

## FINAL FRAME

# The Torch Has Been Passed

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America's 35th president  
John F. Kennedy

On November 22, 1963, at 1:53 p.m. EST, the NBC-TV news team faced the nation with a tragic bulletin. There was an unconfirmed report that President John F. Kennedy had been shot in Dallas.

NBC reporters Frank McGee and Bill Ryan remember: "The moment will be emblazoned on our memories, what we were doing when we heard this awful news." For the next six consecutive hours, the NBC news team—including Chet Huntley, David Brinkley, Robert MacNeil and John Chancellor—broadcast the tragedy as it unfolded to a shocked nation 30 years ago.

- ◆ "JFK Assassination: As It Happened," which replays this six-hour televised report on Monday the 22nd at 1:53 p.m., is just one of the specials that public broadcasting presents this month as a tribute to John F. Kennedy.
- ◆ "JFK: In His Own Words," which airs Monday the 22nd at 4 p.m., captures the witty, charismatic man through his own reminiscences and clips of actual home movies.
- ◆ "The Kennedys," an *American Experience* special on Sunday the 21st at 2 p.m., paints a detailed portrait of the Kennedy clan and their emergence in politics.
- ◆ And "The Kennedy Years: In Words and Music," Monday the 22nd at 11:50 p.m., presents a personal look at America's

35th president and his family from the archives of photojournalist Jacques Lowe.

But the haunting questions still remain. Four provocative specials explore the many conspiracy theories that attempt to explain the motives for the assassination and who may have been responsible.

- ◆ "The Plot to Kill President Kennedy: From the Declassified File" airs Tuesday the 11th at 11 p.m.
- ◆ "Jim Garrison: He Must Have Something" airs Friday the 19th at 11 p.m.
- ◆ *Nova's* "Who Shot President Kennedy" airs Friday the 19th at 9 p.m.
- ◆ And *Frontline* takes an in-depth look at accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald in a three-hour special investigation, "Who Was Lee Harvey Oswald," Tuesday the 16th at 8 p.m.

Though JFK's vision was cut short, his legacy lives on. "None of this, I fear," writes Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. in his foreword to his Pulitzer Prize-winning book *A Thousand Days*, "can come close to recapturing the exceptional qualities of John F. Kennedy as a man and as a President. But I hope it will suggest something of the way in which he quickened the heart and mind of the nation, inspired the young...and left behind so glowing and imperishable a memory." —Barbara Brynko