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Texan Claims His Father Helped Assassinate Kennedy

DALLAS—An unemployed oil equipment salesman said yesterday that his father was one of three men who fired the shots that killed President John F. Kennedy on CIA orders.

Ricky White, 29, said his late father, Roscoe White, joined the Dallas Police Department two months before the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination so he could carry out the shooting. He went by the code name "Mandarin" and was stationed at the grassy knoll opposite the Texas School Book Depository overlooking Dealey Plaza, the assassination site, White said.

Two other CIA operatives with code names "Lebanon" and "Saul" were stationed in the Depository and the nearby County Records Building, he said.

CIA spokesman Mark Mansfield denied the allegations of CIA involvement. White "was never employed by the CIA or associated in any way with the agency," Mansfield said. "We normally never confirm or deny employment, but these allegations are so outrageous that we felt it was necessary and appropriate to respond."

White said Lee Harvey Oswald was a part of the plot, but did not fire shots. He described Oswald and police officer J.D. Tippit, who died in the assassination aftermath, as "patsies."

The Warren Commission concluded that Oswald, acting alone, fired the shots from the Depository that killed Kennedy and wounded John Connally, then the Texas governor. Despite the commission's findings, conspiracy theories have abounded since the assassination.