

BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
(202) 223-1667

COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE
ASSASSINATIONS

927 15th STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005
(202) 628-3361

September 30, 1975

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Sylvia Meagher
302 West 12th St.
New York, N.Y. 10014

Dear Sylvia:

For many long years, we have labored toward a reopening of the JFK case. As you know, we are getting very close to our goal, and it must be a satisfaction to you to know that you have contributed substantially to the effort.

Yet, as we come down close to the wire, I perceive one difficult task yet to be done, i.e., a pulling together of the major pieces of evidence into some sort of usable whole. That is what this letter is all about.

Attached is a brief explanation of Project Penultimate and its raison d'etre. We hope very much that you will study it and then consent to participate actively in the project. Feel free to add names (in red) to your chart; we will then add them to the next printed version of the chart.

Specifically, we hope that you will extract the interrelationships of importance which are contained in Accessories After the Fact and your published articles, and other interrelationships of importance which come to mind and might not be known to others. We are, of course, very limited in regard to the knowledgeable people to whom we can go for help. We desperately need skill, not bodies

If this project is to be completed by January 1, 1976, as hoped, it will be necessary for us to have our standard cards completed and returned to us prior to December 1, 1975.

We urge you to join us in Project Penultimate and "find" or "make" sufficient time to complete your part by December 1st. However, if you are unable or unwilling to participate, or do not think you can complete your part of the job by December 1st, please tell us so frankly, so that we might try to find a substitute.

Frankly, I think this project is extremely important if we are to get to the bottom of the case. I urge you to help. Either way, would you be good enough to call me [during days at (202) 223-1667, or during evenings at (703) 548-4623] without undue delay, so that I can answer questions, expand on areas that may trouble you, and get your decision.

Needless to say, those who participate will get the benefit of the end product, which shall also go to whatever Congressional committees evince an interest in it.

Sincerely yours,

Bud Fensterwald / C.B.

Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.

BF:blf
Encl.

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PROJECT PENULTIMATE

The last step in the process of unravelling the mysteries in the assassination of JFK will be the appointment of a Congressional Committee to investigate this murder in depth, using the power of subpoena and the power to place witnesses under oath. This last step is fast becoming a reality.

Senator Church has appointed a special subcommittee to examine the performance of the FBI and CIA in relationship to the Warren Commission; presumably, this subcommittee will "discover" that the FBI and CIA withheld vital information from the Commission; and it is not unlikely that the Church Committee will recommend the establishment of a new, Special Committee of the Senate to reexamine the Dallas murder.

Simultaneously, the House of Representatives is also moving toward establishment of a Special Committee. The leaders of the House movement are Congressmen Henry Gonzalez (D-Tex), who rode in the Dallas parade in 1963, and Thomas Downing (D-Va). Rep. Gonzalez's bill would establish a Committee to examine into the assassinations of JFK, RFK, and Dr. King, and the attempted assassination of Governor Wallace. Rep. Downing would limit the investigation to the Dallas murder. Between them, the two bills have a co-sponsorship approaching 100, without distinction as to party or ideology. As co-sponsorship broadens, there is an ever-increasing likelihood that the House Rules Committee will accede and establish a Special Committee.

If and when a Congressional committee is established, it will be faced with the enormous task of collecting and correlating an enormous amount of material. Collection will be relatively easy; correlation will be extremely difficult and time-consuming. It is in regard to the latter that effective, outside assistance will be especially helpful. The critics of the Warren Report should be prepared to assist the Committee promptly and effectively after its establishment. This is what Project Penultimate is all about.

Through the years, the critics have collected an enormous amount of factual and analytical material. Individual critics have correlated the information relating to certain aspects of the murder. Yet, no serious attempt has been made to correlate the work of the many critics; an early attempt to do so by use of a computer was abandoned because of lack of funds.

Project Penultimate (referred to below as PP) will attempt to correlate the major pieces of evidence in a visual and retrievable manner, in lieu of a computer. A tentative chart (enclosed) has been printed with Oswald and Ruby at its center; each principal figure is surrounded by a number of others, who are closely connected with them, and who may be very rele-

Individual researchers will doubtless add names which do not appear on the original draft chart. If the interrelationship is considered relevant and valid, the names will be added to the original draft chart and printed upon the final chart.

A distinction will be made on the visual representation between references which contain proven facts and those which are speculative to some degree.

We shall attempt to get as many researchers as possible to work on PP in an effort to have it completed prior to January 1, 1976. We want to have it completed by that date, as we believe that a special Congressional committee will be appointed by that time or shortly thereafter.

BLF:crr
September 30, 1975

vant to a solution of the crime. More distant from the center of the chart are a number of other distinct areas delineating, for example, the CIA, FBI, Mafia, Anti-Castro Cubans, etc., etc. In these areas are the names of the more prominent people who may be involved in either the crime or a cover-up thereof. It should be noted that construction of the chart and selection of areas and individuals are both subjective and tentative. Our files contain some 10,000 names and it is impossible to include more than a fraction of them on a tentative or even a final chart. Undoubtedly, the final chart will contain many names not on the original draft, and there is every likelihood that the chart itself will undergo many metamorphoses.

