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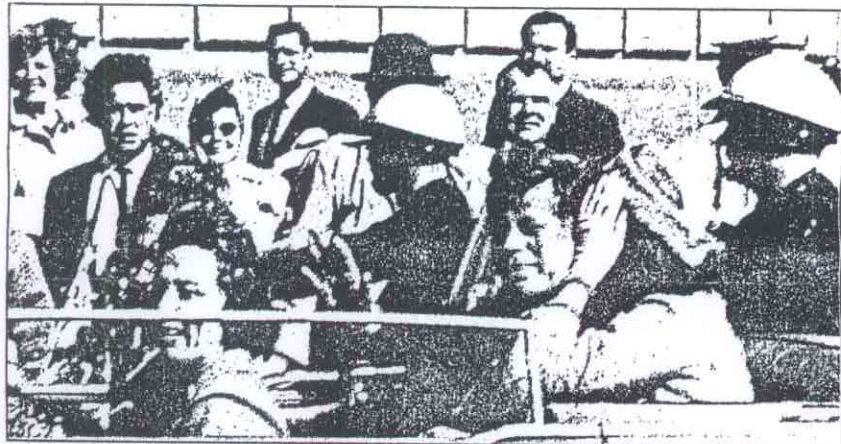
A WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE DELIVERED TO 187,500 EASTSIDE READERS

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— 28 YEARS LATER —

The Kennedy Cover Up

C O N T I N U E D



By Robert Morrow
For EastSide Weekend

The death of prominent Washington, D.C. attorney Bernard (Bud) Fensterwald of a massive coronary on the night of April 2, 1991, would not seem overly unusual for a man 69 years of age, but for an unusual set of circumstances.

- * First: Bud was never known to have had heart trouble. Not overly unusual.
- * Second: He was on a trip to Texas and apparently caught the flu, sending him back to Washington several days ahead of his original schedule. Again, not overly unusual.

However, there was a third and most complex circumstance which could, if one were to be overly dramatic, demand that he die before April 11, 1991....For that was the day he was to fly to Florida with me to interview one of the suspected bag men (a person used to pay the fee for a certain deed) in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. The bag man, who is now 80 years old, is an ex-Air Force Colonel who had, during the 1950's and early 60's, worked as the military attache to one of our European embassies. He also served as their station chief for the Central Intelligence Agency. After retiring from the service he, and a counterpart, also a colonel, from another European embassy, set up a firm in Paris, France, reportedly as an import/export business. Its chief



BACKGROUND

By Douglas E. Sandhage
Publisher

Who assassinated John F. Kennedy, and why? The answers we will never know beyond a reasonable doubt. Today's historians still have plenty of questions about who killed Lincoln. However, Cincinnati based author and CIA contract agent Bob Morrow says he knows many of the answers to the Kennedy questions, and is lucky to be still alive to answer them? He says he needs to tell the story because the American people have the right to know, and because the more public he is; the less likelihood the "company" (the CIA) will take him out. Morrow has written two previous articles for EastSide Weekend. The first piece maintains that the CIA, in association with the Mafia and anti-Castro Cubans, conspired to have Kennedy assassinated. The second was a revelation by Morrow that the attorney general for the state of Texas agreed to look into new allegations that Kennedy was killed by several individuals, and not by Lee Harvey Oswald. Morrow also wrote that he was being closely watched by the CIA, since his first article appeared, and that he, personally, may have unwittingly purchased the guns used to kill Kennedy.

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product line, sources close to the clandestine agency told me, was intelligence and certain other unmentionable operations. The colonel's counterpart had a partner who just so happened to be the case officer of Yuri Nosenko, the infamous Russian defector who, in 1964, made overtures to our embassy in Geneva, Switzerland about Lee Harvey Oswald working for the Russians. The incident set the stage for the FBI/CIA combined cover-up operation that smokecreened both agency's participation in the sordid affair in Dallas... a story in itself of intrigue and conspiracy bordering on treason.

The colonel recently talked to one of Fensterwald's researchers and, after that conversation, the researcher said he was confident the colonel was finally ready to talk, and, hopefully, confirm his role in the Kennedy assassination. Thus Fensterwald and myself made the appointment to go see the colonel.

Fensterwald had been a long-time student of the assassinations of President Kennedy and Senator Robert Kennedy. He was an outspoken critic of the Warren Commission's conclusion that there had been no conspiracy in President Kennedy's death. He formed a private Committee to Investigate Assassinations and, at his death, he was president of the

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Assassination Archives and Research Center. The center is a privately funded non-profit organization in Washington that collects material on the King and Kennedy assassinations.

