

The Kennedy Assassination

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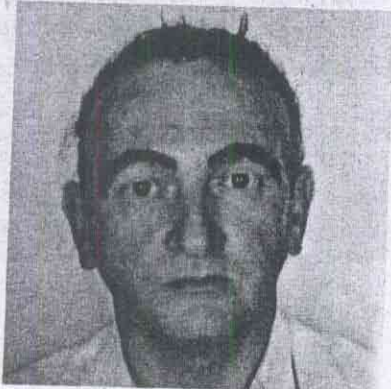
Slaughter of the Witnesses

By Penn Jones, Jr.

One by one they die under the most mysterious circumstances—"suicides," auto "accidents" and "apparent" heart attacks. Can it all be extraordinary coincidence, or is it all part of a sinister plot to liquidate the people who hold the key to the murder that still nags at the world's conscience?



Lisa Howard



David W. Ferrie



Marguerite Higgins

Forty-year-old Rose Cherami died from an unsolved hit-and-run accident near Big Sandy, Tex., on Sept. 4, 1965. But the revealing story is what happened to her on Nov. 20, 1963. At that time, Miss Cherami, allegedly a narcotics addict and prostitute for Jack Ruby was thrown from a moving automobile near Eunice, La. She and two men were on their way to Florida allegedly to pick up a load of drugs for Jack Ruby.

When found by the police, Miss Cherami was in acute withdrawal agony, and she was screaming that President Kennedy was going to be killed in Dallas. She was hospitalized for her physical injuries and what the doctors thought was mental trouble.

A few days after the assassination, the physicians remembered the patient they had placed in a mental ward, and had her brought to their office. Rose Cherami, now calmed down and dried-out, listened as the medical people read her the stories of the assassination. When they read that Ruby was protesting that he had not known Lee Harvey Oswald, Miss Cherami laughed and said, "They were bedmates."

There is sufficient evidence to place the name of Rose Cherami (the name she used most often) on the list of 32 strange deaths of people who knew something or told something about President Kennedy's assassination that was supposed to remain a secret.

The most recent known attempt to kill a witness was made on the life of Roger Craig, 31, a former deputy sheriff of Dallas County. On Nov. 1, 1967, Craig and two other men were leaving a Dallas cafe. There was a pistol shot with the bullet creasing the hair on Craig's head just above his left ear. One of his companions fell to the ground, and the other, a former Army M.P., dove for cover.

Craig was a very important witness on Nov. 22, 1963. And he has maintained from the day of the assassination that he saw Lee Harvey Oswald race down the grassy knoll and escape in a station wagon which he says was driven by a Latin. Craig says just after the shots were fired this Latin was arrested and immediately released by the Secret Service. Craig's description of the station wagon is identical with the make, color and model of the one owned by Mrs. Ruth Paine.

At the request of Dep. Sheriff Will Fritz, Craig went to the Police Station where Oswald was being questioned and identified Oswald as the man he had seen leaving the assassination scene in the station wagon resembling Mrs. Paine's. Roger Craig swears he heard Oswald tell Deputy Sheriff Fritz that the station wagon belonged to Mrs. Paine, and that Oswald added, "Don't try to get her mixed up in this." Fritz says he cannot recall seeing Craig during Oswald's interrogation. Fritz also admits that he "kept no notes" on the questioning of Oswald.

Roger Craig was a deputy to Sheriff Bill Decker and was in very good standing. In 1960 he was voted Officer of the Year for



outstanding work as a deputy sheriff. After 1963 his fortunes steadily declined with Sheriff Decker until he was finally fired on July 4, 1967.

In November 1967 Craig went to New Orleans to talk with District Attorney Jim Garrison. A "tight tail" was immediately put on him as he left the New Orleans airport in the company of a Garrison investigator. After his return to Dallas, Craig was followed by two men in separate automobiles until the attempt on his life.

