Presentation: "Oswald's Last Forty-Six Hours"

## Relevant backdrop:

Accounts: Teddy White notes in his 1964 *Making of the President 1964* on pp. 34/35 that the Cabinet members in flight to Japan learned (from the Situation Room in the White House) about the shooting: there was no conspiracy; and the identity of the shooter was Lee Harvey Oswald.

White was not on the flight w/ the Cabinet members he learned about this as a result of access to the flight tapes of AF-1. The passengers learn at 12:45 CST from a teletype message that "Three shots were fired at Pres. Kennedy's motorcade in downtown Dallas."

Robert Manning of the State Department was w/ Secretary Dean Rusk on noted that the party learned of JFK's death and that the assassin was somebody named Oswald who had been to the Soviet Union, had done this." This from Strober's "Let Us Begin Anew," an oral history of the Kennedy presidency. (pp. 50-51).

Pierre Salinger's written account of the news of the Kennedy's assassination in his manuscript at the Kennedy Library contained the time when the Cabinet plane learned of JFK's death and the name of his assassin is missing from the Kennedy Library.

(All the Cabinet members except McNamara, Bobby, Calebreeze and Gronoski) were out of the country on 11/22. . .

Note: I may skip all the Cabinet business

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## Relevant Background:

About 3:40 CST Abram Chayez, State Department Legal Counsel, received a call from Acting Secretary of State George Ball with directions to gather "together the files in the Department on Oswald" and to prepare a report for Ball and have it ready first thing in the morning "covering as best we could . . . the contacts that Oswald had with the Department."

Interesting in that Oswald's name was associated with the killing of President Kennedy by the Dallas authorities before a single piece of evidence was waved under the nose of the Dallas authorities.

What available facts could have prompted Ball to commit manpower for a report on Oswald for the next morning>