

Ten years on the case

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AMSTERDAM (AP)—Dutch journalist Willem Oltmans claims to have spent more than a decade probing the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The Amsterdam freelance writer said in a story published recently in the Dutch magazine Nieuwe Revu that he became interested in the case after a chance meeting in the U. S. with the mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused killer of Kennedy.

Oltmans, in his forties, is described by Dutch reporters who know him well as a man who explores angles that sometimes are missed in the rush of news. They say he has traveled widely and has some good contacts.

A prominent figure in Dutch news circles for more than 15 years, Oltmans has worked on a freelance basis for television networks, major newspapers and magazines in the Netherlands.

The Dutch journalist is known to have been a close friend of George de Mohrenschildt, the Dallas professor and acquaintance of Oswald who apparently killed himself in Palm Beach, Fla., on Tuesday after learning he would be called before the U. S. Congressional committee investigating the Kennedy assassination.

Oltmans wrote that he interviewed de Mohrenschildt in Dallas in February and the Russian-born professor said he wanted to tell what he knew about the Kennedy assassination.

Oltmans quoted de Mohrenschildt as saying he didn't want to talk in the U. S. "because for a number of reasons I don't feel safe here any longer." Oltmans accompanied de Mohrenschildt to Amsterdam but the professor later disappeared during a trip to Brussels.

Asked by Oltmans why he felt responsible for Oswald's actions, de Mohrenschildt was quoted as replying:

"Just read the Warren Report. The moment news reached Port au Prince, the capital of Haiti, that John F. Kennedy had been shot, I knew with absolute certainty that Oswald had done it. I told this to the commission, which was chaired by Gerald Ford when I gave evidence. They read around this. Nobody asked me why I was so certain."

Oltmans has written a book on ex-President Sukarno of Indonesia, who was a personal friend, and has published articles on Indonesian affairs. He has also written investigative stories on the Dutch royal family and Soviet affairs.