Fensterwald first came to know of the colonel's involvement as a bag man through a written affidavit obtained years ago by me through the then fiancée of the Colonel's son. The son told his fiancée, and he told me personally, that his father made a \$25,000 payoff to a man in Haiti for being one of the assassins in the JFK hit...a story incidentally confirmed by Hugh McDonald, himself a former agent

with the Office of Strategic Services, then CIA, who retired to go into police work. Among other things, McDonald was the inventor of the famous Identikit used by every major police force (to form composite sketches of possible crime suspects) in the world.

The fiancée, after hearing the story from the colonel's son, directly approached the Colonel in the fall of 1977 and, according to her, he had admitted being involved. After submitting this information in 1978 to Tiny Hutton, at the time Deputy Director of the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA), she was asked to tell her story to key members of the staff. Unfortunately the committee was winding down, and the information was suppressed...thanks to the director of the CIA, George Bush. Bush, in 1976, at the time the committee

was being formed by Representative Thomas Downing (D-VA), asked for my complete dossier in order to protect the agency from finally being involved in the assassination. Portions of that dossier held by the CIA on myself was obtained via the Freedom of Information Act by Bud Fensterwald's organization, The Assassination Archives and Research Center. The CIA, it appears, was concerned about me. It knew I was one of the only persons on the outside who knew the whole truth about the agency's involvement. If Bud Fensterwald could substantiate my information about how and why JFK was murdered, it could potentially break up the agency.

In fact, in 1977, the CIA broke into my office to obtain most of the information that I released to Representative Thomas Downing to support my credibility: a fact I would be able to confirm after seeing portions of it appear in the above mentioned Freedom of Information documents secured by Fensterwald. Fortunately, I hadn't gotten the information of the direct involvement of the CIA colonel in the assassination until after this break in occurred. If I had, I don't believe I would be walking the streets today. As it was, two attempts were made upon my life during that period. One of the episodes was described in my book on the RFK assassination, *The Senator Must Die*, for which I am negotiating to be re-published in paperback along with a revised version of *Betrayal*.

All information, therefore, remained dormant until an Assassination Archives researcher put the information about the two intelligence colonels (the one now living in Miami, and his former counterpart in France) together with my documentation to come to the conclusion that there was indeed an involvement by the CIA in the JFK assassination, and five years later, RFK's. To this end, I was asked by Bud Fensterwald to set up an appointment with the colonel in Miami, who had admitted making the statement to his son's fiancée. Incidentally, the fiancée spent several years in the White House Information Office during the Reagan/Bush administration. She currently resides in the Washington, D.C. area, according to a telephone conversation I had with Bud Fensterwald at the time he planned our trip to Florida.

The purpose of the trip was for Bud to confront the Colonel to verify first hand the admission he had made to his son's fiancée, cited in her affidavit on September 12, 1977. Bud and I had both been told by one of the Assassination Archives investigators that the ex-Colonel was possibly ready to clear his conscience. Bud, with his unimpeachable background, would be the perfect source to expose the truth once and for all that the U.S. intelligence community was not only involved in the actual murder, but was also responsible for the following cover-up.

Both the Warren Commission and the aborted Garrison investigation in New Orleans had been thwarted in acquiring or releasing any information that could even remotely point a finger at any CIA individual. To assure complete cooperation they made an uneasy alliance with the FBI who had a lot of its problems surrounding its misrepresentation made during the Warren Commission hearings.

Then, in 1977, Carl Albert, Speaker of the House, asked each member of the House Rules Committee, at the request of Rep. Downing, to read *Betrayal* before voting on whether to put the vote to form the House Select Committee on Assassinations to the floor of Congress. They did and the bill was submitted and passed by a large majority.

With this potential threat, the CIA knew it was up against a much more serious opponent than it ever had before. With the HSCA's existing posture, they (the CIA) could not control the investigation or, for that matter, even cover it up. Thirteen years earlier, the clandestine Agency had been able to control the Warren Commission. It was a much simpler job; they had several members beholden to them. Among them were Allen Dulles, a former CIA director, and Representative Gerald Ford (R) Michigan,

BACKGROUND

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Morrow called me late last month to say that he and Bernard Fensterwald, founder of the Assassination Archives and Research Center in Washington, D.C., had made arrangements to meet with a Florida man. The man, an 80-year old ex-Air Force Colonel, was, according to Morrow, going to confess that he was responsible for paying off Kennedy's assassins.

Morrow had previously talked to the colonel's son and fiancée, both of whom told Morrow of the colonel's involvement. But to get it confirmed from the colonel's own mouth, says Morrow, would be a very significant development, the "final proof."

