Detail in the fall of 1963.<sup>13</sup> McIntyre also told Hersh: "His shift supervisor, the highly respected Emory Roberts, took him aside and warned ... that 'you're going to see a lot of shit around here. Stuff with the President. Just forget about it. Keep it to yourself. Don't even talk to your wife.' ... Roberts was nervous about it. Emory would say, McIntyre recalled with a laugh, 'How in the hell do you know what's going on? He could be hurt in there. What if one bites him' in a sensitive area? Roberts 'talked about it a lot', McIntyre said. 'Bites' .... In McIntyre's view, a public scandal about Kennedy's incessant womanizing was inevitable. 'It would have had to come out in the next year or so. In the campaign, maybe.' McIntyre said he and some of his colleagues ... felt abused by their service on behalf of President Kennedy ... McIntyre said he eventually realized that he had compromised his law enforcement beliefs to the point where he wondered whether it was 'time to get out of there. I was disappointed by what I saw.' " (emphasis added)<sup>14</sup> Blaine chose to ignore these men and this issue entirely in his book: is this good history? I think not. It might not be pleasant, but these men said what they said-to ignore this matter speaks of a cover up of guilty knowledge. I did not ignore it.

From the first photo section and page 19 of his book (and, later, on pages 240 and 288), we learn something I had already reported years before: that SAIC Gerald Behn "always traveled with the president. In the three years since Kennedy had been elected, Jerry Behn had not taken one day of vacation...He took his first vacation in four years the week JFK was assassinated." Quirk of fate or convenient absence? You decide. I have.

Also on page 19, Blaine begins to (using a lawyer's term) "lay the foundation," as it were, for blaming the victim (JFK) and, in the process, makes a real whopper: Blaine writes, "the Secret Service was not authorized to override a presidential decision." Wrong! Ample proof to the contrary abounds. Chief James J. Rowley testified under oath to the Warren Commission: "No President will tell the Secret Service what they can or cannot do."15 In fact, Rowlev's predecessor, former Chief U. E. Baughman, who had served under JFK from Election Night 1960 until September 1961, had written in his 1962 book Secret Service Chief: "Now the Chief of the Secret Service is legally empowered to countermand a decision made by anybody in this country if it might endanger the life or limb of the Chief Executive. This means I could veto a decision of the President himself if I decided it would be dangerous not to. The President of course knew this fact."16 Indeed, an Associated Press story from November 15, 1963 stated: "The (Secret) Service can overrule even the President where his personal security is involved." Even President Truman agreed, stating, "The Secret Service was the only boss that the President of the United States really had."17 Finally, In an 11/23/63 UPI story written by Robert J. Serling from Washington entitled "Secret Service Men Wary of Motorcade," based in part on "private conversations" with unnamed agents: "An agent is the only man in the world who can order a President of the United States around if the latter's safety is believed at stake ... in certain situations an agent outranks even a President." (emphasis added)

One major myth down, one major one left to demolish.

III: Standing Orders & "Ivy League Charlatans"



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Peppered throughout the book, but starting on page 74, Blaine begins to bring up the issue of the agents' presence (or lack thereof) on the back of JFK's limousine (in Tampa on 11/18/63, in Dallas on 11/22/63, and elsewhere-further "laying the foundation" for his false premise of blaming the victim), accurately stating for the record, AFTER revealing his knowledge of the Joseph Milteer threat received via the Miami Police Department before JFK's trip to Florida: "... the only way to have a chance at protecting the president against a shooter from a tall building would be to have agents posted on the back of the car." Indeed, on pages 81-84, as various films and photos confirm, Blaine tells of his having ridden on the rear of President Kennedy's limousine in Rome and Naples, Italy (7/2/63). In addition, his first photo section depicts Blaine and his colleagues on or near the rear of JFK's car in Costa Rica (March 1963), Berlin, Germany (June, 1963) and Ireland (also in June 1963), while his second photo section depicts yet another photo of the agents on the car in Ireland, as well as in Tampa, Florida (11/18/63) and even agent Clint Hill on the rear of the car in Dallas, Texas on 11/22/63, albeit before the motorcade reached Dealey Plaza.

It is on pages 100-101, in his zeal to set up his premise, that Blaine makes a costly error. Blaine writes: "Fortunately, they'd have SS100X [JFK's special 1961 Lincoln Continental] in Dallas, which had the rear steps and handholds so two agents could be perched directly behind the president and could react quickly. He'd [Win Lawson would] be sure to tell Roy Kellerman, the Special Agent in Charge for the Texas trip, that when the motorcade was driving through downtown, agents would need to be on the back of the car." However, as we have seen, and it bears repeating, Win Lawson wrote to this reviewer on 1/12/04, before this book was even a thought, and said: "I do not know of any the standing orders for the agents to stay off the back of the car. After all, foot holds and handholds were built into that particular vehicle... it never came to my attention as such." (emphasis added) Needless to say, this is in direct contradiction to these statements, attributed to Lawson by Blaine, in The .Kennedy Detail.

Blaine makes much of the 11/18/63 trip JFK took to Tampa as 'evidence' that President Kennedy ordered the agents off the car (as did the Secret Service, exactly five months after the assassination, via five reports submitted to the Warren Commission by Chief Rowley<sup>(18)</sup> As with SAIC Behn's first-time absence, we now supposedly have another instance of a brand new notion, as Blaine writes on page 148: "In the three years he'd been with JFK, he'd never heard the president call the agents off the back of the car in the middle of a motorcade." Indeed, on page 162, Blaine reports that agent Ron Pontius stated: "I've never heard the president say anything about agents on the back of the car," registering his astonishment based on allegedly hearing this, for the first time, on 11/21/63 from long-deceased agent Bert deFreese (in a 47-year-old reconstructed conversation-faction? fiction?-that Blaine makes in the book). Blaine is alleging that JFK ordered the agents (specifically, agents Don Lawton and Chuck Zboril) off the back of the car in Tampa, allegedly using the phrase made infamous by William Manchester<sup>19</sup>: "Floyd [Boring], have the lvy League charlatans drop back to the follow-up car." Blaine later adds, on page 184: "None of the agents understood why he [JFK] was willing to be so reckless." If that weren't enough, Blaine also stated (on the upcoming Discovery Channel documentary airing on 11/22/10): "President Kennedy made a decision, and he politely told everybody, 'You know, we're starting the campaign now, and the people are my asset,'" said agent Jerry Blaine. "And so, we all of a sudden understood. It left a firm command to stay off the back of the car."20 Huh? "Everybody"? THAT alleged statement "left a firm command"? In any event, once again, we have a major conflict with reality-not only do many films and photos depict the agents (still) riding on (or walking/ jogging very near) the rear of the limousine in Tampa<sup>21 22</sup>, Congressman Sam Gibbons, who actually rode a mere foot away IN the car with JFK, wrote to me in a letter dated 1/15/04: ""I rode with Kennedy every time he rode. I heard no such order. As I remember it the agents rode on the rear bumper all the way. Kennedy was very happy during his visit to Tampa. Sam Gibbons." Also, photographer Tony Zappone, then a 16-year-old witness to the motorcade in Tampa (one of whose photos for this motorcade was ironically used in The Kennedy Detail!), told me that the agents were "definitely on the back of the car for most of the day until they started back for MacDill AFB at the end of the day."23 (emphasis added)







As for the "Ivy League Charlatans" remark JFK allegedly uttered to ASAIC Floyd

Boring and, again, first made famous by Manchester, Boring told this author, "I never told him [Manchester] that." As for the merit of the quote itself, as previously mentioned, Boring said, "No, no, no-that's not true," thus contradicting his own report in the process, stating further: "He actually-No, I told them ... He didn't tell them anything ... He just-I looked at the back and I seen these fellahs were hanging on the limousine-I told them to return to the car ... [JFK] was a very easy-going guy ... he didn't interfere with our actions at all."24 In a later interview, Boring expounded further: "Well that's not true. That's not true. He was a very nice man; he never interfered with us at all."<sup>25</sup> If that weren't enough, Boring also wrote the author: "He [JFK] was very cooperative with the Secret Service."<sup>26</sup> Incredibly, Boring was not even interviewed for Manchester's book! We may never know Mr. Manchester's source for this curious statement: he told the author on August 23, 1993 that "... all that material is under seal and won't be released in my lifetime" and denied the author access to his notes (Manchester has since passed away). Interestingly, Manchester did interview the late Emory Roberts-an agent this reviewer is most suspicious of<sup>27</sup>—and GERALD BLAINE, Manchester's probable "source (s)".<sup>28 29</sup>

As for Blaine, this is what he told this reviewer: On February 7, 2004 Blaine said that President Kennedy was "very cooperative. He didn't interfere with our actions. President Kennedy was very likeable-he never had a harsh word for anvone. He never interfered with our actions." (emphasis added) When I asked Blaine how often the agents rode on the back of JFK's limousine, the former agent said it was a "fairly common" occurrence that depended on the crowd and the speed of the cars. In fact, just as one example, Blaine rode on the rear of JFK's limousine in Germany in June 1963, along with fellow Texas trip veterans Paul A. Burns and Samuel E. Sulliman. Blaine added, in specific reference to the agents on the follow-up car in Dallas: "You have to remember, they were fairly young agents," seeming to imply that their youth was a disadvantage, or perhaps this was seen as an excuse for their poor performance on November 22, 1963. Surprisingly, Blaine, the WHD advance agent for the Tampa trip of November 18, 1963, said that JFK did make the comment "I don't need Ivy League charlatans back there," but emphasized this was a "low-key remark" said "kiddingly" and demonstrating Kennedy's "Irish sense of humor." However, according to the "official" story, President Kennedy allegedly made these remarks only to Boring while traveling in the presidential limousine in Tampa: Blaine was nowhere near the vehicle at the time, so Boring, despite what he conveyed to this reviewer, had to be his source for this story!<sup>30</sup> In addition to Emory Roberts, one now wonders, as mentioned previously, if Blaine was a source (or perhaps the source) for Manchester's exaggerated "quote" attributed to Boring, as Agent Blaine was also interviewed by Manchester. Blaine would not respond to a follow-up letter on this subject. However, when the author phoned Blaine on June 10, 2005, the former agent said the remark "Ivy League charlatans" came "from the guys ... I can't remember who [said it] ... I can't remember." (emphasis added) Thus, Blaine confirms that he did not hear the remark from JFK. That said, Blaine's memory got a whole lot "better" 5 years later: he writes on page 148: "The message came though loud and clear on Blaine's walkie-talkie." Incredible.



