



November 14, 1975

Note to Editors:

"The Assassins," the subtitle of the CBS REPORTS Inquiry series, the first two hours of which will be broadcast on the CBS Television Network Tuesday, November 25 and Wednesday, November 26 (10:00-11:00 PM, PT), has been changed to "The American Assassins."

In addition, it was originally announced that each one of the hour-long broadcasts of the CBS REPORTS Inquiry: "The American Assassins" would be devoted separately to the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and the attempted killing of Gov. George C. Wallace. Because of the tremendous amount of information available and the multitude of questions concerning the death of President Kennedy, Parts I and II will be devoted to his assassination. The third hour will examine the assassinations of Sen. Kennedy and Dr. King, while the fourth broadcast will deal with the shooting of Gov. Wallace and will offer some concluding observations on all of the cases dealt with in the series.



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FIRST TWO HOURS OF CBS REPORTS INQUIRY: "THE AMERICAN ASSASSINS"
EXAMINE KILLING OF JOHN F. KENNEDY

Twelve years ago President John F. Kennedy was murdered in Dallas, Texas. A majority of Americans still question the official accounts of what happened in Dallas in November 1963. They are not convinced that what the Warren Report told them was the complete and accurate story. They believe that explanations of John Kennedy's death, as well as the later assassinations of Sen. Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and the attempt on the life of Gov. George Wallace of Alabama, are somehow incomplete -- and that there may well be some bizarre link between these bloody marks on America's history.

Because of this increased and continuing interest in assassinations, and because of the proliferation of conspiracy and coverup theories, CBS News is devoting four hours to a special four-part "CBS REPORTS Inquiry: 'The American Assassins,'" reported by CBS News Correspondent Dan Rather. On Tuesday and Wednesday, November 25 and 26 (10:00-11:00 PM, PT) on the CBS Television Network, Parts I and II "CBS REPORTS Inquiry: 'The American Assassins' -- Lee Harvey Oswald and John F. Kennedy" -- will investigate the event still raising the most nagging doubts in Americans' minds -- the assassination of President Kennedy.

Although both the Warren Commission Report and the 1967 four-hour CBS News Inquiry: "The Warren Report" concluded that Lee Harvey

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Oswald was the lone assassin in the murder of President Kennedy, greatly improved technology and optical techniques, as well as continued public interest and new evidence of links between Oswald and some government agencies, have prompted CBS News to review the official account.

The first hour of this CBS REPORTS Inquiry (Tuesday, November 25) will examine the questions: was Oswald the assassin? Was he the sole assassin? Where did the shots that killed the President come from? Did a single bullet strike both Kennedy and Texas Gov. John Connally? Could someone have fired those shots from the sixth floor of the Texas Schoolbook Depository with such accuracy and in that short a time?

In connection with this investigation, CBS News has obtained from the Abraham Zapruder family exclusive rights to show the original Zapruder film of the assassination for the first time on network television. In addition, ITEK Corporation, one of the nation's foremost film analysis organizations, has been able to provide CBS News with a unique frame by frame, split-second analysis, showing in detail the sequence where both the President and Gov. Connally were shot.

Through extensive photo analysis, CBS News has also examined the possibility of a figure crouching behind the bushes near Dealey Plaza, the possibility of movement in the sixth floor window of the Texas Schoolbook Depository at the time of the assassination, and, from the frames showing impact, the direction of the bullet that killed the President. CBS News has also retained an independent consultant, Dr. James Weston, president-elect of the American Academy of Forensic Scientists, to examine the Kennedy autopsy report.

The second hour of "CBS REPORTS Inquiry: 'The American Assassins,'" (Wednesday, November 26) will examine the role of the CIA and the FBI and provides new information about these agencies' relationships

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to Lee Harvey Oswald. In addition to an account of Oswald's career in the Marines, and his life in the Soviet Union, CBS News will examine Oswald's stay in New Orleans and his relationship with the FBI there, Oswald's visit to Mexico and possible CIA connections, and Oswald's possible motivation by the Castro regime in Cuba.

Because of the new allegations concerning the FBI and CIA and the Oswald-Cuban connection, and because public interest in the John Kennedy assassination, as well as the other assassinations and as attempts continue to increase, CBS News has commissioned a poll to find out exactly how Americans feel about these assassinations and subsequent investigations. The results of the poll will be released concurrent with the broadcast of this CBS REPORTS Inquiry.

Leslie Midgley is the executive producer of the "CBS REPORTS Inquiry: 'The American Assassins.'" CBS News Correspondent Dan Rather is the reporter. Bernard Birnbaum and Leslie Midgley are the producers of Parts I and II of the series.