Morrow said he would write another article for us upon his return from the interview.

Late last week, Morrow called to say that the story was taking a different turn. Fensterwald, at 89, had dropped dead of a heart attack.

We've all heard the stories about how nearly anyone with any knowledge about the Kennedy assassination met untimely deaths. Morrow says there have been more than 60 "significant" deaths in all.

At age 69, was Fensterwald's death untimely? No, not necessarily. But was the timing a bit unusual, just one week before he and Morrow were to get such incriminating evidence? Perhaps so.

Movie Director Oliver Stone is now in Dallas shooting his version of the JFK assassination.

But until somebody in Washington listens to Morrow, he says the truth will never be known.

who would be Richard Nixon's choice as a Vice President when Spiro Agnew was forced to resign among a flurry of corruption charges. Ford would keep suppressed the secret deals Nixon made with the CIA, when it became clear that the embattled president might have to resign over the Watergate affair. Ford kept the faith. He not only pardoned Nixon, but, and to make sure nothing would surface, he appointed George Bush as the CIA Director.

So it fell to George Bush to contain this new threat of exposure posed by the newly formed House Select Committee. I didn't take much. In-fighting was started, and the jockeying created by the committee members, seeking to enhance their own political power, began causing furor in the media. After several months of sensational headlines, resulting in the resignation of one chairman, a chief investigator and a chief counsel, Congress threatened to cut off all committee funding. At that point, the new Committee chairman appointed a new chief counsel, a man acceptable to the CIA, Robert Blakely. Blakely, unfamiliar with the involvement of the CIA in the JFK assassination, and not wishing to perpetrate the bad scene created by the media covering the committee, took a piece of bad advice. He instituted a personal "Non Disclosure Agreement," suggested

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OBITUARIES

Bernard Fensterwald, Lawyer For Watergate Burglar, Dies

By J.T. Smith

Bernard Fensterwald, 69, a lawyer who directed some highly publicized Senate investigations and was the Watergate burglar who took a House vote to the break in wire tapping, died of a heart attack April 23 at Alexandria Hospital.

Mr. Fensterwald, who was struck in his home in Alexandria, had been in the hospital since late 1988. He was a former partner in the firm of Fensterwald & Moore, which has offices in Virginia and Arlington.

The son of a prominent family in Brookline, Mr. Fensterwald often attracted controversy. It was suggested from time to time that he had worked for the CIA, and he had seemed to resist the use of a presser that had created. He would answer questions about it with vague statements about the effect that there was "no evidence" that he was connected to the agency.

In 1970, he took over the defense of James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., and handled the appointment of President John F. Kennedy.

A close student of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Mr. Fensterwald was an outspoken critic of the Warren Commission's conclusion that there had been no conspiracy in President Kennedy's death. He formed a private committee to investigate the assassination, and at his death he was president of the Assassination Archives and Research Center. The center is a privately funded nonprofit organization in Washington that collects material on the King and Kennedy assassinations.

From 1959 to 1968, Mr. Fensterwald held high rank with Senate subcommittee on constitutional amendments, national

and administrative procedure and procedure. He directed investigations of racketeering, the drug industry and family of allegedly illegal wiretapping of James R. Hoffa, the president of the Teamsters union.

Despite aggressive examination by Mr. Fensterwald, the Hoffa probe failed to prove wiretapping had been used illegally. But it led to new laws restricting electronic surveillance.

It also helped end the political career of Sen. Edward V. Long (D-Miss.), who chaired the committee in which Mr. Fensterwald worked. It was revealed that the senator had sold legal fees with one of Hoffa's lawyers, and he failed in his bid for reelection in 1968.

In 1972, Mr. Fensterwald took on the defense of James Earl Ray, the former secretary chief of President Nixon's 1971 reelection campaign and one of the few persons arrested in the burglary at the Watergate office building in June of that year.

Having been convicted of the break-in, Mr. Fensterwald was a former letter in U.S. District Judge John S. Lewis in which he told how White House and campaign officials had advance notice of the burglary and then tried to cover up their roles in it. The letter gave new impetus to claims to find high-level officials responsible for it and eventually led to Nixon's resignation.

Mr. Fensterwald was a graduate of Harvard University and its law school and received a master's degree in international law from the School of Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University. He served in the Navy in the South Pacific in World War II.

He was in Washington briefly after the war and moved here permanently in 1950, where he was named assistant in the legal advice at the State Department. In 1956,

he joined to work for Sen. Louis Kefauver (D-Tenn.) in his campaign as the Democratic nominee for vice president.