I stated in my widely read book *Forgive My Grief*, Vol. 1 that more deaths would be forthcoming to keep the assassination of President John F. Kennedy unsolved. Although at this time I am listing only 33 deaths (see chart), I feel there may have been 75 to 100 lives taken to keep the crime quiet.

The first 13 of the deaths are not recounted here because they were widely discussed after the 1966 distribution of my book on the subject.

Now, however, additional shocking facts—just revealed—have convinced me that *many more deaths will be needed to cover up the President's murder!*

According to records, on Nov. 22, 1963 *Harold Russell* was an employee at Reynolds Auto Sales at 500

East Jefferson Avenue in Dallas. When the shots were fired killing Officer J. D. Tippit, Russell and Warren Reynolds rushed out to see what the shooting was all about. Both men saw the escaping Tippit killer. Neither Russell nor Reynolds were asked by the police to go to the famous Oswald show-up held in the Dallas Police Station that Friday afternoon and again that Friday night. Russell was interviewed on Jan. 22, 1964, and signed a statement at that time that the fleeing man was Oswald.

A few months after the assassination Russell went back to his home near Davis, Okla. On July 23, 1965, he went to a party in the company of a female druggist. At this party Russell went out of his mind, weeping and telling friends that he was going to be killed. He tried to hide, and begged friends to hide him. People at the party called the police, and when a policeman arrived he hit Russell on the head with his pistol. The policeman then became frightened and took Russell to the hospital at Sulphur, Okla., where he was pronounced dead a few hours later. Cause of death was listed as "heart failure," however one hospital employee reasoned, "Well, if you hit a fellow on the head hard enough, his heart will fail."

Name	Age	What Happened	How Associated with Assassination
Karyn Kupcinet	23	Killed in her apartment.	Evidence indicates she may be mysterious caller who tried to notify by phone that President was to be killed in Dallas.
Rose Cherami	40	Killed in hit-and-run accident.	Worked for Ruby. Said President would be killed in Dallas, two days before assassination.
Guy Bogard	41	Committed suicide 2-14-66.	Took "other" Oswald on demonstration ride before assassination.
Hank Killam	40's	Throat cut 3-17-64.	"Hounded" by Federal authorities. Predicted his own death. Married to woman who worked for Ruby.
Tom Howard	48	Died of apparent heart attack 3-28-65.	Knew Ruby very well. Was his first attorney. Allegedly knew Ruby was going to kill Oswald.
Robert Perrin	?	Died of voluntarily taking arsenic, 8-62.	Wife worked for Ruby. He backed out of an agreement to run guns to Cuba.
"Maggie" Higgins	?	Killed in Vietnam 1-66.	American Opinion magazine tells how she accused America of killing Diem.
Lisa Howard	?	Ruled suicide.	American Opinion magazine.
Cliff Roberts	?	Drove into a train at a clear intersection in Oklahoma City.	Worked in Dallas after the attempted shooting of General Walker.
Eladio Cerefine de Valle	43	Killed in Florida with a machete and pistol on same day Ferrie died, 2-22-67.	Knew David Ferrie.
Warren Reynolds	28	Shot through temple, 1-23-64.	Saw escaping Tippit killer, did not think he was Oswald until after being shot in the head.
Betty MacDonald	?	Hanged in jail cell in Dallas, 2-14-64. Suicide?	Worked for Jack Ruby. Was alibi for Darell Garner, who was accused of shooting Reynolds.
Harold Russell	53	Died after being hit on head by policeman 7-23-65.	Saw escaping Tippit killer, did not go to Oswald show-ups.
Edward Benevides	?	Shot and killed in beer hall, 2-64.	Brother to Domingo Benevides, who saw the escaping Tippit killer and did not believe he was Oswald.
Bill Hunter	35	Shot to death by policeman in police station 4-4-64.	Had early interview with Tom Howard, Ruby lawyer. Howard himself died under strange circumstances.
Jim Koethe	30	Killed by karate chop to throat 9-21-64.	Co-worker on book on the assassination with Thayer Waldo and Ed Johnson. Friend of Bill Hunter and was present for interviews between Howard and Hunter.
Earlene Roberts	60	Died of apparent heart attack 1-9-66.	Had opportunity to talk to Oswald alone after the assassination. She was sister to Bertha Cheek who had three hour interview with Ruby on Nov. 18, 1963.

