

DALLAS / TEXAS

New JFK center to

By Jeff Collins
OF THE TIMES HERALD STAFF

After years without any exhibit on President John F. Kennedy's assassination, Dallas soon will have two displays if a proposed center specializing in what a sponsor calls "the conspiracy angle" opens as planned.

Working with a Washington-based archive, two Dallas-area men on Monday announced plans to open the center in June in the West End MarketPlace. The promoters have leased 3,000 square feet

on the third floor of a building two blocks from the assassination site.

Tentatively called the JFK Assassination Information Center, the latest project will be affiliated with the Assassination Archives and Research Center in Washington, D.C. It will offer writers and researchers many of the same books, videos and documents available at the archive, said J. Gary Shaw of Cleburne, an architect and assassination-conspiracy researcher who will be the center's co-director.

But the center, which will charge ad-

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FYI: DART has scheduled 24 community meetings in April and May. Call 658-6114.

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focus on 'conspiracy angle'

mission and membership fees, also will cater to tourists, offering a bus tour of assassination sites and the sale of books and mementos, including replicas of the controversial "miracle bullet" that investigators say wounded both Kennedy and then-Texas Gov. John Connally on Nov. 22, 1963.

The handcuffs used to shackle Jack Ruby after he shot Lee Harvey Oswald, the president's accused assassin, will be on display along with a photograph of the shooting that Ruby signed, said Larry Howard of Arlington, the other co-di-

rector.

The center's profits will help support the archive, which has extensive files on government investigations, books and reports on the JFK, Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. assassinations.

The historical foundation's exhibit, The Sixth Floor, opened Feb. 20 on the same floor of the former Texas School Book Depository from which Oswald fired the fatal shots. The 9,000-square-

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JFK

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foot museum features nearly 400 photographs and artifacts and six films covering the assassination, Kennedy's presidency and his legacy.

Promoters of the new exhibit praised The Sixth Floor, but said it offers too little information on possible conspiracies behind the assassination. Bernard Fensterwald Jr., founder of the Assassination Archives, called The Sixth Floor "a rubber stamp of the Warren Commission," the official government investigation that

concluded Oswald acted alone.

"We go much more strongly on what I would call the conspiracy angle because we don't think the Warren Commission solved the crime," said Fensterwald, an Arlington, Va., lawyer. "Ours is not a government viewpoint. It's an anti-government viewpoint."

But Lyndalyn Adams, who chairs the Dallas County Historical Foundation, denied the museum ignores conspiracy theories.

"It certainly is not a rubber stamp of any investigation," Adams said of The Sixth Floor. "I personally feel that conspiracy is covered in our exhibit, though not to the extent of all the theories that were put forward."