# IV: Startling Admissions

As for ASAIC Floyd Boring, this reviewer has no doubt that Boring DID INDEED CONVEY the fraudulent notion that JFK had asked that the agents remove themselves from the limo between 11/18-11/19/63, but that the former agent was telling the TRUTH of the matter when he spoke to me years later. You see, Clint Hill wrote in his report:

I ... never personally was requested by President John F. Kennedy not to ride on the rear of the Presidential automobile. I did receive information passed verbally from the administrative offices of the White House Detail of the Secret Service to Agents assigned to that Detail that President Kennedy had made such requests. I do not know from whom I received this information ... No written instructions regarding this were ever distributed ... [I] received this information after the President's return to Washington, D.C. This

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would have been between November 19, 1963 and November 21, 1963 [note the time frame!]. I do not know specifically who advised me of this request by the President. (emphasis added)

Mr. Hill's undated report was presumably written in April 1964, as the other four reports were written at that time. Why Mr. Hill could not "remember" the specific name of the agent who gave him JFK's alleged desires is very troubling—he revealed it on March 9, 1964, presumably before his report was written, in his (obviously pre-rehearsed) testimony under oath to the future Senator Arlen Specter, then a lawyer with the Warren Commission<sup>31</sup>:

Specter: "Did you have any other occasion en route from Love Field to downtown Dallas to leave the follow-up car and mount that portion of the President's car [rear portion of limousine]?" Hill: "I did the same thing approximately four times." Specter: "What are the standard regulations and practices, if any, governing such an action on your part?" Hill: "It is left to the agent's discretion more or less to move to that particular position when he feels that there is a danger to the President: to place himself as close to the President or the First Lady as my case was, as possible, which I did." Specter: "Are those practices specified in any written documents of the Secret Service?" Hill: "No, they are not." Specter: "Now, had there been any instruction or comment about your performance of that type of a duty with respect to anything President Kennedy himself had said in the period immediately preceding the trip to Texas?" Hill: "Yes, sir; there was. The preceding Monday, the President was on a trip to Tampa, Florida, and he requested that the agents not ride on either of those two steps." Specter: "And to whom did the President make that request?" Hill: "Assistant Special Agent in Charge Boring." Specter: "Was Assistant Special Agent in Charge Boring the individual in charge of that trip to Florida?" Hill: "He was riding in the Presidential automobile on that trip in Florida, and I presume that he was. I was not along." Specter: "Well, on that occasion would he have been in a position comparable to that occupied by Special Agent Kellerman on this trip to Texas?" Hill: "Yes sir; the same position." Specter: "And Special Agent Boring informed you of that instruction by President Kennedy?" Hill: "Yes sir, he did." Specter: "Did he make it a point to inform other special agents of that same instruction?" Hill: "I believe that he did, sir." Specter: "And, as a result of what President Kennedy said to him, did he instruct you to observe that Presidential admonition?" Hill: "Yes, sir." Specter: "How, if at all, did that instruction of President Kennedy affect your action and-your action in safeguarding him on this trip to Dallas?" Hill: "We did not ride on the rear portions of the automobile. I did on those four occasions because the motorcycles had to drop back and there was no protection on the left-hand side of the car." (emphasis added)

However, keeping in mind what Boring told this reviewer, the ARRB's Doug Horne—by request of this reviewer—interviewed Mr. Boring regarding this matter on 9/18/96. Horne wrote: "Mr. Boring was asked to read pages 136–137 of Clint Hill's Warren Commission testimony, in which Clint Hill recounted that Floyd Boring had told him just days prior to the assassination that during the President's Tampa trip on Monday, November 18, 1963, JFK had requested that agents not ride on the rear steps of the limousine, and that Boring had also so informed other agents of the White House detail, and that as a result, agents in Dallas (except Clint Hill, on brief occasions) did not ride on the rear steps of the limousine. Mr. Boring affirmed that he did make these statements to Clint Hill, but stated that he was not relaying a policy change, but rather simply telling an anecdote about the President's kindness and consideration in Tampa in not wanting agents to have to ride on the rear of the Lincoln limousine when it was not necessary to do so because of a lack of crowds along the street." (emphasis added)

This reviewer finds this admission startling, especially because the one agent who decided to ride on the rear of the limousine in Dallas anyway—and on at least four different occasions—was none other than *Clint Hill* himself.

 ${f V}$ his also does not address what the agents were to do when the crowds were

heavier, or even what exactly constituted a "crowd", *as agents did ride on the rear steps of the limousine in Tampa on November 18, 1963 anyway!* (–agents Donald J. Lawton, Andrew E. Berger, and Charles T. Zboril, to be exact. Perhaps this is why Blaine felt the need to caption a photo of Boring with the following: "[Boring] was highly respected by all the agents, as well as by JFK.")

"Presidential admonition" (as Specter said to Hill)? Simply an "anecdote" of "the President's kindness" (what Boring said to Horne)? "Not true" (what Boring said to this reviewer)? You decide. I have... and so has Blaine: twice, in fact—what he told this reviewer and what he now claims in *The Kennedy Detail* (see the flapjacket, pages 148-150, 162, 183-184, 206, 208, 209, 232)."

On page 162, Blaine alleges that SAIC Gerald Behn, from his office in the White House, told agent Ron Pontius on 11/21/63: "[JFK] wanted the agents off the back of the car [in Tampa and Dallas] in order for the people to get an unobstructed view." However, in a contradiction Blaine doesn't even notice (although he previously mentioned it on page 19 and in the first photo section), **BEHN WAS ON VACATION DURING THIS TIME!** Perhaps most importantly, Behn told this reviewer on 9/27/92: "I don't remember Kennedy ever saying that he didn't want anybody on the back of his car. I think if you watch the newsreel pictures you'll find agents on there from time to time."<sup>32</sup> In fact, MANY former agents and White House aides told this reviewer the same thing Lawson, Boring, and Behn all saidl<sup>33</sup>

And yet, despite all of this defensive posturing, faction, and fabricating, Blaine states, with regard to the agents' not being on the rear of the car in Dealey Plaza (on page 209): "It was standard procedure—regardless of the president's request—for all agents to fall back to the follow-up car in this situation." (see also page 289) But Blaine wasn't done just yet.

## V: Reconstructing History

In what this reviewer regards as a clever fabrication with "faction" (reconstructing alleged dialogue, 47 years later, from long-dead colleagues), Blaine claims (on pages 285-289 & 360) that there was a meeting at 8 a.m. on 11/25/63, the morning of JFK's funeral, in which the issue of JFK's alleged orders to remove the agents from the car in Tampa (and Dallas) was allegedly covered up so the public would not blame the president for his own death... SOMETHING THIS BOOK, AND ESPECIALLY THIS "TALE", DOES WITH VIGOR! Blaine claims that this meeting was attended by himself, Chief James Rowley (deceased 11/1/92), Rowley's secretary Walter Blaschak (long deceased), ASAIC Floyd Boring (deceased 2/1/08 and in ill heath long beforehand), SAIC Jerry Behn (as noted previously, deceased 4/21/93), ATSAIC Stu Stout (deceased December 1974), and ATSAIC Emory Roberts (deceased 10/8/73). ASAIC Roy Kellerman (deceased 3/22/84) allegedly did NOT attend and, while Blaine mentions that "every supervising agent" was in attendance, he does not mention ATSAIC Art Godfrey (deceased 5/12/2002) by name, although it is 'inferred' that he was there, as well.

It must be said forcefully: There is NO documentation whatsoever that this alleged meeting occurred and all the participants, save Blaine (imagine that), are long dead AND many of them said and wrote things to this reviewer contradictory to the substance of this alleged meeting. On page 288, Blaine writes, speaking for SAIC Behn: "Jim, after Floyd told me about the incident [the alleged JFK orders to remove the agents 11/18/63 in Tampa], I told him to relay the information to the shift leaders—Emory Roberts, Art Godfrey, and Stu Stout—and I know that he did that. They in turn told the men on their shift, which included the agents out on advances." Incredible.