According to the records Warren Reynolds was first interviewed by the Dallas Police on Jan. 21, 1964. Two days later he was shot in the head with a .22 caliber weapon. The shooting occurred as he was closing the auto sales agency for the night! Though he recovered he will not discuss any aspect of the case.

Although Betty MacDonald was not a witness, she did provide the alibi for Darell Wayne Garner who was accused of shooting Warren Reynolds. Miss MacDonald, a former stripper at the Carousel Club, said Garner was with her at the time Reynolds was shot, therefore Garner could not possibly have done the shooting. Garner was released from jail.

On Feb. 14, 1964 Miss MacDonald was arrested for fighting with her roommate. *The police did not arrest the roommate.* An hour later, Miss MacDonald was found hanging in her Dallas jail cell, quite dead. The ruling was suicide.

Domingo Benevides was an employee of Dooch Motors at 417 East Jefferson Street in Oak Cliff on Nov. 22, 1963. He was driving west on Tenth Street when he witnessed the Tippit murder, and he stopped his pickup truck only 25 feet from Tippit's patrol car. He actually saw Tippit fall after the shots were fired.

"Although at this time I'm listing only 32 deaths, I feel there may have been 75 to 100 lives taken to keep the crime quiet!"

Oswald didn't fit Benevides' description of the killer he saw running from the scene of the slaying. During his testimony before Warren Commission attorney David W. Belin, Benevides told Belin, "He looked like you." Although Belin felt called upon to enter into the record his own whereabouts at the time of the assassination, he did not include his own description. The police did not ask Benevides to go down to the police station to see if he could pick Oswald out of the suspect lineup although other witnesses were required to do so.

In mid-February 1964, Edward Benevides, Domingo's brother, was killed in a senseless beer hall fight by an ex-convict who spent 18 months in the penitentiary for the crime. Both Domingo and his father-in-law, Mr. W. J. Jackson, asserted that the murder was a case of mistaken identity. (Continued on page 68)

Name	Age	What Happened	How Associated with Assassination
William Whaley	60	Killed 12-19-65 two-car collision on bridge in Dallas.	Supposed to have taken Oswald by cab to Oak Cliff. Signed blank statement for police.
Dorothy Kilgallen	52	Died strangely 11-8-65. Autopsy report took eight days.	Had exclusive interview with Jack Ruby in chambers of Judge Joe B. Brown during Ruby's murder trial.
Mrs. Earl T. Smith	?	Died two days after Miss Kilgallen. Undetermined cause.	Close friend of Miss Kilgallen.
Capt. Frank Martin	56	Died 6-16-66 of apparent cancer, after less than one month in hospital.	Head of Juvenile Dept. of Dallas Police Department, hinted in his testimony there was more to be told.
Lee Bowers	41	Killed in one-car accident 8-9-66.	Told Warren Commission he saw two men behind wooden fence at time of assassination. Was in strange shock at time of accident.
James Worrell	23	Died in motorcycle accident 11-9-66.	Saw strange man run from back door of Texas School Book Depository shortly after assassination.
Gary Underhill	48	Shot. Ruled suicide 5-8-64.	Former CIA agent, claimed he knew who was responsible for killing of President.
David Ferrie	49	Death ruled natural causes. DID leave two suicide notes 2-22-67.	Been suspected for connections since the assassination. Died shortly before arrest. Knew Oswald and many others in this case.
Jack Ruby	55	Died of cancer 1-3-67.	Killed the real Oswald.
Dellah Walle	27	Shot by husband of 24 days.	She worked for Ruby, supposed to be working on a book on what she knew.
Dr. Mary Stults Sherman	51	Stabbed and burned in her apartment 7-21-64.	Working with Ferrie on cancer experiment.
Francis D. Jernigan	63	Killed in Shreveport 1966.	Had telephone calls to David Ferrie. Son accused of murder and committed in La.
Lee H. Oswald	23	Killed 11-24-63.	Accused of assassination. Murdered by Jack Ruby under strange circumstances.
Lt. Paul Dyer	33	Died of cancer 2-23-65.	First officer to interview David Ferrie after the assassination.
William "Bill" Waters	32	Died 5-20-67. Police said overdose of demerol, but no autopsy.	Mother says Oswald and Killam came to her home before assassination, and her son tried to talk Oswald and Killam out of being involved. Went into Air Force at age 14 in 1942, spent 7 years in service (2 years on Guam). Waters called FBI after assassination, and FBI told him he knew too much and to keep his mouth shut. Kept in county jail in Memphis eight months on misdemeanor charge.

