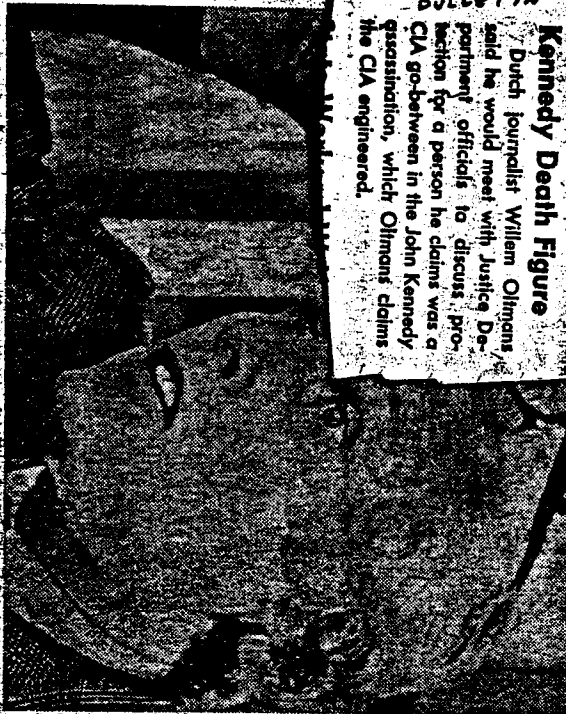


Newsman: Ford told of JFK plot

Kennedy Death Figure

Dutch journalist Willem Oltmans said he would meet with Justice Department officials to discuss protection for a person he claims was a CIA go-between in the John Kennedy assassination, which Oltmans claims the CIA engineered.



Oltmans presents his views yesterday at a news conference

WASHINGTON — Gerald Ford received information when he was president, proving a plot, President John F. Kennedy's assassination was the result of a conspiracy, a Dutch journalist said yesterday.

In a news conference here, Willem Oltmans said that Ford received a briefing about the assassination, including the identity of a spy ordered to put did nothing about it.

Oltmans said that the data given to Ford was also contained in a secret intelligence report given to Jackie Kennedy Onassis in 1963 in Vail, Colo., an aide to Ford, Robert Barrett, said that Ford would have no comment.

The information about the plot and Ford's knowledge of it, Oltmans said, was given to him by a reliable news witness who is willing to come forward if President Carter gives him reasonable guarantees of protection.

Oltmans said he was anxious to protect the new witness because another witness, whom Oltmans had claimed was involved in the plot, had died of a gunshot wound shortly after he agreed to testify before a congressional panel. The wound apparently was self-inflicted.

Oltmans, a television reporter, has written a book about the Kennedy assassination that he said would be published shortly in the United States.

Under questioning, he said the new witness had been "close" to previous presidents. He said he found the witness during his investigation of allegations that the killing was a conspiracy.

The Warren Commission of which Ford was a member when he was in the House, concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in shooting Kennedy in Dallas 14 years ago.