

Oilman Hunt, Oswald Linked

*John Post Sargeant
Apr. 20
1971*

Dutch Journalist Ties Suicide to JFK Plot

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Dutch journalist said he testified under oath yesterday that a Russian emigrant who apparently committed suicide earlier this week had claimed to be part of a conspiracy to kill President John F. Kennedy.

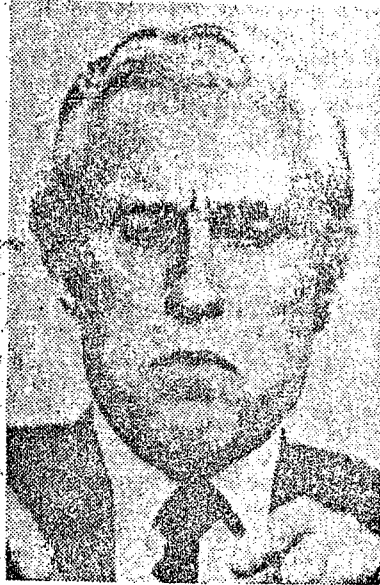
The television newsmen, Willem Oltmans, said George de Mohrenschildt told him the alleged conspiracy involved Texas oilmen, Cuban exiles, and CIA and FBI agents.

Oltmans said De Mohrenschildt claimed he was a middleman between H. L. Hunt representing Texas oilmen and Lee Harvey Oswald. The journalist said he gave the committee "the name of an FBI official, not Hoover, who might be important."

The Warren Commission that investigated Kennedy's 1963 assassination later said Oswald was the lone assassin.

The journalist said De Mohrenschildt told him Cubans had fired at Kennedy the same time Oswald did and said he gave the House assassinations committee the name and picture of one Cuban he believes is involved.

Oltmans, who testified for more than three hours before a closed session of the House panel investigating the Kennedy assassination, later declined to tell newsmen what evidence he had to



WILLEM OLTMANS

support that claim.

He said he gave the committee a taped interview in which a Cuban exile named Loran Hall claims he was offered \$50,000 in the office of oilman Lester Logue to kill Kennedy.

In Dallas, Logue called that allegation
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no idea why Texas oilmen would want to assassinate Kennedy. But he said in another interview that De Mohrenschildt had made it "quite clear to me" what that motive would be. But Oltmans refused to state it.

He said in an NBC radio interview the reason the Cubans wanted to kill Kennedy was that "they thought they had a blood debt to settle — they thought that President Kennedy had betrayed them at the Bay of Pigs."

He said the Cuban he believed was

one of the Kennedy-assassination gunmen had been involved in the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba.

The journalist said De Mohrenschildt told him he never knew who in fact killed Kennedy because an unspecified number of Cubans were supposed to be shooting at the same time Oswald was.

Oltmans said De Mohrenschildt mixed socially with Dallas oilmen and other wealthy people and became a friend of Hunt, a multimillionaire oilman now dead.

Hunt has figured before in conspiracy theories but none of them have never been corroborated.

Oswald wrote a letter to someone named "Mr. Hunt" asking for advice on some unspecified plan shortly before the assassination but former assassinations committee counsel Richard A. Sprague once said publicly he saw no evidence the letter was to H. L. Hunt.

The Dallas bureau of the FBI said yesterday that the letter was under investigation but that the bureau cannot say who was the intended recipient. An FBI spokesman said the agency has an "open mind" about whether the letter was really intended for H. L. Hunt.

De Mohrenschildt, was born in the Soviet Union and was a member of Dallas' Russian community. He taught French at Bishop College there.

He knew Oswald before the assassination and said he and his wife befriended Oswald because Mrs. Oswald was Russian-born.

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tion ridiculous and said he would meet with his attorneys to discuss suing Oltmans for libel.

After Oltmans had testified, newsmen asked Chairman Richardson Preyer, D-N.C., if he believed the story.

"Ask me that question again in a few months," Preyer replied. "Mr. Oltmans was very specific on some things which can be corroborated but not as clear on others."

De Mohrenschildt apparently shot himself to death in Palm Beach, Fla., Tuesday, according to officials, just hours after a committee investigator tried to contact him.

The journalist said in at least two news interviews that De Mohrenschildt wavered between insisting the whole story was true and indicating he made it up to sell a book.

But Oltmans told newsmen after his testimony that De Mohrenschildt never told him he had made the story up.

He said in one interview that he had