

May 27, 1992

To: Third Decade Group Conveners
From: Bob Dean
Re: Documentation for Letter to the Editor

Upon request, the following are citations and documentation for points made in the proposed Letter to the Editor. Several phone calls have been received, all promising follow through.

This is a critical moment because it appears the cover-up conspiracy has launched a media offensive designed to counter the impact of the video release of "JFK", and to delay and confound efforts to release the files. With each new wave of public interest, the conspirators' hope has always been that the storm will pass and the people will soon forget. Our mission must be to "tell the story loud and clear" so they do not. With sufficient determination and perseverance, we will succeed:

Documentation and References:

The Bush Administration has announced that it will seek to block the proposed opening of the JFK assassination files.

see: New York Times April 29, 1992
May 14, 1992

Former CIA and Pentagon official Colonel Fletcher Prouty says that Bush was in charge of outfitting the two troop ships (named "Barbara" and "Houston") used for the landing phase of the Bay of Pigs invasion (this phase was code-named "Operation Zapata").

see: Plausible Denial by Mark Lane, c. 1991, pp.376-77

There is undeniable evidence that a George Bush met with J. Edgar Hoover the day after the assassination of President Kennedy. In a memo dated November 29, 1963, Hoover himself recounted his meeting of the 23d, concluding with: "The substance of the foregoing information was orally furnished to Mr. George Bush of the Central Intelligence Agency."

ref: This memorandum from J. Edgar Hoover, obtained under a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit by Mark Lane, is dated Nov. 29, 1963 and entitled "Assassination of President John F. Kennedy November 22, 1963."

see: "Where Was George", by David Armstrong, The Austin Chronicle, 12/27/91.

"The Man Who Wasn't There" by Joseph McBride, The Nation, 8/13/88.

Plausible Denial, pp. 271-378.

Local group fights to open Kennedy files

Hearings in Congress closely followed here

By Stephanie A. Reid

Democrat and Chronicle

Non-disclosure of sealed files on President John F. Kennedy's assassination nearly 30 years ago is a waste of taxpayer's money, says a local watchdog group.

That's why the Rochester Chapter of The Third Decade is closely watching U.S. House of Representative hearings, which began Tuesday and have continued through the week, on a proposed joint resolution to make public more than 700,000 pages of classified information.

The 12-member local branch was formed in February — amid renewed interest in the Kennedy assassination brought on by the movie *JFK* — to fight for release of the information.

State University College at Fredonia professor Jerry Rose founded The Third Decade in November 1984 as a clearinghouse for new information on the assassination.

The organization now is headed by Fredonia professor Gregory Quail, who says it has more than 300 members in 31 chapters in the U.S. and one in Belgium.

"A lot of us have been interested in the assassination for a lot of years, but we're not like most buffs," said John Giunta, media coordinator for the Rochester chapter.

"We're concerned citizens and taxpayers who do not want to see another investigation go by the wayside and waste our money."

Even with U.S. Reps. Frank J. Horton (R-Penfield) and Louise M. Slaughter (D-Perinton) supporting the resolution, members are "hopefully optimistic but cautiously skeptical" regarding the resolution's success.

Said Giunta: "We'd like to look at the glass as half full rather than half empty."

Quail said part of the group's skepticism has to do with whether the information will be censored, if and when it is declassified.

"Historically, we're in an age of Watergate and Iran-Contra," said Quail, whose interest in the Kennedy assassination dates

back to second grade.

"A lot of times when documents are released by the government, they come out chopped up with important information crossed out."

Slaughter, who along with Horton is one of the resolution's more than 40 sponsors, earlier this week had no doubt about the information's eventual review and release by a five-member board as the resolution calls for.

THE INFORMATION includes classified material from the CIA and FBI, the Warren Commission and two later Congressional investigations.

"It's terribly important for the people to know the truth where ever it leads," she said, adding that the material could clear up a number of inconsistencies.

Slaughter also supports making public files in the Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy assassination cases.

Horton argued in a statement at Tuesday's hearing that further delay in releasing the material would "simply bring to a boil the already simmering controversy."

BUT HE ALSO was fearful that by making the files public, lawmakers would fall prey to the current fad of re-examining the deaths of previous presidents.

Within the past year, authorities exhumed President John Tyler's body to investigate a theory that he died in 1862 as a result of poisoning.

And scientists plan to screen small amounts Abraham Lincoln's DNA using blood from the clothes he wore when assassinated in 1865 to test a theory that he suffered from Marfan's Syndrome.

The syndrome, which is estimated to affect more than 40,000 people today, is a genetic disease of the body's connective tissue.

Add to that renewed interest in re-examining the Kennedy assassination brought on by director Oliver Stone's movie *JFK*.

"MR. CHAIRMAN, I support the opening and review of the old records as we approach the normal 30-year review anniversary and I sincerely hope that the full, satisfactory truth will be discovered and this matter finally put to rest," Horton said in the statement.

"And quite frankly, let the chips fall where they may. I fear, however, that some of those chips will undoubtedly land on predisposed shoulders, and we all know that anyone with a chip on his shoulder is never fully satisfied."