We already know what Behn, Boring, Blaine, Godfrey, and Lawson said to this reviewer; Stout<sup>34</sup> and Kellerman never said anything officially, one way or the other on the matter. Roberts' report confirms nothing except that ASAIC Boring told him to remove the agents from the car on 11/18/63; nothing about JFK or anything else. What about the other "agents out on advances?" Frank Yeager, Blaine's advance partner in Tampa, in a letter to this reviewer dated December 29, 2003, Yeager wrote: "*I did not think that President Kennedy was particularly* 

http://www.ctka.net/reviews/kennedydetailreview.html



'difficult' to protect. In fact, I thought that his personality made it easier than some because he was easy to get along with ....." (emphasis added) With regard to the author's question "Did President Kennedy ever order the agents off the rear of his limousine?" Yeager responded: "I know of no 'order' directly from President Kennedy. I think that after we got back from Tampa, Florida where I did the advance for the President, a few days before Dallas, Kenny O'Donnell, Chief of Staff, requested that the Secret Service agents not ride the rear running board of the Presidential car during parades involving political events so that the president would not be screened by an agent. I don't know what form or detail that this request was made to the Secret Service who worked closely with O'Donnell. I also do not know who actually made the final decision, but we did not have agents on the rear of the President's car in Dallas." (emphasis added)

Like Hill's report mentioned above, please note the timing. Further, regarding the notion of JFK's staff having a hand in this matter, in a letter to the author dated January 15, 2004, former agent Gerald O'Rourke, who was on Blaine's shift on the Texas trip, wrote: "Did President Kennedy order us (agents) off the steps of the limo? *To my knowledge President Kennedy never ordered us to leave the limo*. You must remember at times we had to deal with the Chief of Staff." (emphasis added) The agent added: "President Kennedy was easy to protect as he completely trusted the agents of the Service. We always had to be entirely honest with him and up front so we did not lose his trust." So, while both agents say JFK was easy to protect and that no order came from JFK, they imply, or seem to imply, that the Chief of Staff.—O'Donnell—had something to do with this. More on this crucially important matter in a moment, as we shall look at the other advance agents and what they conveyed to this reviewer.

J. Walter Coughlin, who helped do the San Antonio advance with the late Dennis Halterman (deceased 1988), wrote this reviewer: "In almost all parade situations that I was involved w[ith] we rode or walked the limo." (emphasis added) Coughlin later wrote: "We often rode on the back of the car." (For the record, Ned Hall II, who helped with the advance in Fort Worth, passed away in 1998; his son, Ned Hall III, had no comment to make on the matter. The other agent on the Fort Worth advance, Bill Duncan, never has said a thing regarding this issue, officially or otherwise, and it is not apparent if he was even contacted for Blaine's book or not). Ronald Pontius, who helped advance the Houston stop with the late Bert deFreese (died sometime in the 1980's), wrote this reviewer that JFK DID convey these alleged orders "through his staff," (emphasis added) and here is why this "staff" notion is so important: This is a notion that Blaine doesn't even touch in the book! For the record, Presidential Aide (Chief of Staff / Appointments Secretary) Kenneth P. O'Donnell does not mention anything with regard to telling the agents to remove themselves from the limousine (based on JFK's alleged "desires") during his lengthy Warren Commission testimony (nor to author William Manchester, nor even in his or his daughter's books, for that matter); the same is true for the other two Presidential aides: Larry O'Brien and Dave Powers. In fact, Powers refutes this whole idea-he wrote this reviewer in a letter dated 9/10/93 that "they never had to be told to 'get off' the limousine."

JFK's staff is not mentioned as a factor during any of the agents' Warren Commission testimony, nor in the aforementioned five reports submitted in April 1964. Furthermore, Helen O'Donnell wrote this reviewer on 10/11/10: "Suffice to say that you are correct; JFK did not order anybody off the car, he never interfered with my dad's direction on the Secret Service, and this is much backed up by my Dad's [audio] tapes. I think and know from the tapes Dallas always haunted him because of the might-have-beens—but they involved the motorcade route [only]." In addition, *former agents Art Godfrey and Kinney denounced the "staff/O'Donnell" notion to this reviewer, despite what a small minority of the agents I contacted*—Yeager, O'Rourke, and Pontius—suggested (although, again, Yeager and O'Rourke agreed that JFK was easy to protect and that no order came from him).

Just WHY are these seemingly contradictory accounts of this minority of agents' Yeager, O'Rourke, and Pontius (seemingly contradictory, that is, to this reviewer AND definitely contradictory to Blaine) so very important? Because Blaine's alleged 11/25/63 "meeting" mentions not a thing about staff interference or input, his BOOK mentions not a thing about staff interference or

input, and, in fact, on page 352, Blaine even writes: "If ever asked about whether JFK had ordered them [the former agents] off the back of his car, the answer was **always**, "Oh, no. President Kennedy was wonderful. He was very easy to protect. No, I don't remember him ever ordering agents off the back of his car." (emphasis added) This is simply false. In addition to the aforementioned three agents (Yeager, O'Rourke, and Pontius), several agents contacted by the author *would not comment*, several would claim *not to remember*, and three (one, contacted by myself, the other two, via the HSCA) gave hazy second-hand information (of dubious quality) *seeming to blame JFK after all*!<sup>35</sup> If that weren't enough, Rufus Youngblood in his book<sup>36</sup> and Emory Roberts in his report<sup>37</sup>, claimed it was THE MOTORCYCLES that got in the way of the agents (Ready especially) getting onto the rear of the car... geez.

Finally, in addition to Blaine, former agents Lynn Meredith, Larry Newman, and Don Lawton mentioned the "Ivy League Charlatan" remark to myself, although none claimed to have heard it from JFK (Meredith told me: "I must admit that I was not along on the trip and was back at the White House with Caroline and John, Jr. .. I do not know first-hand if President Kennedy ordered agents off the back end of his limousine." The former agent said that "No Secret Service agents riding on the rear of the limousine" was the number one reason JFK was killed! Newman, not interviewed for Blaine's book, said "supposedly, I didn't hear this directly" and that Manchester's book was "part of myth, part of truth". Newman added: "There was not a directive, per se" from President Kennedy to remove the agents from their positions on the back of his limousine. For his part, Lawton told me: "I didn't hear the President say it, no. The word was relayed to us—I forget who told us now—you know, 'come back to the follow-up " Lawton also added: "Everyone felt bad. It was our job to protect the car.' President. You still have regrets, remorse. Who knows, if they had left guys on the back of the car ... you can hindsight yourself to death."38)

You see, almost none of these former agents were contacted by anyone other than this reviewer, as the agents had unlisted addresses and phone numbers; only the hospitality of a couple former agents led me to these men. Blaine's comment on page 352 (and, indeed, his whole book) were aimed squarely at myself and my 22-page letter mentioned at the beginning of this review. After calling me a "self-described "Secret Service expert"-without actually naming me-on page 359 (guilty as charged; that said, The History Channel, Vince Bugliosi, the Assassination Records Review Board, and many authors and researchers have given me this tag), Blaine saves his special ire for me on page 360: "This same "expert" who had been interviewed for many conspiracy theory books relentlessly blamed the Secret Service for JFK's death by using their own statements against them [no theories, just facts-it is what it is: they said what they said, they wrote what they wrote, and to a total stranger, to boot]. In many cases he called agents and recorded their conversations without their knowledge [not "in many cases": only in a very few instances many years ago and these agents are now deceased. That said, thank God I did: WHO would choose to believe my word NOW, especially with Blaine's book out now for public consumption?]" And HERE is the kicker, in the context of the aforementioned alleged "meeting" Blaine detailed on pages 285-289 (and on page 352), Blaine continues (still on page 360): "When asked whether President Kennedy had ever ordered the agents off the back of his car, the agents gave him the standard line that Chief Rowley requested they give. And as the agents upheld their code, Rowley's words from the day of President Kennedy's funeral resonating in their minds, the Secret Service "expert" turned around and used their words to stab them-and their brothers-in the back with baseless accusations." Incredible.



There was NO morning-of-JFK's-funeral-meeting to cover for the dead president so he wouldn't be blamed for ordering the agents off his car—this was used as a clever device to diffuse and cast aside the damning evidence of just what all these men (including BLAINE himself!) said and wrote to me, many of whom died years before this book—and this alleged meeting—was even a figment of Blaine's imagination. Again, there is no documentation for this 47-year-old meeting—we have to take Blaine, the "sole survivor" of this alleged meeting, at his word. And, what—all these men are LIARS now for what they said and wrote to myself? In the context of my 22-page letter, I believe this "meeting" to be a total fabrication. But it IS clever for another reason: I am sure there WAS most likely a meeting regarding the security detail's coverage of all the dignitaries and their walk with Jackie to St. Matthew's Cathedral and so forth; a clever cover story, indeed.

### VI: Agent Boring Is Not

That said, there are two major reasons why Blaine's 47-year-old cover story is patently false: first, several important non-Secret Service agents (Dave Powers, Congressman Sam Gibbons, Marty Underwood, Helen O'Donnell, and Pierre Salinger, among others, such as various newsmen on 11/22/63, etc.<sup>39</sup>) ALSO told this reviewer that JFK did NOT interfere with the Secret Service or order the agents off his car—what "code" would THEY have been following, Mr. Blaine? Why would they be "lying" to me? (Yes, I am being facetious.) Perhaps this is why Blaine chose to ignore the other cover story of blaming the staff: He had no control over THEIR refutations.

The second reason also reveals an embarrassing error on Blaine's part-he writes on page 360: "If these "experts" [me!] and "researchers" had only read some of the documents that were released in 1992 and available online, they would have found a letter from Chief James J. Rowley written in response to J. Lee Rankin, general counsel on the Warren Commission, in which Rowley admitted what he so desperately did not want to become public. He did not want it to look as if the Secret Service was in any way blaming President Kennedy for his own death." (emphasis added; see also page 289 of Blaine's book) Epic Fail-not only does this book achieve Rowley's "non-goal" of blaming JFK for the security inefficiencies in Dallas, but these "documents" were released in 1964 in the Warren Commission Volumes: 18 H 803-9, to be exact! In addition, Rowley's alleged "desperation" to 'hide' JFK's own alleged culpability in his own death was a monster failure of epic proportions: as we know, Clint Hill testified to the Warren Commission<sup>40</sup> and this testimony was mentioned in the Warren Report, a massive best-seller which was also guoted by many major newspapers and magazines the world over and, if that weren't enough, the five reports were mentioned by Jim Bishop in his own massive bestseller The Day Kennedy Was Shot. Many other books mention these reports (and/or Hill's testimony). And just WHY would Rowley even NEED these five after-the-fact reports? Why didn't he just tell Rankin, in "confidence," about the meeting they all supposedly had on the matter on 11/25/63?

