

## Join the on-line community of researchers with your computer

by *W. Anthony Marsh\**

You can use your computer to connect to any of several electronic bulletin board systems. On a BBS you can exchange information, coordinate research, and sometimes get new files. There are a few electronic BBSes which have special sections concentrating on the JFK assassination. Some are free for the cost of a phone call. Others are commercial services which charge per minute or per month. Here are some BBSes you can call:

**PRODIGY** commercial service. For sign-up information and to order the special software to connect (requires an IBM compatible or Macintosh), call customer service at 1-800-284-5933 (voice) 12-8 PM, M-S. To find the JFK discussion on Prodigy, JUMP to ARTS BB, then select BOOKS/NONFICTION from the TOPICLIST. (The ARTS BB is a PLVS service which costs extra beyond the monthly fee) Most JFK messages have subject lines starting with the letter J. Prodigy has recently announced a new pricing plan which is summarized below: Value Plan \$14.95 per month includes flat-rate core use and 2 hours plus time. Alternate Plan \$7.95 per month includes 2 hours combined core use/plus time. Alternate Plan 2 \$19.95 per month includes 8 hours combined core use/plus time. Plus time is billed at: 0-3 hrs @ \$4.80/hr, 3-6 hrs @ \$4.20/hr, over 6 hr \$3.60.

**COMPUSERVE** commercial service, \$8.95 per month for Standard Plan includes unlimited time in basic services; extended services are charged by the minute at the rate of \$6.00 per hour for 300 baud connection, \$8.00 per hour for 1200/2400 bps connection, and \$16.00 per hour for 9600 bps connection.

Alternate Plan costs \$2.50 per month maintenance fee plus all services are charged at the rates listed above plus a \$.30 per hour surcharge. At present, there is no modem compression available. Call 1-800-848-8199 for sign-up information and suggestions about which special software is available for your type of computer. To find the JFK area, GO JFK. The JFK Assassination Forum in an extended service which charges by the minute. My CompuServe ID number is 72127,2301.

**INTERNET** limited access network. Many colleges, universities, and research labs provide access to InterNet. Some commercial services provide access to InterNet, but costs vary. If your site carries news groups, ask if it can get the news group called alt.conspiracy.jfk and what special software or manual you might need in order to send and receive messages. File exchange is possible if you have the right software, such as UUENCODE and UUDECODE.

**THE PUZZLE PALACE** free local BBS. My BBS, which is located in the Boston area, has a special section for fellow researchers of the JFK assassination.

You can connect at 300, 1200, or 2400 bps, but there is no

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modem compression at present. I expect to be running at 14.4K by the time this information is published. Set your terminal for 8-N-1 and dial 1-617-625-2815. Please note that the BBS is only open from 7AM-3PM and 6PM-4AM. It is closed from 4AM-7AM to exchange FIDO mail and closed from 3PM-6PM to exchange local mail and for routine maintenance. At the MAIN menu, select J to JOIN, then type in jfk for the 3-letter code. Please remember that the conference area is only for jfk researchers, while the MAIN area is for the general BBS used by local people.

### The following items are now available from the Assassination Archives and Research Center:

**JFK Act** - Copy of the actual President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act which requires the release of files; comes with statements of Senators and witnesses (including AARC President Jim Lesar) who contributed to this historic act. - \$15.00

**Mexico City Report** - This long awaited 400+ page report from the House Select Committee on Assassinations details Oswald's alleged travels and activities, as well as the possibility that he was impersonated at foreign embassies. - \$55.00

**Clandestine America** - Now rare newsletter originally published - "to provide critical coverage of events surrounding the House [Select Committee on Assassinations] investigation, as well as pertinent information related to the general theme of assassinations and 'clandestine America' " eleven issues - \$22.00

**New Files** - General listing of new files turned over to the National Archives on August 23, 1993; a helpful guide. - \$3.00

**JFK Finding Aid** - A more complete listing and inventory of assassination records in the National Archives; a must for researchers. - \$40.00

**LBJ Transcript List** - List of telephone calls made in the Johnson White House in November and December of 1963. - \$4.00

**The LBJ Transcripts** - just released September 22 - 275 conversations held during November and December of 1963 involving Johnson, White House aides, political officials and other post-assassination figures. Includes list and nearly 700 pages of transcripts concerning the immediate aftermath of the assassination, formation of the Warren Commission, and related subjects. - \$80.00

**Connally Fragments File** - Articles from major print media about the effort to retrieve the Connally fragments, and correspondence between researchers and the Department of Justice, including the original AARC letter and the un-released August 8th DOJ response. - \$6.00

**Case Closed File** - Laudatory (mostly) articles from major media, and critical analyses and commentary by major research figures on the book by Gerald Posner, including the AARC's own media release. - \$10.00

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