SLAUGHTER OF THE WITNESSES

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After these events Domingo Benevides received threats on his life. He left the state for a few months, but he is now in Dallas and cooperates completely with the Dallas Police Department. *He states positively now that the escaping person was Oswald!*

Another witness who saw the running man stop and reload his pistol was first questioned on Jan. 22, 1964. It took a total of four interviews with the FBI for B. M. (Pat) Patterson to say he thought the suspect was Oswald. (Commission Hearings Vol. XV, p. 744). This writer has been unable to locate Patterson for an interview; however it is reported that he has had serious difficulties with the police.

Warren Reynolds would not have been shot if he had seen Lee Oswald running from the Tippit murder scene. The Edward Benevides and Harold Russell deaths would not have been necessary, and Lee Bowers and James Worrell (see chart) would not have been silenced if Oswald was really the fleeing suspect.

What these witnesses saw was a man deliberately impersonating Lee Oswald.

Had the real Oswald been killed in the Texas Theater, or what seems more likely, the back door of the theater where many police officers were waiting, all these deaths would not have been imperative.

After the suspect had been pointed out to him, Officer M. M. McDonald searched six people in the theater before he approached Oswald. This unnecessary searching is unexplainable—unless it was an effort to give Oswald a chance to run out the back door. Twenty-four witnesses, the theater patrons, would have been too many witnesses to another cold-blooded murder that day.

Contrasted with these five unfortunate persons who at first did not believe the escaping killer was Oswald, Mrs. Helen Louise Markham and Mrs. Ted Callaway—the two people who testified the escaping killer was Oswald—have since lead relatively uneventful lives.

Albert Guy Bogard was another witness fooled by the "false" Oswald. On Nov. 9, 1963, Bogard, an automobile salesman for Downtown Lincoln Mercury in Dallas, showed a new Mercury to a man using the name "Lee Oswald." The two men took a demonstration ride with the prospective customer at the wheel driving very fast. (Hearings, Vol. X, p. 354.) The man said he wasn't ready to buy, but he would have the money in a couple of weeks and would pay cash for the automobile. Salesman

Bogard had to ask twice before the man gave his name as "Lee Oswald."

Within a few hours after President Kennedy had been assassinated, Bogard was with a group of salesmen listening to a radio in the automobile agency. When the announcement was made that Oswald had been captured, Bogard took one of his business cards from his pocket, tore the card to bits and threw it into a wastebasket. He remarked to the other salesmen present: "He won't want to buy a car." On the back of the card was scribbled the name "Lee Oswald."

Shortly after Bogard gave his testimony (verified by FBI lie detector tests) to a Commission attorney in Dallas, he was badly beaten and had to be hospitalized. Upon his release from the hospital he was fearful for his safety, and he left the area for a few months.

Bogard was from Hallsville, La. He was found dead in his car at the Hallsville Cemetery on St. Valentine's Day 1966. A rubber hose had been connected to the exhaust with the other end extending into the closed car. The ruling was suicide. He was 41 years old.

