

Did You Hear the New One?

It would be ironic for the man who killed President Kennedy to be publicly confessing under a false pretense that he had done so.

McDonald was going to offer the names of the man who killed President Kennedy. Instead, he merely said that he had met him in the Westbury Hotel in London, thrown in the St. Regis hotel last week to publicize "Appointment in Dallas: the Final Solution to the Assassination of JFK."

Focus of attention at the crowded conference was naturally McDonald himself. McDonald is a bulky fellow in his middle age who looks exactly the sort of man described in his biographical details: former chief of detectives of the Los Angeles County sheriff's office; CIA contract agent; Industrial Security at Hughes Aircraft; once second in command at Fort

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MacArthur, the largest military intelligence school in the country, and so forth.

It would take too long to describe McDonald's life here. Put at its briefest, he says that Herman Roser, a CIA man now dead, told him that a professional assassin had shot President Kennedy from the Dallas County Records building, across the road from the Book Depository. McDonald had indeed once met the assassin in Kinsey's office. He did not know his name and christened him "Saul." In June of 1972, after much searching, McDonald finally met "Saul" in the Westbury Hotel in London. There "Saul" admitted that he had shot Kennedy and told McDonald how it was done. "Saul" disappears from the story. McDonald returns to America, finally to publish his book in paperback this week.

Assassination experts will no doubt get to work on McDonald. One I talked to expressed deepest suspicion of his background in military intelligence. His narration, based on a quick thumb through the book, seems coherent enough—although most of it is entirely unverifiable. What struck me as slightly peculiar was that 13 years after the assassination a man with an extremely serious background in law

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enforcement can announce that he has actually talked to the murderer of Kennedy and heard his confession and yet this announcement has not even so far as caused a ripple. This is not to say necessarily that it should have caused a ripple, merely that the grogginess on the subject of the assassination is so to have get it. Anyway, McDonald does have patents on the Identikit and the Identikit of the assassin, the Identikit of the assassin, the Identikit of the assassin. McDonald says he has the Identikit of the figure photographed by CIA agents in London just before the assassination and he has offered them to the FBI in Dallas as Lee Harvey Oswald.



The man who killed JFK? Hugh McDonald offers this Identikit of "Saul," the assassin he says he met in 1972 in the Westbury Hotel in London.