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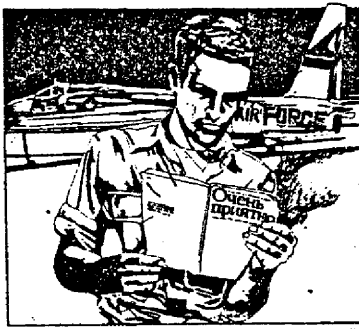
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LEE HARVEY OSWALD has gone down in history as a lone, half-crazed sniper who assassinated John Fitzgerald Kennedy, President of the USA, in Dallas fourteen years ago. Today, as this investigation shows, the official verdict on the killing is gravely in doubt . . .

by **Howard Reynolds**



Oswald, the orphanage boy from New Orleans, joins the U.S. Marines, studies Russian — then defects to Moscow . . .



After Kennedy assassination, a police patrol man is killed. Oswald is arrested—only to be shot by Jack Ruby . . .

LEE HARVEY OSWALD was twenty-four years old when Jack Ruby stepped out of the crowd and shot him in the belly.

Oswald's death, like his alleged crime, was played out on the world's television.

He was killed on Sunday, November 24, 1963, in the basement of the Dallas police building, because Ruby, a local nightclub owner, wished to spare Jacqueline Kennedy, the grief which would be caused by a prolonged trial.

It was an appropriately public finale. For Lee Harvey Oswald, the Warren Commission concluded, had "sought for himself a place in history."

The Commission, headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, summed up Oswald:

"He was moved by an overriding hostility to his environment. He had a propensity to act decisively and without regard to the consequences."

"He sought for himself a place in history as a great man who would be recognised as having been in advance of his time."

The strange dark jigsaw puzzle of facts now available reveals one absolute certainty: Lee Harvey Oswald had an influence on world affairs long before his death.

He was known for some time to law enforcement agencies. But they were ignored—either because of incompetence, or because it was convenient

Illustrations by **JOHN WALSH**

RED

one checked the grounds for Oswald's departure. He said his mother had been injured in an accident at work.

In fact she was still in work when he returned to the USA.

A new life in Russia

And only three days after returning, Oswald sailed to Europe. On October 12, 1959, he turned up at the Soviet Consulate in Helsinki, Finland, asking for a visa to enter the USSR.

The request was granted forty-eight hours later. CIA experts were asked by the Warren Commission if such promptness was usual. No, they reported. Getting a Russian visa normally took much longer. Oswald arrived in Mos-

cow on October 16. He already knew the language, having learned Russian during his time at the US base.

He announced his intention to seek Soviet citizenship. The Russians were suspicious of a US radar expert arriving out of the blue, and refused.

Oswald then attempted suicide—but he dished only one wrist.

When he recovered he went to the US Embassy in Moscow, renounced his American citizenship, handed in his passport, and said he would give his military secrets to the Soviets.

The Russians decided to let him stay. In January, 1960, Oswald, the radar expert and self-confessed traitor, started work in a

Minsk electronics factory.

In May, 1960, at the height of the Eisenhower-Khrushchev peace talks, the Russians shot down their first US spy plane. The world's premier peace summit crashed with the plane.

Did Oswald's information to the Russians help this happen?

Oswald returned to the USA in June, 1962. He was not alone—he had married Marina Prusakova the year before. She had been living in Minsk with her uncle, Ilya Prusakov—a colonel in the MVD, Russia's secret police.

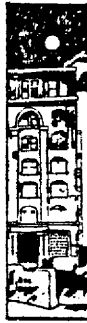
The behaviour of the US and Soviet authorities over the repatriation of Oswald is odd, to say the least.

Here were a confessed traitor who might have

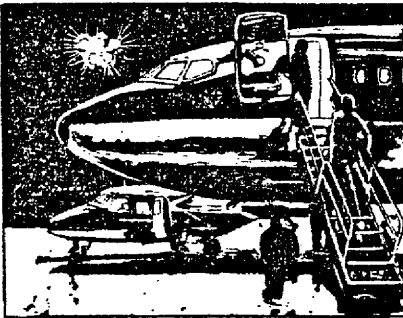
WHO KILLED KENNEDY?



ABOVE: The Kennedy's first assassin before the assassination.



... back in U.S. he campaigns about Cuba, secretly meets top Russian, then arrives at Dallas.



... Ruby is arrested—but the story is incomplete. Who is the mystery man leaving for Cuba?

The riddle they didn't even try to solve



Lee Harvey Oswald posing with a rifle.

but died of cancer three years later.