Why, indeed. For what it's worth, Blaine (on pages 360-363) proceeds to quote from the five reports but does NOT state what they each say in verbatim fashion. Interestingly, nothing is mentioned specifically about JFK's alleged desires regarding THE motorcade of November 22, 1963, as was requested by the Commission. And, of the five Secret Service reports, four have as their primary source for JFK's alleged request Agent Boring, including one by Boring himself, while the remaining report, written by SAIC Behn, mentions the same November 18, 1963 trip with Mr. Boring as the others do (Boring's report was the first one written, then came one each from Roberts, Ready, Behn, and Hill, respectively). Again, both Behn and Boring totally contradicted the contents of their reports at different times, independent of each other, to the author, while Roberts report is nothing more than his having heard BORING telling him to have the agents removed from the car on 11/18/63; Ready and Hill freely admit they weren't even ON the Tampa trip in the first place in these reports (and, as Blaine omits), Hill wrote "I do not know from whom I received this information ... I do not know specifically who advised me of this request by the President." (emphasis added) In addition, agents did ride on the rear of the limousine on July 2, 1963 and November 18, 1963 anyway, despite these alleged Presidential requests, as the film and photo record proves.<sup>41</sup> Needless to say, with Boring joining Behn in refuting the substance of their reports, the official Secret Service 'explanation' falls like a house of cards.

All these reports are supposedly evidence of JFK expressing his desire to keep Secret Service agents off the limousine, particularly in Tampa, Florida on November 18, 1963.

Importantly, no mention is made of any alleged orders via President Kennedy's **staff**.





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# And, again, there is nothing about what JFK said or "requested" on November 22, 1963, the critical day in question!

As a "postscript" to Blaine's cover stories about the agents removal from the car, on page 343 of his book, Blaine makes yet another embarrassing error: "When it came to the agents and whether they should or should not have been on the back of the car, the [Warren ] report stated that "the configuration of the presidential car and the seating arrangements of the Secret Service agents in the car did not afford the Secret Service agents the opportunity they should have had to be of immediate assistance to the president at the first sign of danger," but this was in reference to AGENT ROY KELLERMAN'S position in the front seat and the obstacles he may have faced, NOT the agents who should have been on or near the REAR of the car using the UNOBSTRUCTED grab-handles!

#### VII: Uniquely Insecure

Regarding the issue of the bubbletop, although Blaine (on page 188) states that agent Lawson conveyed to Sam Kinney, the driver of the follow-up car, that the bubbletop was to be removed in Dallas, Sam told this reviewer on 10/19/92 and, again, on 3/4/94 and 4/15/94: "It was my fault the top was off [the limousine in Dallas]—I am the sole responsibility of that."42 In addition, Kinney's oft-ignored report dated November 30, 1963 confirms this fact<sup>43</sup>, as does the former agent's recently-released February 26, 1978 HSCA interview: "... SA Kinney indicated that he felt that his was the responsibility for making the final decision about whether to use the bubble-top."44 Blaine later states, on page 244, that the bubbletop "was meant to shield the passengers from the weather-he [agent Sam Kinney] could count on one hand how many times it had been used," but this is simply untrue on two counts: the bubbletop was often used in nice weather conditions and was used more frequently that Blaine, speaking for the long-deceased Kinney (died 7/21/97), admits.<sup>45</sup> On page 193, Blaine states that agent Henry J. Rybka "never worked [the] followup [car], other than driving," yet the record indicates otherwise.46

Predictably, on pages 306-307 & 312-313, Blaine covers up the infamous drinking incident involving NINE agents of the Secret Service, including Clint Hill, Paul Landis, Glen Bennett, and Jack Ready! Interestingly, they were *all* from Shift Leader Emory Roberts' particular shift. Significantly, *none* of the agents from the V.P. LBJ detail were involved in the drinking incident.<sup>47</sup>

Blaine doesn't even touch the issue of the Secret Service and their involvement of removing motorcycle coverage for JFK on 11/22/63. During a November 19, 1963 security meeting in Dallas, with no Secret Service men present, it was agreed that eighteen motorcycles would be used, some positioned along side the limousine, similar to the plan used in the prior Texas cities of San Antonio, Houston, and Fort Worth.<sup>48</sup> However, there was another meeting on November 21, 1963 in which those plans were changed.<sup>49</sup> Captain Perdue Lawrence of the Dallas Police testified to the Warren Commission: "I heard one of the Secret Service men say that President Kennedy did not desire any motorcycle officer directly on each side of him, between him and the crowd, but he would want the officers to the rear."

And yet:

**Mr. Dulles:** "... do you recall that any orders were given by or on behalf of the President with regard to the location of those motorcycles that were particularly attached to his car?"

Mr. Lawson: "Not specifically at this instance orders from him." (emphasis added)<sup>50</sup>

The House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) summed up the situation best:

B: KC. Jockings

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The Secret Service's alteration of the original Dallas Police Department motorcycle deployment plan prevented the use of maximum possible security precautions ... Surprisingly, the security measure used in the prior motorcades during the same Texas visit shows that the deployment of motorcycles in Dallas by the Secret Service may have been *uniquely insecure*.<sup>51</sup>

Blaine ALSO does not deal with the issue of the press and photographer's displacement from the motorcade. *Dallas Morning News* reporter Tom Dillard testified to the Warren Commission:

We lost our position at the airport. I understood we were to have been quite a bit closer. We were assigned as the prime photographic car which, as you probably know, *normally a truck precedes the President on these things [motorcades] and certain representatives of the photographic press ride with the truck.* In this case, as you know, we didn't have any and this car that I was in was to take photographs which was of spot-news nature.<sup>52</sup>

On pages 221-222, Blaine, referring to the president's physician, Admiral George Burkley, writes:

Normally the admiral rode in a staff car in the motorcade, or in the rear seat of the follow-up car, but he and the president's secretary, Evelyn Lincoln, had misjudged the timing of the motorcade's departure from Love Field and wound up scurrying to the VIP bus. He was furious for not having been in his normal seat but had *nobody to blame but himself.* His sole purpose for being in the motorcade was to be close to the president in case anything happened, but who could have predicted this?" (emphasis added)

Again, the record indicates otherwise: "Dr. George Burkley ... felt that he should be close to the President at all times ... Dr. Burkley was unhappy ... this time the admiral protested. He could be of no assistance to the President if a doctor was needed quickly."<sup>53</sup> Burkley also said: "It's not right ... the President's personal physician should be much closer to him," even to the extent of "... sitting on an agent's lap".<sup>54</sup> Burkley stated a few years after the assassination:

I accompanied President Kennedy on every trip that he took during his time as President ... I went on all trips ... we had a regular setup ... all the possible angles were covered by cooperation with the Secret Service, in that we knew the areas of most likely danger. We knew where additional medical aid would be available, and things of that nature ... When we were in Fort Worth, Mrs. [Evelyn] Lincoln and I were in the second car in the motorcade ... [in Dallas] I complained to the Secret Service that I should be either in the follow up car or the lead car ... this was brought to their [the Secret Service's] attention very strongly at the foot of the stairway from the airplane [Air Force One] ... Most of the time, however, I was within one or two cars of the President. This was one of the few times that this did not occur. (emphasis added)<sup>55</sup>

In fact, Burkley rode in the lead car in Miami on November 18, 1963.<sup>56</sup> "The only other time that it did not occur, to my direct recollection, is when we were in Rome [July 2, 1963]"<sup>57</sup> (emphasis added), which was a model of very good security in every other respect.

Evelyn Lincoln, JFK's secretary, confirmed Burkley's feelings on the matter to the HSCA:

Mrs. Lincoln also mentioned what she thought was a curious incident in Dallas prior to the assassination. She said she was with Dr. Burkley ... when they left Love Field for the beginning of the motorcade. She said they were somewhat surprised at being 'shoved' back in the motorcade into a bus. She said they usually rode in an automobile a few cars behind the car carrying the President.<sup>58</sup>





It appears even Jackie Kennedy and, by extension, Dave Powers, were wondering about this situation regarding Burkley: On the weekend after President Kennedy's funeral, Powers showed Mrs. Kennedy the color still frames from the Zapruder film as displayed in that week's *Life* magazine. The pictures, of course, depict Jackie leaving the rear seat to crawl onto the back of the car. "Dave, what do you think I was trying to do?" she asked. Dave could only suggest that maybe she was searching for the President's doctor, Rear Admiral George G. Burkley, who was in a bus at the rear of the motorcade."<sup>59</sup>

Incredibly, as documented in agent Andy Berger's report<sup>60</sup>, Blaine writes on page 233, with regard to Parkland Hospital: "A representative of the CIA appeared a while later." Also, as Blaine never even mentions, JFK's Military Aide, General Godfrey McHugh, a devout Kennedy loyalist was relegated to the distant VIP car in the Dallas motorcade<sup>61</sup>, stated that he was asked by the Secret Service "for the first time" to "ride in a car in the back [of the motorcade], instead, as normally I would do, between the driver and the Secret Service agent in charge of the trip."<sup>62</sup>

Indeed, McHugh had just occupied this very spot on JFK's previous trip to Florida, not to mention countless other times beforehand when either he or fellow military aide, General Ted Clifton, rode in this position. (Greer admitted that many times an aide rode in the front seat of the limo with the driver and the supervisor<sup>63</sup>, as the film and photo record bears out.) McHugh admitted that this was "unusual": "That's exactly what I thought." The reason? "To give the President full exposure ... they told me it would be helpful *politically* to the President."<sup>64</sup> (emphasis added)

There's that qualifier again: "politically." The HSCA's Mark Flanagan, who interviewed McHugh, reported: "Ordinarily McHugh rode in the Presidential limousine in the front seat. This was the first time he was instructed not to ride in the car so that all attention would be focused on the President to accentuate full exposure."<sup>65</sup>