Men generally commit suicide for three main reasons: Health, money or love. There is no indication that Bogard had unusual health or money problems. Although he had been divorced he was engaged to be married to a Dallas woman at the time of his death.

In addition to the "Lee Oswald" who came to the Lincoln Mercury agency, we have learned that a man calling himself "Lee Oswald" sought employment as a sandblaster at Dal-Land Memorials, 116 West Commerce, a company which sells tombstones and does commercial sandblasting.

"Lee Oswald" went to the marble works every day for four or five days, and even went out on jobs with the Dal-Land employees while seeking work there. He left a jack, a cap and a pair of shoes at the firm, all of which was picked up a few months after the assassination by a man who said he was taking a city census and who asked for the old clothes as a souvenir. *We find no city census taken in Dallas since 1960.*

This marble works "Lee Oswald" was a chain smoker, and as he sat around watching the men working he bragged continually that he had recently driven a green 1956 pickup truck from California to Texas. He added that the pickup was undergoing major overhaul at the time. Many witnesses, especially of the Dallas-Russian community, have established that *the real Lee Oswald*

neither smoked nor drove a car.

Jack Ruby, Dallas beer joint operator, was too deeply involved in the assassination conspiracy to escape the clutches of the Dallas authorities. If the charade was going to be continued that Oswald—alone and unaided—killed the President, then Ruby could not be allowed to be questioned in an impartial atmosphere. From the day Ruby was denied bail one could guess that he would be imprisoned until his death. Again, it could be surmised when Ruby was not allowed a change of venue that Dallas authorities did not intend to allow Ruby to undergo honest questioning.

So Ruby was murdered. Just how, or by whom, I have been unable to ascertain.

The Dallas authorities did not send Ruby to a hospital until they were ordered to do so by Sheriff J. M. Voyles of Wichita County, Tex. When the courts ruled a new trial for Ruby, the ruling also specified that the trial be held by another District Court in Texas. So when Wichita Falls was chosen as the new court, Sheriff Voyles came to Dallas to get a look at his new prisoner and to discuss moving him from Dallas to the county jail in Wichita Falls. Voyles took one look at Ruby and ordered him placed in a hospital. *Twenty-eight days later Ruby was dead.*

Dallas District Attorney William F. Alexander, one of Ruby's close companions (*Dallas Justice* by Melvin Belli) made an interesting observation on a Dallas television show we did together. I said I felt that Ruby had been murdered as Ruby had said he would be, and Alexander was asked to comment.

Alexander said, "Ah, that is a bunch of tripe like the rest of this stuff. The medical profession never has learned how to inject a person with cancer AND BE SURE IT TAKES HOLD." (Author's emphasis.)

But the medical profession has learned how to introduce cancer to human beings. Researchers have proven that cancer can be fed to humans with their food. This is well-known to such research centers for cancer as the M. D. Anderson Hospital in Houston, Tex.

Every student of the assassination has known for a long time that David Ferric of New Orleans and Jack Ruby were both involved in the assassination conspiracy. Both the FBI and the CIA knew these two men were implicated.

Ferric, 49, died before he could be brought to trial. His death was ruled to be from natural causes, however the brain hemorrhage could have been caused by a good many things including

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a professional karate chop. We might point out also that he left two suicide notes in his apartment. Ferrie died within 24 hours after this writer got a tip that two Dallas policemen had gone to New Orleans to interview him.

Suicide was not the ruling for Ferrie associate Dr. Mary Stults Sherman, 51, who was found stabbed and burned in her fashionable apartment in New Orleans on July 21, 1964. Dr. Sherman, associated with the Ochner Clinic in New Orleans, had been working on a cancer experiment with Ferrie.

Suicide was not the ruling in the death of Eladio Cerefine De Valle, 43, of Miami, Fla. On the same day that Ferrie died in New Orleans, De Valle was murdered in Miami. His skull was split across the top of his head with the machete blade going down to his ears. He was then shot. De Valle had used Ferrie as a pilot in past years, and the two knew each other very well. De Valle had recently accommodated Jim Garrison by identifying for him one of the men in a picture taken in New Orleans. Appearing in the same picture was Lee Harvey Oswald.