In addition to his law practice, Mr. Fensterwald was the founder and president of U-Stroke Inc. and Records Management Inc., which are private warehouse and record storage companies in the Washington area.

He was a member of the Alexandria Y and helped found its 75th Anniversary. He was a member of the Historic Alexandria Resource Commission and the Army Navy Country Club.

His marriage to Elizabeth Fensterwald ended in divorce. Survivors include his wife, Patricia, his first marriage; Bernard Fensterwald III of Fairfax; three stepchildren, Patrick Marlette of Sacramento, Calif., David Marlette of Falls Church and Margaret Alice Cas of Tucson, Tucson; a sister, Ann; five nieces; and six grandchildren.

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and drafted by someone who had proprietary interest in the clandestine agency. This agreement was to be signed by all members of the committee, all consultants, and all independent researchers. Signing it was a condition for employment on the committee staff or for consulting on a contract basis.

As a result, Bush, as director of the CIA, was given carte blanc the authority to determine what information should remain classified or unavailable to nearly everyone. In effect, the signer, including congressional members, had to agree not to reveal or discuss any information that the CIA decided should not be discussed. At that point, the CIA controlled the HSCA. When Tiny Hutton, the HSCA Deputy Director, gave it to me for my signature, I blinched. If I was unable to disclose my research in areas covered by the committee, I would not be able to publish. I declined, but as described earlier, still provided pertinent information to Tiny to pass on.

So, 14 years later, when one of the only living men who had been a direct company member, might possibly break under the intense questioning proposed by Bud Fensterwald, it had to have sent up a red flag in the clandestine agency. The interview had to be stopped. Terminating me would be counterproductive, since my demise would bring too much attention to my two books on the subject. The obvious solution would be to have Bud Fensterwald pass away before he could confront the Colonel. Why not terminate the Colonel? Simple. The Colonel's death would be unthinkable to the Company. The mentality of the intelligence community is to protect its own... particularly from such a confrontation. That left Bud. No one but myself and a few close associates from the Assassination Archives knew of the trip. His death by heart attack would not be questioned.

About Bob Morrow



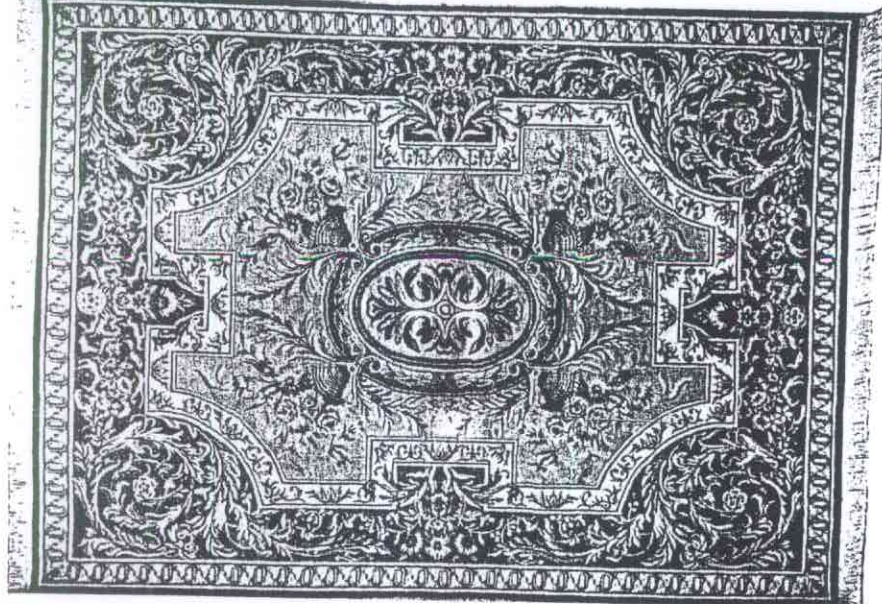
Robert Morrow is the author of *Betrayal*, a book detailing his conspiracy theory behind the assassination of John F. Kennedy, and *The Senator Must Die*, a similar look into the assassination of Robert Kennedy. Both titles are available at the Public Library.

Morrow claims he was a contract agent for the CIA at the time of Kennedy's assassination, working on a plan for the U.S. invasion of Cuba. The botched invasion, Morrow says, led to Kennedy's fall from grace with the intelligence community and the Mafia. They had no choice but to carry out the assassination of the president.

Morrow has followed the Kennedy assassination trail since his departure from the CIA. He says he knows all and will take a lie-detector test on anything he states as fact. He maintains that he must remain in the public eye or else he will be killed by the "company," the CIA.

Today he owns and manages a professional employment service in Blue Ash.

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