In yet another matter Blaine chose to ignore, Dallas Sheriff Bill Decker, who rode in the lead car with Lawson and Sorrels, told his men to in no way participate in the security of the motorcade.<sup>66</sup> As verified in several films and photos, Decker's men were standing idle at the corner of Main and Houston as mere spectators, nothing more. Indeed, Deputy Sheriff Luke Mooney told author Larry Sneed: "I was merely a spectator with a number of other plain clothes officers on Main Street just north of the Old Red Court House. We in the

sheriff's department had nothing to do with security."67

Decker had given this unusual order to his men after telling Forrest Sorrels *the previous day* that he had agreed to incorporate additional personnel for security purposes, and even offered his full support to the agent: Decker had agreed to furnishing fifteen of his men for duty!<sup>68</sup> Incredibly, the *Dallas Morning News* on October 26, 1963 reported the following, based on an interview with DPD Chief Jesse Curry: "LARGE POLICE GUARD PLANNED FOR KENNEDY—Signs Friday pointed to the greatest concentration of Dallas police ever for the protection of a high-ranking dignitary when President Kennedy visits Dallas next month ... The deployment of the special force, he [Curry] said, is yet to be worked out with the U.S. Secret Service."<sup>69</sup> Yet Homicide Detective Gus Rose said: "I didn't hear of any extraordinary security measures being set up thus we continued our normal rotation."<sup>70</sup>

Blaine also is seemingly unaware of the following, as noted by reporter Seth Kantor: "Will Fritz's men called off nite before by SS. Had planned to ride closed car w/ machine guns in car behind Pres." (Which could mean someplace behind JFK's car, as was the case in Chicago, IL, on 3/23/63<sup>71</sup> & New York on 11/15/63.)<sup>72</sup>

Furthermore, Milton Wright, a Texas Highway Patrolman who was the driver of Mayor Cabell's car, wrote this reviewer: "As I recall, prior to the President arriving at the airport we were already staged on the tarmac. I do not recall what position I was in at that time but it was not #1[the number taped to his car's windshield]. At the last minute there was a lot of shuffling and I ended up in the



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5<sup>th</sup> vehicle. My vehicle was the last to leave downtown after the shooting because the police set up a road block behind my car."<sup>73</sup>

On page 224, Blaine writes: "It was very rare for both the president and vice president to be together at the same time in the same place." This is an understatement—being in the same MOTORCADE was unique!<sup>74</sup> Agent Youngblood later wrote: "It is strictly taboo, from the security standpoint, for the President and the Vice President to ride together in the same car, boat, plane, wagon, or anything else."<sup>75</sup> As J. F. terHorst (from the White House Press Corps), a man who covered every major presidential trip—including November 22, 1963—both at home and abroad, and Colonel Ralph Albertazzie (Nixon's Air Force One pilot) observed in their book: *Beyond the Environs of Washington*, the Vice President rarely accompanies the President. The reason is not only a matter of physical security but one of politics ... But Texas was a special case, the exception that proved the rule."<sup>76</sup> As HSCA attorney Belford Lawson succinctly put it: "Why for the first time in American history were the President and Vice-President together in the same motorcade?"<sup>77</sup>

Blaine ALSO ignores the fact that the roofs along the route were not manned or checked. SAIC of the Nashville office Paul Doster told the *Nashville Banner* back on May 18, 1963 that "a complete check of the entire motorcade route" was done for JFK's trip to Nashville. In addition, Doster stated: "Other [police] officers were assigned atop the municipal terminal and other buildings along the route. These men took their posts at 8 a.m. and remained at their rooftop stations until the president and his party passed." The roofs of buildings were also guarded on November 18, 1963<sup>78</sup>, four short days before Dallas, in addition to San Antonio on November 21, 1963<sup>79</sup>, just the day before, as well as in Fort Worth on the morning of the assassination.<sup>80</sup>

### VIII: Driving Questions

On page 201, regarding agent Bill Greer, the driver of JFK's car in Dallas, Blaine writes: "And, God forbid, if he [Greer] ever did have to make a sudden getaway, he knew the 7,500-pound car with its 300-horsepower engine just didn't gather speed as quickly as he would like." If that wasn't enough, Blaine adds, on page 212: "[Greer, after the shooting commenced] quickly tapped on the brake to see how the car would respond." Finally, on page 356, Blaine delivers the *coup de grace*: "Yes, Bill Greer put his foot on the brake after the first shot. But for God's sake, it had nothing to do with a conspiracy, or negligence—he was merely responding as any professionally trained driver would respond."

Oh, really? Sixty witnesses (ten police officers, seven Secret Service agents, thirty-eight spectators, two Presidential aides, one Senator, Governor Connally, and Jackie Kennedy) and the Zapruder film document Secret Service agent William R. Greer's deceleration of the presidential limousine, as well as his two separate looks back at JFK during the assassination<sup>81</sup> (Greer denied all of this to the Warren Commission<sup>82</sup>). By decelerating from an already slow 11.2 mph, Greer greatly endangered the President's life, and, as even Gerald Posner admitted, Greer contributed greatly to the success of the assassination. When we consider that Greer disobeyed a direct order from his superior, Roy Kellerman, to get out of line before the fatal shot struck the President's head, it is hard to give Agent Greer the benefit of the doubt. As ASAIC Roy H. Kellerman said: "Greer then looked in the back of the car. Maybe he didn't believe me."<sup>83</sup> Ken O'Donnell stated: "Greer had been remorseful all day, feeling that he could have saved President Kennedy's life by swerving the car or speeding suddenly after the first shots."84 In addition, Greer told Jackie the following on November 22, 1963 at Parkland Hospital, shortly after the murder: "Oh, Mrs. Kennedy, oh my God, oh my God. I didn't mean to do it, I didn't hear, I should have swerved the car, I couldn't help it. Oh, Mrs. Kennedy, as soon as I saw it I swerved. If only I'd seen it in time! Oh!"<sup>85</sup> Finally, Dave Powers confirmed Greer's guilt to CBS newsman Charles Kuralt on November 22, 1988, also adding that if Greer would have sped up before the fatal headshot, JFK might still be alive today.86



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When this reviewer asked Richard Greer, the surviving son of Bill Greer, on 9/17/91: "What did your father think of JFK?" Richard did not respond the first time. When this author asked him a second time, Greer responded: "*Well, we're Methodists ... and JFK was Catholic.*" Bill Greer was born and raised in *County Tyrone, Ireland*, coming to America in February 1930 and, if that weren't enough, "worked one summer on the estate of Henry Cabot Lodge,"<sup>87</sup> JFK's two-time political opponent (a staunch Republican defeated twice by Kennedy) and Ambassador to Saigon during the CIA and U.S. government–sponsored assassination of President Diem of Vietnam on November 2, 1963 (Lodge was principally involved<sup>88</sup>). Obviously, Greer, just from his association with Lodge, as well as his work in and around Boston, had to have known about Kennedy, as well as his rich family, Ambassador father Joe, and their controversial heritage of alleged bootlegging, Nazi sympathizing, and political history in Boston.<sup>89</sup>

The sequence is crucial:

- 1. First shot (or shots) rings out: the car slows.
- 2. Greer turns around once.
- 3. Kellerman orders Greer to "get out of line; we've been hit!"
- 4. Greer disobeys his superior<sup>5</sup> order and turns around to stare at JFK for the second time, until after the fatal headshot finds its mark!

As stated before, Greer was responsible, at fault, and felt remorse. In short, Greer had survivor's guilt.

But, then, stories and feelings changed.

Agent Greer to the FBI, November 22, 1963: "Greer stated that he first heard what he thought was possibly a motorcycle backfire and glanced around and noticed that the President had evidently been hit Inotice that, early on, Greer admits seeing JFK, which the Zapruder proves he did two times before the fatal head shot occurred]. He thereafter got on the radio and communicated with the other vehicles, stating that they desired to get the President to the hospital immediately [in reality, Greer did not talk on the radio, and Greer went on to deny ever saying this during his Warren Commission testimony] ... Greer stated that they (the Secret Service) have always been instructed to keep the motorcade moving at a considerable speed inasmuch as a moving car offers a much more difficult target than a vehicle traveling at a very slow speed. He pointed out that on numerous occasions he has attempted to keep the car moving at a rather fast rate, but in view of the President's popularity and desire to maintain close liaison with the people, he has, on occasion, been instructed by the President to 'slow down'.<sup>90</sup> Greer stated that he has been asking himself if there was anything he could have done to avoid this incident, but stated that things happened so fast that he could not account for full developments in this matter ... . "91 [The "JFK-as-scapegoat" theme-and so much for Greer's remorse from earlier the same day.]