Lt. Paul Dyer, 33, of the New Orleans Police Force died of cancer on Feb. 23, 1965. Dyer, whose name was misspelled by the Warren Commission, was the first police officer to interview Ferrie when Ferrie was arrested immediately after President Kennedy's assassination.

One who apparently did not talk, but who indicated he knew more than he was telling, met death a few months after his testimony was taken in Dallas before Commission attorney Leon Hubert. Capt. Frank Martin, head of the Juvenile Department, had been with the Dallas Police Department for 33 years. He was finishing his testimony when Attorney Hubert asked:

"Now, Captain Martin, is there anything else you would like to say concerning any aspect of this matter at all?"

Captain Martin: "I—don't take this down."

Hubert: "Well, if you won't want to say it on the record, you'd better not say it at all."

Martin: "There is a lot to be said, but probably be better if I don't say it."

Martin, 56, got sick on the job May 25, 1966, and died of apparent cancer the following month on June 16, 1966. It's peculiar and ominous that so many of these witnesses died of cancer after talking with Ruby or Ferrie.

Delilah Walle (Marilyn Magyar or Marilyn Moon), 27, of Islip, N. Y., was a belly dancer and stripper for Jack Ruby at the Carousel Club during November and part of December 1963.

When the club closed after the assassination, Delilah left Dallas, and to avoid bothersome publicity denied working at the Carousel. She was reserving what she knew to put in a book she was planning to write on the assassination.

Eva Grant, Jack Ruby's sister, tried to locate Delilah.

But Leonard Walle of New Orleans found Delilah, wooed and won her while she was appearing at the Sho Bar in New Orleans. Delilah had come to New Orleans from Omaha, Neb., and she returned there with her new husband.

Just 24 days after the marriage, Leonard Walle shot Delilah late one night in their apartment. Seven bullets hit Delilah, two through the heart, from a nine-shot .38 caliber pistol. Only one shot missed, even though Walle claimed he was drunk when the shooting occurred. Walle is doing 20 years for the murder.

We do not know why Delilah was silenced. But she might have known as much as Rose Cherami or Betty MacDonald, who also worked for Ruby and are now dead. Or Delilah might have known more than Nancy Perrin Rich who described in detail what actually

went on at the Carousel Club, especially between Jack Ruby and the Dallas police (Commission Hearings, Vol. XIV, p. 330).

Delilah may have possessed more information than the unknown woman in California who was whispering into the phone 20 minutes before the assassination, telling telephone employees that President Kennedy would be killed in Dallas. There is no evidence that the California woman may have been Karyn Kupcinek, whose murder just a few days after the assassination is still unexplained.

The deaths of Lisa Howard and Marguerite Higgins, both veteran newspaper and magazine writers, have been recently added to the list of strange deaths. Miss Howard, who reportedly committed suicide, knew a great deal about the supposed new understanding which was in the making between President Kennedy and the Cubans after the Bay of Pigs fiasco.

"Maggie" Higgins bluntly accused the American authorities of the Nov. 2, 1963 killing of Premier Diem and his brother, Nhu. The story is fully outlined in her recent book, *Vietnam Nightmare*, published posthumously.

Miss Higgins got Roger Hilsman (former Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs), out of his bed at 2 a.m. in the morning to say: "Congratulations, Roger. How does it feel to have blood on your hands?" A few months after her accusation, Miss Higgins, 45, died in a landmine explosion in Vietnam.

The deaths of Miss Howard and Miss Higgins suggest there may be special "Liquidation Units" responsible to the government—or some autonomous section of the government—which are carrying out the slaughter of the witnesses.

Our only hope for a solution is that those who "have practiced perfidy," as Samuel Johnson said, will "grow faithless to each other."

★ THE END