FEATURES • THE ARTS • TELEVISION

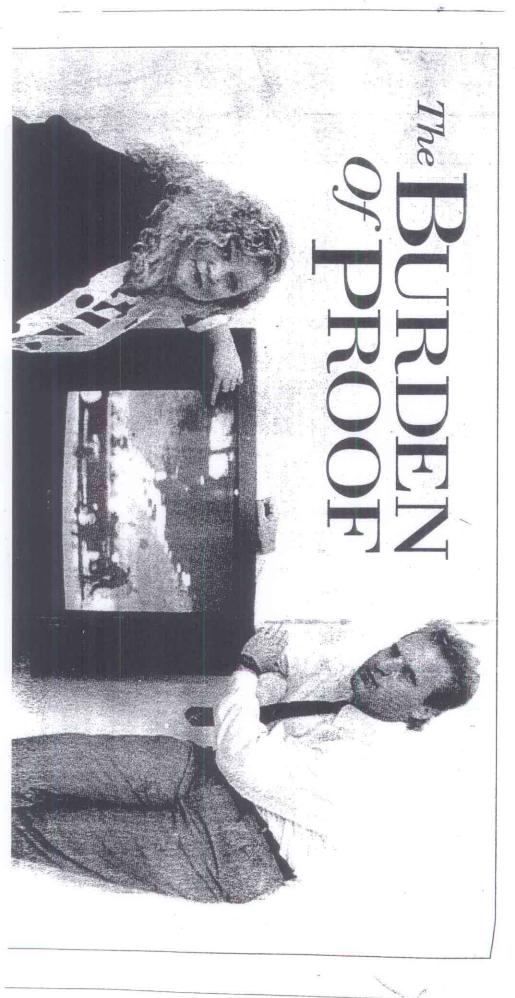
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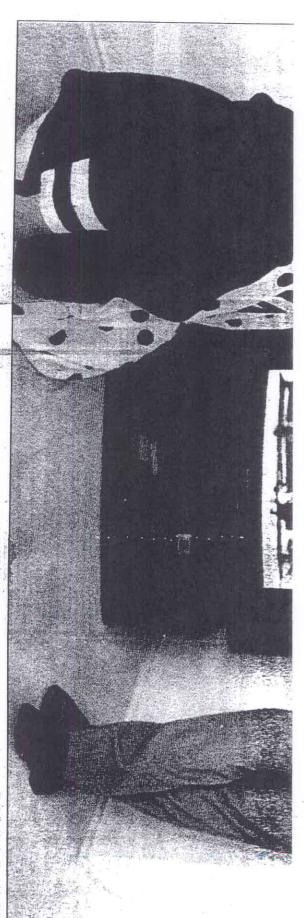
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01991, The Dallas Morning News

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Section C





Gayle Nix Jackson and brother David Nix show a tape copy of film taken by their grandfather during the Kennedy assassination. The Dallas Morning News: John F. Rhodes

Now, 28-years later, his granddaughter Orville Nix filmed what he hought was a second gunman at the JFK assassination.

By Kathy Jackson Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

what was happening behind Mr. Zapruder pictures of the fatal shots, it couldn't catch in Dealey Plaza. But while his 8-millimeter assassination of President John F. Kennedy camera was recording history with color Abraham Zapruder captured on film the

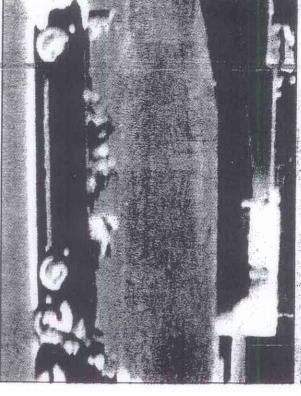
second — and possibly a third — gunman. street from Mr. Zapruder, Mr. Nix filmed what some experts now believe may be a

The only thing is, it's missing.

Standing on the opposite side of the Orville Nix did that.

author of two books on the assassination, says that he can bring those assassins out of the shadows if he has the original film. Robert Groden, a photo analyzer and co-

ups and lies cloud the film's whereabouts. box, a one-sentence contract, an old man's The story involves a missing safety deposit Whispers of betrayal, conspiracy, cover



assassination. The original film is missing A still photo taken from a copy of Orville Nix's film of the

naivete and his granddaughter's determi-

turned to the Nix family. says, that the film eventually would be re-UPI Newsfilm, had a verbal agreement, she Burt Reinhardt, then-managing editor of days after the assassination. Mr. Nix and to United Press International for \$5,000 four grandfather's original film, which he sold has been fighting to reclaim her dead For seven months, Gayle Nix Jackson

made. "We were a couple of country hicks with his father when the agreement was ball deals," says Orville Nix Jr., who was in the Big Apple." "We were used to handshakes and eye-

den says he'll put the original film on a Please see ORVILLE on Page 2C. photos of the shooting for the U.S. House Se give it to Mr. Groden, who has enhanced lect Committee on Assassinations, Mr. Gro-Mrs. Jackson wants the film so she can