Finally, what did Jacqueline Kennedy think of Greer's performance on 11/22/63? Mary Gallagher reported in her book: "She mentioned one Secret Service man who had not acted during the crucial moment, and said bitterly to me, 'He might just as well have been Miss Shaw!' "92 Jackie also told Gallagher: "You should get yourself a good driver so that nothing ever happens to you."93 Secret Service agent Marty Venker confirmed that the agent Jackie was referring to was Agent Greer: "If the agent had hit the gas before the third shot, she griped, Jack might still be alive."94 Later, authors C. David Heymann and Edward Klein further corroborated that the agent Mrs. Kennedy was referring to was indeed Greer.95 Manchester wrote: "[Mrs. Kennedy] had heard Kellerman on the radio and had wondered why it had taken the car so long to leave."96 In addition, Jackie "played the events over and over in her mind .... . She did not want to accept Jack's death as a freak accident, for that meant his life could have been spared-if only the driver in the front seat of the presidential limousine [Agent William R. Greer] had reacted more quickly and stepped on the gas ... if only the Secret Service had stationed agents on the rear bumper ... ."97 (emphasis added)

Incredibly, ASAIC Roy Kellerman told the following to FBI agents' Sibert &

O'Neil on the night of the murder: "The advanced security arrangements made for this specific trip were the most stringent and thorough ever employed by the Secret Service for the visit of a President to an American city."<sup>98</sup> Perhaps THIS is why JFK reassured a worried San Antonio Congressman Henry Gonzalez on 11/21/63 by saying: "The Secret Service told me that they had taken care of everything—there's nothing to worry about."<sup>99</sup> If that weren't enough, President Kennedy told an equally concerned advance man, Marty Underwood, on 11/21/63: in Houston, "Marty, you worry about me too much."<sup>100</sup>

On pages 230-231, Blaine seeks to pass the blame on to others once again, this time in the form of JFK's Chief of Staff, Ken O'Donnell: "Ken O'Donnell agreed... that Johnson should return to Washington as soon as possible and that yes, he should leave Dallas on Air Force One." However, O'Donnell denied this, telling author William Manchester: "The President and I had no conversation regarding Air Force One. If we had known he was going on Air Force One, we would have taken Air Force Two. One plane was like the other."101 In fact, when Arlen Specter of the Warren Commission asked O'Donnell, "Was there any discussion about his [LBJ] taking the presidential plane, AF-1, as opposed to AF-2?" O'Donnell responded: "There was not."102 In this regard, O'Donnell later wrote in his book Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye that a Warren Commission attorney-the aforementioned Arlen Specter-asked him to "change his testimony so that it would agree with the President's": an offer O'Donnell refused.<sup>103</sup> With this in mind, author Jim Bishop reported: "Emory Roberts suggested that Johnson leave at once for Air Force One ... Roberts asked Kenny O'Donnell and he said: 'Yes.' Johnson refused to move. Roberts returned to O'Donnell and asked again: 'Is it all right for Mr. Johnson to board Air Force One now?' 'Yes,' O'Donnell said, 'Yes.' " (emphasis added)104



This author believes O'Donnell when he says he had no part in LBJ going to Air Force One over Air Force Two. This was a Secret Service (Emory Roberts) decision. Presidential aides Ken O'Donnell and Dave Powers best summed up the situation when they wrote: "Roberts, one of President Kennedy's agents ... had decided to switch to Johnson as soon as Kennedy was shot."<sup>105</sup> In addition, four other authors have noted Agent Roberts' "switch of allegiance", including Chief Curry.<sup>106</sup> Incredibly, Roberts was the President's receptionist during the Johnson administration while still a member of the Secret Service, receiving a Special Service Award from the Treasury Department for improving) communications and services to the public in 1968!<sup>107</sup> LBJ thought highly of Roberts, and the feeling was mutual—President Johnson told a gathering that "Emory Roberts, who I am sorry can't be here today—he greets me every morning and tells me good-bye every night."<sup>108</sup> (For the record, LBJ didn't think much of Roy Kellerman: "This fellow Kellerman ... he was about as loyal a man as you could find. But he was about as dumb as an ox."<sup>109</sup>)

Also predictably, on pages 334-335 & 356-357, Blaine seeks to minimize former agent Abraham Bolden's claims of Secret Service negligence and conspiracy.<sup>110</sup>

Blaine (on pages 350 and 352) seeks to cast away ANY notion that the Secret Service agents believed there was a conspiracy, yet there is the record that says differently:

From the February 22, 1978 House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) interview of Miami SAIC John Marshall, former White House Detail agent who conducted all the advance work on President Kennedy's frequent trips to Palm Beach: TWICE DURING THE INTERVIEW, MR. MARSHALL MENTIONED THAT, FOR ALL HE KNEW, SOMEONE IN THE SECRET SERVICE COULD POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION. THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME AN AGENT HAS MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY THAT A CONSPIRACY EXISTED, BUT IT IS THE FIRST TIME THAT AN AGENT HAS ACKNOWLEDGED THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE SECRET SERVICE COULD HAVE BEEN INVOLVED. Robert Pull And Dr Jule of Pauly Secret will Secret will Secret will Secret will Secret will

In addition, former agents Jerry O'Rourke, Sam Kinney, Abraham Bolden, and

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: A Review of The Kennedy Detail, a Compelling but ... Page 19 of 27

Maurice Martineau believed there was a conspiracy, as we

Will

### IX: Perfect Sense



The Kennedy Detail, a book firmly rooted in the "Oswald-did-it-alone" camp, also contains contradictory evidence of conspiracy in its pages. On page 216, Blaine describes the shooting sequence in this manner: "... the first shot strikes the president, the second shot strikes Governor Connally, and the third shot strikes JFK in the head ... " There is no acknowledgement of the Warren Commission's fictional single bullet theory or the known missed shot that struck bystander James Tague! This is a pattern Hill and Blaine repeat on national television.<sup>112</sup> On page 217, Blaine writes that agent Clint Hill saw "a bloody, gaping, fist-sized hole clearly visible in the back of his head," clear evidence that JFK was struck by a shot from the FRONT, as also confirmed by Hill's report<sup>113</sup> and Warren Commission testimony<sup>114</sup>, not to mention the reports (plural) from fellow agent Paul Landis (whose contents were *confirmed by* Landis to the HSCA)<sup>115</sup>, no matter what Landis or Blaine say now (see pages 225 & 352-353), as well as the statements made by agent Sam Kinney to Vince Palamara<sup>116</sup> (and, ironically, in Blaine's own book, pages 216 & 218, regarding blood hitting his windshield!) and agent Win Lawson, who also "saw a huge hole in the back of the president's head."117 Blaine also uses this same language later in the book (page 258):

Now the men who just four and a half hours earlier had seen the back of President Kennedy's head blown off hauled the casket holding his dead body..." Finally, regarding Hill, Blaine describes his friends' recollections of the autopsy (page 266): "Six inches down from the neckline, just to the right of the spinal column, there was a small wound, a hole in the skin... All Clint could see was that the right rear portion of President Kennedy's head was completely gone.

On page 261, Blaine writes: "[7:55 p.m., 11/22/63] For about twenty minutes [Chief James J] Rowley gave [the agents] what could only be called a pep talk... There was no feeling that he blamed anyone or that the assassination could somehow have been prevented." On page 275, Blaine says of SAIC Behn (deceased 4/21/93): "From everything Jerry Behn had heard about the tragedy in Dallas, nobody was to blame." Blaine carries this incredibly dumb statement even further during television interviews for the book—he told MSNBC's Chris Matthews on 11/12/10: "No, there was nothing that could have been done to stop it."

On pages 264-265, Blaine related how he almost shot President Johnson on 11/23/63 with his Thompson submachine gun, a tale of dubious merit that garnered much press before the release of the book.

Blaine seems to be unaware of the following, as reported by the Assassination Records Review Board in 1998: "Congress passed the JFK Act of 1992. One month later, the Secret Service began its compliance efforts. However, in January 1995, the Secret Service destroyed presidential protection survey reports for some of President Kennedy's trips in the fall of 1963. The Review Board learned of the destruction approximately one week after the Secret Service destroyed them, when the Board was drafting its request for additional information. The Board believed that the Secret Service files on the President's travel in the weeks preceding his murder would be relevant.<sup>#118</sup>

On page 359, Blaine identifies the agent recalled at Love Field as SA Don Lawton, the OTHER agent (along with SA Henry Rybka) "ostensibly" left to secure Love Field for the President's departure, and takes this reviewer to task for his misidentification. In the interest of time, please see this reviewer's online videos wherein he fully explains himself, his rationale, and his belief that, regardless of WHO the agent is (and he is willing to concede that it was probably Lawton after all), the SUBSTANCE of what is being depicted in the video—the essence—remains the same.<sup>119</sup> Suffice to say that many people were "fooled" by this footage—former JFK agent Larry Newman, the ARRB, The History Channel, Rybka's family, millions of YouTube viewers, countless authors and researchers, and even a December 2009 Discovery Channel





Secret Service documentary "Secrets of the Secret Service"!

Although very well written, along with some nice photographs, as well, *The Kennedy Detail* is really a thinly veiled attempt to rewrite history (*a la* Gerald Posner and Vince Bugliosi, who believe 11/22/63 was the act of a single lone man) and absolve the agents of their collective survivor's guilt (and to counter the prolific writings of a certain reviewer). In the eyes of those from *The Kennedy Detail*, the assassination was the act of TWO "lone men": Oswald, who pulled the trigger, and JFK, who set himself up as the target. Simply put: President Kennedy WAS indeed a very nice man, did not interfere with the actions of the Secret Service, did not order the agents off his limousine (in Tampa, in Dallas, or elsewhere), and did not have his staff convey any antisecurity sentiments, either. The sheer force and power of what these men all told me, a complete stranger, in correspondence and on the phone, is all the more strong because, not only did they have a vested interest to protect themselves, the vast majority believe that Oswald acted alone and that all official "stories" are correct.

In light of the work of this reviewer, future pensions, professional and personal reputations, and so forth, *The Kennedy Detail* makes perfect sense. After the reviewer's letter to Clint Hill, it truly WAS "a book that HAD to be written." A postscript: Gerald Blaine stated on 11/11/10 on MSNBC's "Morning Joe": "We felt we were 100% failure."<sup>120</sup>

Finally, you said something we can ALL agree on, Mr. Blaine.

