

# Von Hoffman

DEC 7 1975

## The Best

Washington

I ASKED Hugh McDonald how we were supposed to know he wasn't just looned out. The press release on his book about JFK's murder said he was Chief of Detectives in the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department when he retired, that he'd been a part-time spook for the CIA for 20 years, that he'd written three textbooks used in police academies, but even if it is true, he could still be looned out.



Nicholas Von Hoffman

He doesn't look like a nutcake, or at least he doesn't look like what we used to think nutcakes look like. The hair is short, the suit is pressed, the shoes are shined, the socks are white and the general manner is one of an amiable, college-educated flat-foot. The only trouble he says he's had high tea in London with the man who murdered John Kennedy and the guy's name wasn't Lee Harvey Oswald.

These days we've learned the more proper the credentials, the more imposing the title, the more responsible the story, the better the chance the guy's lying. The most compelling part of McDonald's story is that it's so fantastic.

★ ★ ★

BRIEFLY, HE says that one day he was in the office of his CIA "mentor," a certainerman Kimsey, now deceased, when a third man came in the room, kicking up a fuss about something or other. When the man left, this Kimsey told McDonald the chap in

... who...  
... of America...  
... tell him...  
... McDonald reported...  
... According to McDonald...  
... Kennedy wasn't...  
... Texas Book Depository...  
... Mr. X, the world's...  
... head ahead from...  
... Donald also says he was...  
... Mr. X, which our...  
... He found him in a London hotel...  
... putative killer was...  
... he said yes, I did...  
... bow and arrow for...  
... 1963 prices doesn't...  
... money. X, who McDonald...  
... Ukrainian accent...  
... Guatemala at a CIA...  
... kind of monkeyshines...  
... "Troit." This Troit is...  
... American and an industrial...

He also says, "I don't say the CIA officially ordered the assassination of Kennedy, but somebody in that organization was in on it. Maybe he was a rogue, but somebody in that Agency had to do it, and I was in the Agency."

Given the Agency's...  
Castro, it would be...  
suspect. On the other...  
that even a CIA agent...  
he shoots often enough.

FOR WHATEVER...  
believability, he was...  
chief of security in 1964...  
confirms it — but that...  
somebody to snap out...  
reopen the investigation...  
assassination of Martin...  
ridiculous to rest that...  
conducted by an agency...  
drive the victim to commit...

Nobody believes the...  
for these murders and the...  
and credible investigation...  
people think it was our...