PEOPLE

BEHIND THE SCENES WITH THE FAMOUS AND THE FASCINATING

'JFK' theories etched in Stone

WASHINGTON — Oliver Stone is happy. And proud.

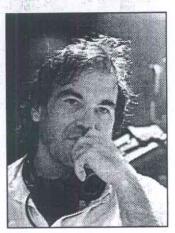
His new film JFK has brought back into the news questions regarding John F. Kennedy's assassination, and now politicians are calling for sealed files to be opened.

At a National Press Club lunch here Wednesday, Stone — whose film has been debunked in the press nationwide — was much less hostile than past months.

He brought along a box of buttons: "Free the files: JFK." Lights inexplicably dimmed as Stone mentioned Lee Harvey Oswald's wife, "who," he deadpanned, "might have something to do with these lights."

But his conviction about the film hasn't waned: Oswald as lone assassin is "myth."

Stone also identifies JFK character "Mr. X," a government official who confirms prosecutor Jim Garrison's suspicions. X is "primarily" Fletcher Prouty, a former liaison between the Department of Defense and the CIA. But Stone, not Garrison, met him.



STONE: 'JFK' raises questions about Kennedy assassination.

Skeptics also doubted Garrison's final teary court speech. He "did make that summation," Stone says; the film version has "polishes from me."

As for recent allegations that Jimmy Hoffa ordered a mafia hit on Kennedy, Stone stands behind JFK. "It is just inconsistent that the mafia would have the organizational ability."

- Karen Thomas