Ruby was known to half the police and half the mobsters of Dallas. He had connections with a Mafia group who were trying to regain their lost gambling concessions in Cuba by ousting Castro.

Ruby, like Oswald, was not what he seemed. His testimony to Warren was rambling and fragmentary but included several pleas to be taken from Dallas to the "safety" of Washington.

The Commission never asked why he was frightened. It accepted his initial explanations to police that he killed Oswald because he loved the Kennedy.

Nobody asked why, when Kennedy came to Dallas on November 22, Ruby did not—according to his own statement—go to watch the motorcade.

What is certain in this affair is that around the "look-alike" actions of two men—Oswald and Ruby—there was a flurry of highly mysterious activity.

Activity which suggests that in fact they may not have acted alone—the official accounts of the assassination insist.

The Cuban connection

And of all the back-ground coincidences and cross-cross movements, there are few more sinister than those which point to the Cuban connection.

After the infamous Bay of Pigs invasion Kennedy had curbed the CIA's secret war against the Castro regime.

It was so he made enemies of Cuban exiles, anti-Communists, US business interests and underworld figures.

Around the time of the assassination, the FBI recorded two cases of men—their identities are either unknown or have been deliberately undisclosed—who blocked the police blockade and fled the country. One left mysteriously on a specially delayed Cuban Airlines flight.

The Warren Commission was unaware of the existence of these men because, due to a series of monumental administrative errors, neither the CIA nor FBI told them.

The Warren Commission was unaware of the existence of these men because, due to a series of monumental administrative errors, neither the CIA nor FBI told them.

The two travellers both went to Cuba. And the background of every principal figure in the Dallas affair.

Especially John Fitzgerald Kennedy. Who may have died on that sunny day as a victim of a top secret war waged in America against Castro.

around 1 pm and left shortly afterwards.

Then a Dallas police patrol car arrived at the house, and pulled away again.

What a police car was doing outside Oswald's lodgings has never been explained. Particularly as at that moment nobody knew where Oswald lived.

He was not yet a suspect so the Dallas police would not have come after him.

But someone was eager to locate him.

At 12:45 p.m. Dallas police contacted officer Jefferson Tippitt who was cruising on his beat on the city outskirts, and told him to move into the Oak Cliff district "to be at large for any emergency that might arise."

Mystery of the cop's murder

The order is curious because Oak Cliff is several miles from Tippitt's beat. And Tippitt was the only officer to be switched to another suburb at that time.

But at 1:16 p.m. Tippitt was reported murdered.

According to the Warren Report, Oswald was stopped by Tippitt nine

NEXT SUNDAY: The mystery deaths of vital witnesses

ALERT

wrecked a global peace summit, and a close relative of a top secret police official. And they were trying to get into the USA together.

Moscow might have been expected to block Marina's departure. It did not. Washington might have been expected to block Oswald. It did not.

Instead, the American Embassy returned Oswald's passport to him and loaned him enough money for the trip home.

Again, was this bureaucratic incompetence—or something more sinister?

Oswald slipped from sight until April 1963, when the FBI discovered he was a supporter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, a group of

pro-Castro activists with Communist sympathies.

Now the file was belatedly reopened, Oswald was traced to New Orleans, where he had set himself the task of forming a local branch of the FPCC.

Deadend job as a stockboy

Given Oswald's background, this would not have been surprising. But it was very odd because arriving in New Orleans Oswald had tried to join an anti-Castro group of Cuban exiles.

On September 28, 1963, he turned up in the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City, Mexico, asking for a visa to enter Cuba.

The visa was refused. But Oswald spent some of the time there in con-

versation with Vice Consul Kozlov—a member of a KGB specialist section, skilled in sabotage and assassination.

The FBI lost track of Oswald at the beginning of September.

Dallas FBI agents located Marina Oswald, who by now had two children, in Irving, Texas, on October 30. Marina said Lee was living in digs but she did not know where.

In fact, Oswald found lodgings in a Dallas suburb. He had obtained a job as a stockboy at the Texas School Book Depository overlooking Dealey Plaza in the centre of town.

It was a menial, dead-end job, shifting cartons of books from one floor to another.

On the night before the Kennedy assassina-

tion, Oswald stayed with his wife in Irving. He left the house at 7:15 am on November 22.

Work began, as usual, at 8:30 am for the seventy-five employees. They broke for lunch at 11:55 am and grouped in the first-floor lunchroom.

At 12:30 according to the Warren Commission, Oswald fired three shots from the sixth floor window killing President Kennedy.

He then returned home to his lodgings in the Oak Cliff district of Dallas.

According to his landlady, Mrs. Earlene Roberts, he arrived