Despite the passage of nearly 30 years and several government investigations, many critics still dis-

pute evidence that points to Lee Harvey Oswald as the lone gunman.

Kennedy was shot to death Nov. 22, 1963, during a political trip to Dallas, making him the youngest president to die in office.

OSWALD IS believed to have shot the president from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository.

Numerous conspiracy theories exist — the latest coming from Stone, who argues in *JFK* that Kennedy's assassination was the result of a government conspiracy orchestrated mainly by the Pentagon and the CIA.

Local Third Decade members have started a nationwide grassroots campaign to have the files released as a way to restore taxpayer trust in the government.

More openness would encourage others with valuable information on the case to come forward, they say.

"**WE FEEL** there are literally hundreds of people out there who have eyewitness testimony, actual hard physical evidence who have been afraid to come forth for the last 29 years," said Giunta.

"Before *JFK*, if you discussed this topic you were immediately characterized as a buff or nut."

The Rochester group is the first chapter to form solely as a political action group to pressure lawmakers into gaining the information's release through a number of activities, including postcard and letter-writing campaigns.

It also hopes to persuade other chapters to follow its lead. Already, the group has produced a how-to video on starting a new chapter.

Branch organizations are in the works in Syracuse and at Cayuga College.

SAID GIUNTA: "Eighty percent of the public doesn't believe the government's version. Especially with the movies and all the things cropping up, there's a lot of interest in this subject."

FOR MORE

For more information about the Third Decade, call 716-854-5969 or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Third Decade, P.O. Box 10579, Rochester, N.Y. 14610.



Louise Slaughter



Frank Horton

The **THIRD DECADE** presents

A MIDWEST SYMPOSIUM ON THE ASSASSINATION OF JOHN F. KENNEDY

Including lectures on the assassinations of Robert F. Kennedy & Martin Luther King

DINNER PARTY, 6 PM FRIDAY, JUNE 26TH, \$75

(Site to be determined)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Ed Asner
Activist & Supporting Actor, "JFK"

Dick Gregory
Activist & Co-author, "*Code Name Zorro*"

PUBLIC LECTURES, SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH & SUNDAY, JUNE 28TH, \$48
Thorne Hall, Northwestern University, Chicago Campus, 375 E. Chicago Avenue

The Movie & The Media:

Jane Rusconi
Oliver Stone's "JFK" Research Coordinator

Jerry Policoff
Assassination Researcher & Media Critic

The 1992 JFK Hearings & The MLK Inquest

John Judge
Founder, Committee for an Open Archive
Washington, D.C.

The JFK & RFK Autopsies:

Dr. Cyril Wecht
JFK, RFK Autopsy Expert & Forensic Pathologist

The Photographic Evidence:

Robert Groden
Co-author, *High Treason*,
JFK: The Case for Conspiracy
Expert Witness, 1979 HSCA Hearings

The Vietnam Policy Hypothesis:

Dr. John Newman
Author, *JFK in Vietnam*

LBJ Theories:

Craig Zirbel
Author, *The Texas Connection*

FOIA & The Assassination Files:

Jim Lesar
Pres. Assassination Archives & Research Center
Washington, D.C.

The RFK Inquest:

Ted Sharach
RFK Assassination Expert
Producer, "*The Second Gun*"

TICKETS & REGISTRATION:

In greater Chicago call 1-708-698-4090, Ext. 450
Outside area codes 312 & 708 call 1-800-323-4961, Ext. 450
VISA & Mastercard Accepted

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

June 26-28

Friday, June 26th:

Closed Third Decade Meeting & Press Conference
The Newberry Library
60 W. Walton
N.W. Corner, Clark & Walton
First Floor, East Hall
Chicago, Illinois 60610

9 AM - 11 AM
11 AM - 12 AM
1 PM - 4:30 PM

Closed Meeting
Press Conference
Closed Meeting (Continued)

6 PM - 7 PM
7 PM - 9:30 PM
9:30 PM - 12:00 AM

Dinner (Site to be announced)
Keynote Speeches
Party

Saturday, June 27th:

Public Lectures, Thorne Hall
Northwestern University, Chicago Campus
375 E. Chicago Avenue
S.W. Corner, Chicago Avenue & Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60611

9 AM - 12:30 PM:
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM:
6 PM - 7:30 PM:
7:30 PM - 10 PM:

The Movie & The Media, Jane Rusconi, Jerry Policoff
The Photographic Evidence, Robert Groden
FOIA & The Assassination Files, Jim Lesar
The 1992 JFK Hearings & The MLK Inquest, John Judge

Sunday, June 28th:

Public Lectures, Thorne Hall

9 AM - 12 PM:
1 PM - 4 PM:
4:30 PM - 7 PM:
7:30 PM - 10 PM:

The JFK & RFK Autopsies, Dr. Cyril Wecht
The Vietnam Policy Hypothesis, Dr. John Newman
LBJ Theories, Craig Zirbel
The RFK Inquest, Ted Sharach