The object of the chart is to collect and visualize the interrelation between people, organizations, places, and events which may play a major part in the assassination. References to these interrelationships are contained in a vast number of places, including the Warren Report, the 26 volumes of evidence, the National Archives, 20 or more major published and responsible books, and innumerable magazine and newspaper articles. For example, the relationship between Oswald and David Ferrie probably went back to Oswald's youth, and references to this relationship are scattered through innumerable books, articles, etc. It is hoped that all of them can be extracted and referenced on the chart.

In addition to the chart, there will be a file card system which will cross-index the interrelationships. Each card, which will be filed in triplicate, will be as follows:

Card No. _____
(1)
(2)
Synopsis:
References:

Researcher

Suppose, as the researchers go back through the books, articles, etc., selected by them, they come up with twenty different indications of a relationship between Oswald and Ferrie. Each item will be placed on a separate card; cards will be numbered sequentially. A line will be drawn on the chart between Oswald and Ferrie and the card numbers will be placed on that line. The carbons of the cards will be filed alphabetically; in this case, one carbon would be filed "Oswald-Ferrie", the other as "Ferrie-Oswald." Thus, either by use of the chart or the cards, a person can see if any interrelationship has been established and, if so, the nature, details and reliability of that interrelationship. It is this that we believe will be of invaluable help to a Congressional committee. Vice a complex computer program, we believe this will be the most useful aid to a committee staff. It will certainly give them the leads if not the answers to all of the questions.

Card No. _____

(1)

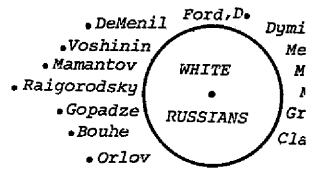
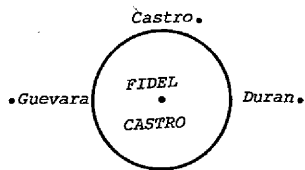
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Synopsis:

References:

Researcher

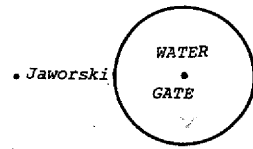
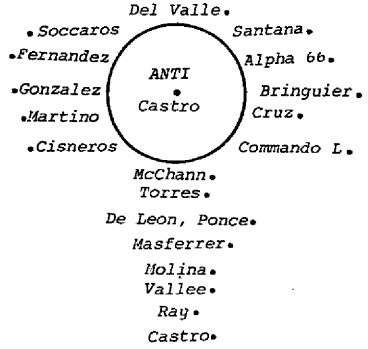
Ferrie.
Brownlee.
Shaw.
Waldo.
Pena.
Coffey.
Gill.
Russo.
Geraci.
Martin.
Beaubouef.
Martens.
Dooty.



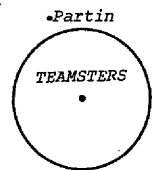
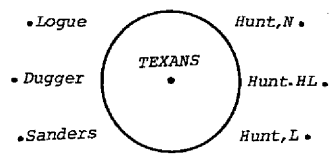
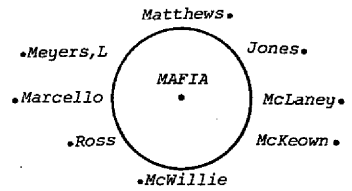
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Prusakov
Osborne
Deslatte
Markham
Thornley
Lar.
Tay.



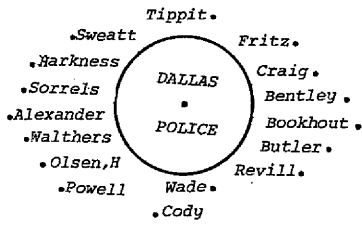
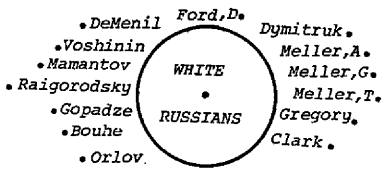
Quiroga
Ferrer.
Ravel.
Gil.
Odio.
Alba.
Smith.
Duarte.



