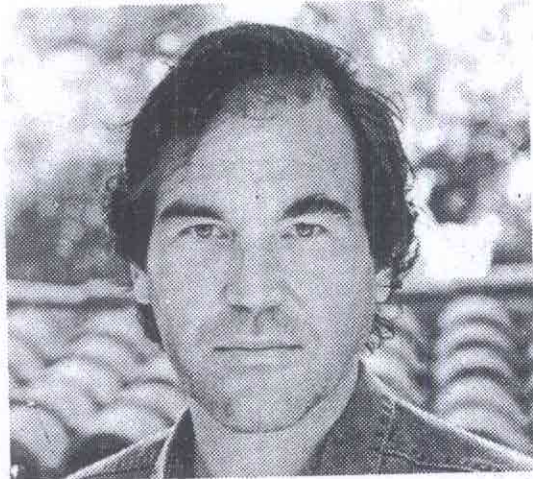


Top secret



OLIVER STONE: That day in Dallas.

Oliver Stone is even more secretive than Woody Allen has always been. But with Mr. Stone's latest movie project, he has good reason.

Mr. Stone, who has already delved into drug-dealing ("Scarface"), Vietnam ("Platoon") and insider trading ("Wall Street"), is deeply into research on the assassination of President Kennedy. Among the books said to be on his reading list are "Conspiracy" by Anthony Summers and "Coup D'Etat in America" by A.J. Weberman.

It is safe to assume that Mr. Stone does not subscribe to the Warren Commission's conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald was acting alone. It is also safe to assume that anyone else who might have been involved in the assassination would like to let sleeping dogs lie. Some conspiracy theorists maintain that

February 11, 1991

a renegade, right-wing cabal from the Central Intelligence Agency carried out the hit.

A friend of Mr. Stone's told The Observer: "He thinks the C.I.A. is going to kill him. He's heavy into it." "It" means both Mr. Stone's research and the fears it has produced.

"When Oliver did 'Scarface,' he hung out with drug dealers. When he did 'The Doors,' he became a total sybarite," said the source. "Now he's into the C.I.A. and it's scary."

Actors who are up for parts in the movie, scheduled to start shooting this summer in Dallas, are given only the pages of the script that contains their lines. In spook lingo, that's sharing intelligence on a "need-to-know" basis.