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#### End Notes

1. http://vincepalamara.blogspot.com/2009/12/my-letter-to-clint-hill.html

2. Available in soft cover from 1993-1997 & 1999-2005 (self-published); available 1997-1998 via JFK Lancer Publications; available since 2006 as a free online book here: http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1.html

3. http://www.gjsentinel.com/opinion/articles/the\_kennedy\_detail\_is\_a\_story; see also page 364 of Blaine's book

4. http://vincepalamara.blogspot.com/

5. http://kennedydetail.blogspot.com/2010/09/association-of-former-agents-ofunited.html

6. For the record, Clint Hill was interviewed by: Warren Commission (March 9, 1964), for Manchester, *The Death of a President* (November 18, 1964; May 20, 1965), and 60 Minutes (December 7, 1975; November 1993); December 1963 newsreel regarding Treasury award (with C. Douglas Dillon as presenter); Who Killed JFK: The Final Chapter? (CBS, November 19, 1993); The Secret Service and Inside the Secret Service videos (1995); Inside the U.S. Secret Service documentary (2004); Larry King Live (March 22, 2006); and, now, numerous TV shows 2010

7. Rodham was Hillary Rodham Clinton's uncle! I received confirmation of this via former agent Don Cox.

8.

http://www.libraryjournal.com/lj/newslettersnewsletterbucketbooksmack/887623-439/qa\_former\_kennedy\_secret\_service.html.csp

9. Ibid

10. "Survivor's Guilt", Palamara, Chapter 13, page 9

11. Bolden is also the author of *The Echo From Dealey Plaza* (2008)  $\checkmark$ 

12. The agents we **DO** know were involved in "The Kennedy Detail", based on the text of the book and Blaine's online blogs and so forth (and the upcoming Discovery tv documentary), are the following: Gerald Blaine, Clint Hill, Joe Paolella, Chuck Zboril, Robert Faison, Hamilton Brown, Walt Coughlin, Richard Johnsen, Ken Wiesman, Radford Jones, Winston Lawson, Toby Chandler, Ron Pontius, David Grant (Clint Hill's brother-in-law!), Paul Rundle, Eve Dempsher, Tom Wells and Paul Landis. That leaves, from the Texas trip, Sam Sulliman, John Ready, Warren "Woody" Taylor, Lem Johns, Jerry Bechtle, Donald Bendickson, Jim Goodenough, Bill Duncan, PRS Dale Wunderlich, Mike Howard (Dallas office), John Joe Howlett (Dallas office), Roger Warner, Bob Burke, Frank Yeager, Don Lawton, Ken Giannoules, and Ernest Olsson as still living and eligible to have been interviewed... *maybe*.

13. Author's interview with Gerald Blaine 6/10/05

14. "The Dark Side Of Camelot" by Seymour Hersh, pages 40-241

15. 5H 570

16. U. E. Baughman, *Secret Service Chief* (New York: Harper & Row, Popular Library edition, January 1963), p. 70.

17. Rowley oral history, LBJ Library, January 22, 1969, p. 2. See also David Seidman, *Extreme Careers—Secret Service Agents: Life Protecting the President* (New York: The Rosen Publishing Group, Inc., 2003), p. 11. Rowley himself said: "Most Presidents have responded to our requests ....."

18. CE1025: 18 H 803-809. I have dealt with these reports exhaustively in my own book (*Survivor's Guilt*: see Chapter one in entirety) and on my online blog—please see http://vincepalamara.blogspot.com/2010/10/kennedy-detail.html

19. *The Death of a President* by William Manchester, pp. 37-38 (all references to Manchester's book are from the 1988 Perennial Library edition.)

20. http://news.discovery.com/history/jfk-assassination-secret-service.html

21. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMAq5kgU6YI

22. http://thekennedydetailsecretservicejfk.blogspot.com/

23. E-mail to Vince Palamara from Tony Zappone dated 10/20/10

24. Author's interview with Floyd Boring 9/22/93

25. Author's interview with Floyd Boring dated 3/4/94. For the relevant AUDIO portions of this interview, please see: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JC9I1AdGJj0 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZZ4dnWyu\_Q http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMr9-Eg5NvE http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AaRX37HVx5E

26. Floyd Boring letter to Vince Palamara dated 11/22/97

27. See http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1.html

28. Manchester, p. 667. Of the 21 agents/officials interviewed by Manchester, only Roberts, Greer, Kinney, and Blaine were on the Florida trip. Blaine was the advance agent for Tampa (riding in the lead car), Greer drove JFK's car, Kinney drove the follow-up car, and Roberts was the commander of the follow-up car. That said, in the author's opinion, Roberts is still the main suspect of the four as being Manchester's dubious source for this quote: after all, he was asked to write a report about JFK's so-called desires, citing Boring as the source for the order via radio transmission. The others—Greer, Kinney, and Blaine—were not asked to write a similar report. In addition, Manchester had access to this report while writing his book (see next footnote). Also, unlike the other three, Roberts

was interviewed twice and, while Greer never went on record with his feelings about the matter, one way or the other, Kinney adamantly denied the veracity of Manchester's information, while Blaine denied the *substance* of the information, although he *did* mention the "Ivy league charlatan" remark coming from a secondary source. Finally, of the 21 agents interviewed by Manchester, Blaine is the only agent—save two headquarters Inspectors (see next footnote)—whose interview comments are not to be found in the text or index. Since, in addition to Blaine, three other agents—Lawton, Meredith and Newman—also mentioned the remark to this reviewer strictly as *hearsay*, in some fashion or another, it is more than likely that Manchester seized upon the remark and greatly exaggerated its significance ... and attributed it to Boring, while his actual source was likely Roberts and/or Blaine. Again, since Boring wasn't interviewed, the comment had to come second-hand from another agent, who, in turn, received the remark second-hand from Boring. Ultimately, the question is: did Boring really give out this order on instructions from JFK?

29. Interestingly, Manchester, having interviewed 21 different agents/officials for his book (pp. 660-9), chose to include interviews with Secret Service Inspectors Burrill Peterson and Jack Warner. What's the problem? Well, these men, not even associated with the Texas trip in any way, were interviewed more than any of the other agents: four times each (Peterson: October 9, 1964, November 17, 1964, November 18, 1964, February 5, 1965; Warner: June 2, 1964, November 18, 1964, February 5, 1965, May 12, 1965)! Only Emory Roberts, Clint Hill, Roy Kellerman, and Forrest Sorrels had two interviews apiece, while all the other agents/officials garnered just one inter-view each. And, more importantly, unlike all the other 19 agents, save one, Gerald Blaine (a Texas trip WHD agent), these two Inspectors are not even mentioned in the actual text or the index; their comments are "invisible" to the reader. It appears, then, that Manchester's book was truly a sanitized, "official" book, more so than we thought before (as most everyone knows, the book was written with Jackie Kennedy's approval-it was her idea, in fact [p.ix]. Manchester even had early, exclusive access to the Warren Commission itself: "At the outset of my inquiry the late Chief Justice Earl Warren appointed me an ex officio member of his commission ... and provided me with an office in Washington's VFW building, where the commission met and where copies of reports and depositions were made available to me." [p. xix]) Inspector Peterson figured prominently in the post-assassination press dealings (or lack thereof)—as Agent Sorrels testified: "... I don't think at any time you will see that there is any statement made by the newspapers or television that we said anything because Mr. Kelley, the Inspector, told me, 'Any information that is given out will have to come from Inspector Peterson in Washington.' " [7 H 359] Peterson became an Assistant Director for Investigations in 1968 [20 Years in the Secret Service by Rufus Youngblood (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1973), p. 220], while Inspector Warner would go on to become Director of Public Affairs (a position he held until the 1990s), acting as a buffer to critical press questions during the assassination attempts on President Ford and other related matters [The Secret Service: The Hidden History of an Enigmatic Agency (New York: Carroll & Graf, 2003) by Philip Melanson with Peter Stevens, pp. 101, 201, 224, 237]. Warner would also later become a consultant to the 1993 Clint Eastwood movie In The Line of Fire.

30. Please see: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4C4mfCp1DY and http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pGq9rpuBM1A

31. 2 H 136-7

32. See also http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L17N6OxrBps and http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdM6WXqXjIo

33. See http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1/v4n1chapter01.pdf and http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pGq9rpuBM1A and http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxaEim-7Zqs

34. Stout's son, Stu Stout III, wrote this reviewer on 11/1/10: "Vince. Thought I would mention that one of the influential people that attended the advance planning meetings for the Dallas trip was the Mayor of Dallas in 63 and I think it was Earle Cabell or Eric? Doesn't really matter. I distinctly ...remember during a conversation at the dinner table weeks following (that surreal day), my father telling my mother that "the Mayor thought agents riding on the back of the car (which was common protocol) would send a message and did not want his city

per Charles

to appear dangerous to the world though the media. He asked for subtle security exposure if and where possible."On that day only two individuals would have been able to direct such an order and that would have been the President himself or Floyd Boring SAIC. In my opinion, and you know about opinions, if you find out who else was in that chain of command "during that moment" you will be able to rationally determine why the agents jumped down for a portion of that politically motivated route through the city. Take care Vince and please don't give up."

35. See pages 30-32 of

http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1/v4n1chapter01.pdf

36. 20 Years in the Secret Service (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1973), p. 111

37. 18 H 783

38. http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1/v4n1chapter01.pdf

39. See http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1/v4n1chapter01.pdf

40.2H136-7

41. Italy film clip, courtesy Jim Cedrone of the JFK Library; newly discovered still photos from Naples: John Fitzgerald Kennedy: A Life In Pictures by Yann-Brice Dherbier and Pierre-Henri Verlhac (New York: Phaidon Press, 2003), p. 183, 231; Corbis stock pho-tos discovered by the author in 2005 (and also forwarded to former agents Blaine, Coughlin, ad O'Rourke). Regarding Italy: See also Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye by Kenneth P. O'Donnell, David F. Powers, and Joseph McCarthy (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1972), p. 433 [note: all references to this book are from the Pocket Book paperback edition published in 1973]; Tampa Tribune, November 19, 1963 (downtown area picture with agents Lawton and Zboril holding onto the rear handrails); Cecil Stoughton photo, taken from the follow-up car, November 18, 1963 (suburban area picture depicting same); short clip in David Wolper's 1964 film Four Days In November, depicting the start of the Tampa trip: agent Zboril is running on the left-rear end of the limo, holding onto the handrail, while agent Berger is riding on the opposite side; agent Lawton is seen running along Berger's side; black and white photos discovered by Ian Griggs and Frank Debenedictis; black and white photos from photographers Tony Zappone and Tommy Eure.