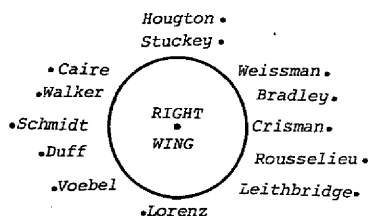
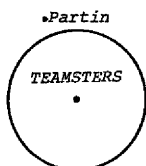
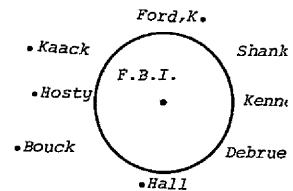
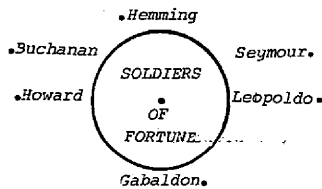
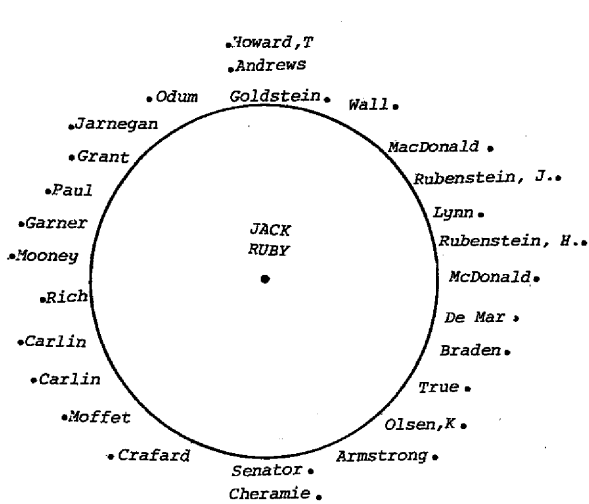
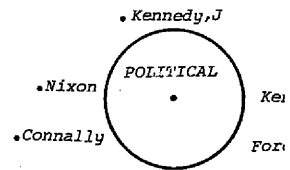
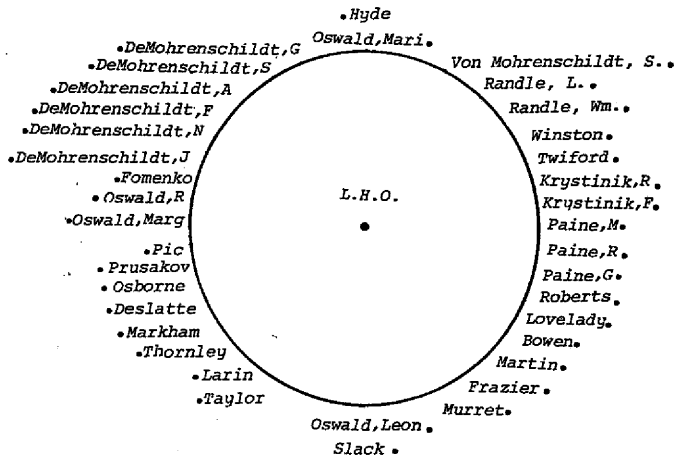
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Grant
Paul
Garner
Mooney
Rich
Carlin
Carlin
Moffet
Cr



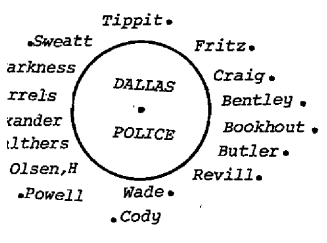
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Becknam.
Wheat.



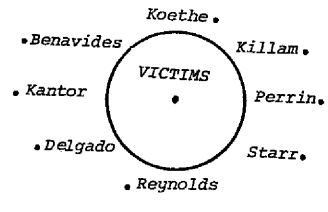
- Truly
- Cherry
- Bogard
- Mercer
- Hicks



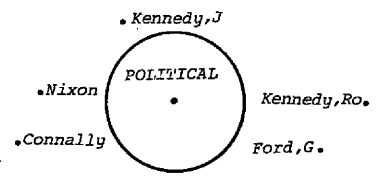
- C
- Dav.



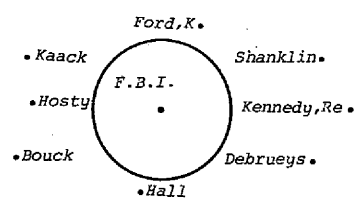
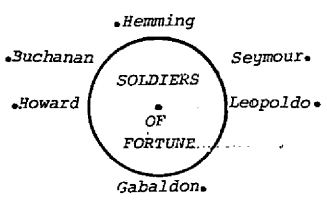
- Truly
- Cherry
- Bogard
- Mercer
- Hicks



- Mohrenschildt, S.
- Randle, L.
- Randle, Wm.
- Winston.
- Twiford.
- Krystinik,R.
- Krystinik,F.
- Paine,M.
- Paine,R.
- Paine,G.
- Roberts.
- Lovelady.
- Bowen.
- Martin.
- Trazier.
- ret.



- MacDonald.
- Rubenstein, J.
- Lynn.
- Rubenstein, H.
- McDonald.
- De Mar.
- Braden.
- True.
- Olsen,K.
- strong.



- Dean
- Harper
- Wrangel
- Rowley
- Dinkin
- Georgiou
- Bloomfield
- Vaganov
- Lawrence
- Underwood
- Augustinovich
- Boxley
- Novel
- Nagel
- Mancuso
- Castro
- Reilly
- Isaacs
- Giersbrecht
- Youngblood
- Castorr
- Gehlen