42. See also http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1/v4n1chapter03.pdf

43. 18 H 730

44. RIF#180-10078-10493

45. See http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fJrnxzowSE; http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1/v4n1chapter03.pdf; see also the many pics at http://vincepalamara.blogspot.com/

46. Advance man Jerry Bruno's notes from the JFK Library in Boston. Agent Henry Rybka was also on the follow-up car team in San Antonio on November 21, 1963( as had driver agent George Hickey in Tampa and in Dallas). Rybka was *not* the driver

47. http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1/v4n1chapter06.pdf

48. 11 HSCA 527; 7 H 577–580; 21 H 567; RIF#180–10093–10320: May 31, 1977 Memorandum from HSCA's Belford Lawson to fellow HSCA members Gary Cornwell and Ken Klein (revised August 15, 1977). Please see: http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1/v4n1chapter06.pdf

49. 7 H 580–1; 11 HSCA 527, 529; RIF#180–10093–10320: May 31, 1977 Memorandum from HSCA's Belford Lawson to fellow HSCA members Gary Cornwell and Ken Klein (revised August 15, 1977).

50. 4 H 338

(LAWSon)

51. See also RIF#180–10093–10320: May 31, 1977 Memorandum from HSCA's Belford Lawson to fellow HSCA members Gary Cornwell and Ken Klein (revised August 15, 1977)—the original language used for this passage: "But in comparison with what the SS's own documents suggest were the security precautions used in prior motorcades during the same Texas visit, the motorcade alteration in Dallas by the SS may have been a unique occurrence."

52. 6 H 163. As the author presented at the COPA '96 and Lancer '97 conferences, the press photographers frequently rode in a flatbed truck in front of the motorcade pro-cession [films courtesy JFK Library; see also *John F. Kennedy: A Life in Pictures*, pp. 178–180, 183, 231]. Photographer Tony Zappone confirmed to the author on December 18, 2003 that a flat bed truck was used for the photographers in Tampa, Florida, on November 18, 1963.

53. Bishop, pp. 109-110, 134

54. Manchester, pp. 131–2. See also *The Flying White House*, p. 209 (O'Donnell seems to get the blame for Burkley's lack of proximity).

55. Burkley's October 17, 1967 JFK Library oral history

56. RIF#154-10002-10422

57. Burkley's October 17, 1967 JFK Library oral history

58. July 5, 1978 HSCA interview of Evelyn Lincoln

59. Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye, p. 31.

60. 18 H 795 ; See also see Bill Sloan, *Breaking the Silence*, pp. 181–5; *The Man Who Knew Too Much*, pp. 570–1; Michael Benson, Who's *Who in the JFK Assassination* (1993), pp. 40–41

61. Along with General Ted Clifton, the other military aide who often rode in the front seat of the limousine between the driver and the agent in charge

62. CFTR radio (Canada) interview 1976 Interview with McHugh conducted late 1975 via phone.

63. 2 H 129

64. CFTR radio (Canada) interview 1976 Interview with McHugh conducted late 1975 via phone

65. May 11, 1978 interview with the HSCA's Mark Flanagan (RIF#180–10078– 10465 [see also 7 HSCA 14])

66. Roger Craig, Two Men in Dallas video

67. No More Silence by Larry Sneed (1998), p. 224

- 68. 21 H 547, 572: DPD Stevenson Exhibit
- 69. 22 H 626
- 70. No More Silence, p. 337

71. 3/23/63 Secret Service Survey Report: RIF#154-10003-10012

72. 20 H 391; see also 4 H 171-172 (Curry); 11 HSCA 530

73. 9/3/98 e-mail to the author

74. Author's interview with Bolden, September 16, 1993; Lawson: 4 H 336. SA Kinney told the HSCA on February 26, 1978 that it was "unusual for LBJ to be along"

75. My Life Protecting Five Presidents by Rufus Youngblood, p. 199

76. The Flying White House, pp. 214-5

77. RIF#180–10093–10320: May 31, 1977 Memorandum from HSCA's Belford Lawson to fellow HSCA members Gary Cornwell and Ken Klein (revised August 15, 1977).

78. RIF#154–10002–10423: Secret Service Final Survey Report, Tampa, FL underpasses controlled by police and military units; Sheriff's office secured the roofs of major buildings in the downtown and suburban areas; agents on limo; Salinger with Kilduff; close press and photographers (including Stoughton in follow-up car); McHugh in between Secret Service agents in front seat of limo

79. RIF#154–10002–10424: Final Survey report, San Antonio—Forty members of the military police from Fort Sam Houston, Texas: traffic control, motorcade route security, and intersection control; police helicopter utilized along route; many flanking motorcycles

80. See also Constance Kritzberg and Larry Hancock, *November Patriots* (Colorado, Undercover Press, 1998), p. 423

81. See http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1/v4n1chapter08.pdf

82. 2 H 112–132 (Greer): see his entire testimony.

83. Manchester, p. 160.

84. Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye by Dave Powers & Ken O'Donnell w/ Joe McCarthy, p. 44.

85. Manchester, p. 290 (and 386). See also *The Day Kennedy Was Shot* (1992 edition) by Jim Bishop, p. 196.

86. See also Mikita Brottman, *Car Crash Culture* (New York: Palgrave, 2001), p. 173 (chapter authored by Pamela McElwain-Brown): USPP Motorcycle Officer Nick Prencipe spoke to Greer on the night of the murder and said that the agent was quite distressed that evening.

87. 2 H 113

88. See the book by O'Leary and Seymour, Triangle of Death (Nashville, TN: WND Books, 2003)

89. Crossfire by Jim Marrs (1988), p. 2

90. Ironically, in former Chief U. E. Baughman's book, Secret Service Chief, it is written (p. 69): "It is a cardinal principle of Presidential protection never to allow the president to stop his car in a crowd if it can possibly be avoided."

91. Sibert and O'Neil Report, November 22, 1963

92. Mary Barelli Gallagher, *My Life With Jacqueline Kennedy* (New York: David McKay, 1969), p. 342: Secret Service Agent Marty Venker (Rush, p. 25) and Jackie biographer C. David Heymann [*A Woman Called Jackie* (New York: Lyle Stuart, 1989), p. 401] confirm that this unnamed agent was indeed Greer. See also Edward Klein, *Just Jackie: Her Private Years* (Ballantine Books, 1999), pp. 58, 374.

93. Gallagher, p. 351.

94. Rush, p. 25.

95. *A Woman Called Jackie* (New York: Lyle Stuart, 1989), p. 401; Edward Klein, *Just Jackie: Her Private Years* (Ballantine Books, 1999), pp. 58, 374

96. Manchester, p. 163

97. Edward Klein, *Just Jackie: Her Private Years* (Ballantine Books, 1999), pp. 58–59, 374, based on an interview Klein had with Kitty Carlisle Hart regarding Hart's conversation with Jackie.

98. FBI RIF#124-10012-10239; Kellerman would go on to deny ever saying such a thing: 18 H 707-708

99. High Treason, page 127; Two Men In Dallas video by Mark Lane, 1976

100. Evening Magazine video 11/22/88; interview with Marty Underwood 10/9/92

101. Jim Marrs, *Crossfire*, pp. 296–7. See also Bishop, p. 259, and Manchester, pp. 234–5.

102.7 H 451. See also Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye, pp. 35, 38.

103. Marrs, p. 297. In fact, as noted by researcher David Starks in his 1994 video *The Investigations*, while Specter's name appears in the hardcover version of O'Donnell's book, it was deleted from the mass-market paperback (p. 41)!

104. Bishop, p. 244

105. Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye, p. 34

106. Manchester, pp. 165, 175; Curry, pp. 36–37; Hepburn, Farewell America, p. 229; *The Flying White House*, p. 215

107. The Washington Post, October 11, 1973.

108. Remarks of LBJ 11/23/68—see http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=29254

109. Michael R. Beschloss, *Reaching for Glory: Lyndon Johnson's Secret White House Tapes*, 1964–1965 (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2002), p. 703.

110. See Bolden's excellent 2008 book *The Echo From Dealey Plaza*. See also http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1/v4n1chapter17.pdf

111. See http://www.assassinationresearch.com/v4n1.html

112. Fox News 11/12/10: see http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=frWYGPZe9YQ

113. Hill's November 30, 1963 report: 18 H 740–5. (See also the 2004 National Geographic documentary, *Inside the U.S. Secret Service.*)

114.2 H 141, 143

115. Landis's report dated November 27, 1963: 18 H 758–9; Landis's detailed report dated November 30, 1963: 18 H 751–7; HSCA Report, pp. 89, 606 (referencing Landis's interview, February 17, 1979 outside contact report, JFK Document 014571)

116. See http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mfH35258dRA (see all 5 parts)

117. See article in *The Virginian-Pilot*, June 17, 2010, by Bill Bartel: http://hamptonroads.com/2010/06/do-you-remember-where-you-were-he-doesjfk#rfq

118. ARRB Final Report (1998), p. 149

119. See also http://palamaravince.blogspot.com/2010/11/more-preliminarythoughts-on-blaines.html; http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gB8WmbvmTw http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDhvGHrM\_dQ&feature=related

120. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bqj9D38M\_Ko



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