Orville Nix's granddaughter isn't giving up

Continued from Page 1C.

brings out what the darkness chine that eliminates shadows and "Rack Cintel," a film-duplicating ma-

JFK: Case for Conspiracy and High Pennsylvania and is co-author of do it," says Mr. Groden, who is from prove he (Lee Harvey Oswald) didn't most important pieces of evidence to "The Nix film may be one of the

prints that it will prove the existence of at least one other gunman — and sic level," he says. from what I know of first-generation has a great deal more value. I know tire sequence closer. But the Nix film that proves conspiracy at its most ba-"The Zapruder film shows the en

often relying on her brother and sisphones London, New York, Washing ing business going. ter to keep the family's tax-consult ton — wherever the clues lead her – Every day, Mrs. Jackson tele

and I don't know anything. I'll show really been given a hard time. They she says. "This has been a battle. I've me when I'm doing Kennedy stuff," think I'm this dumb Texas woman "They're the ones who cover for

agreement was that UPI could have received letters saying the original the film for 28 years turn the film in 1988, 25 years after Mrs. Jackson first asked UPI to reassassination. She says she

So she waited three more years.

called UPI in New York and asked they can't find it. though, all the people she talks to say that the film be returned. In January, Mrs. Jackson again Now

president for corporate affairs at UPI selves," says Milt Capps, senior vice has dealt with in recent years. A lot "It is not something that anyone here "We have no pursuable leads our

shows the entire sequence "The Zapruder film value. has a great deal more closer. But the Nix film

Robert Groden, photo analyzer

Texas Gov. John Connally.

camera rolling, aware that he was recording history - and possibly the what was happening. He kept his Elm Street. Mr. Nix quickly realized dentity of an assassin. Then the limousine turned onto

grandfather. "He said, 'I was right grew up hearing the tale from herand he just kept (the camera) runhim is dive-bombing into the ground knoll)," says Mrs. Jackson, 33, who gunman over there (on the grassy there. I know it.' Everybody around "He told us there was another

fired from. He told his golfing budwhere he thought the shots had been vestigation. friend at the Federal Bureau of Indies, and he told Forrest Sorrels, a At first, Mr. Nix told everyone

Jackson says "He was just beside himself," Mrs

film. lab employees developed Mr. Nix's an autopsy on the president, photo middle of the night, as doctors at town developing company. In the Bethesda Naval Hospital performed Mr. Nix rushed his film to a down

him and telling him to come right Then they telephoned, waking

away. FBI the next day," Mrs. Jackson says. "They kept it for four days, along "He turned the film over to the

> the brief contract typed by Mr. tions, though, were not included in Reinhardt.

they closed the deal. The Nixes returned home the day

blood," says Mrs. Jackson. and that was too expensive for their "The hamburgers there cost \$1,

and film makers heard of Mr. Nix said happened must have happened and telephoned him or traveled to grassy knoll. But he was always quick had fired at the president from the his Dallas home. He told them what to add that whatever the government he believed to be the truth: Someone Through the years, researchers

scared of the government," says Mrs "He was of the old school. He was

Oswald acted alone. And there were mission announced that Lee Harvey mysteriously. tales of assassination witnesses dying Years passed. The Warren Com

But he was scared to say anything about it. No one wanted to think the Mrs. Jackson. "And I said, "Paw-Paw "He started saying, 'I really don't want to talk about it,' " remembers him. He worked for the government government was lying — especially nothing's going to happen to you at General Services.

didn't talk to anybody about the sassination at all. Not at all." "Toward the end of his life,

which bought the news film section UPI and Worldwide Television News, stuffed with letters from the Na-Lancaster, Mrs. Jackson has a folder tional Archives in Washington, D.C. her desk at Orville Nix Co. in

Mr. Reinhardt that the film was locked in a safety deposit box after it Mrs. Jackson says she was told by

theless continues her telephone camend," says Mrs. Jackson, who neverpaign. "I can't believe a piece of his-

tory like this could just be lost." perative that the original be used to exist. But Mr. Groden says it's imanalyze the grassy knoll scenes. Several copies of the home movie

is a degree of loss in clarity," he says. "When you duplicate a film, there Through more than 25 years of

Please see NIX on Page 6C.



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often relying on her brother and sisphones London, New York, Washinging business going. ter to keep the family's tax-consult ton — wherever the clues lead her — Every day, Mrs. Jackson tele-

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tney can't find it. though, all the people she talks to say that the film be returned. Now called UPI in New York and asked In January, Mrs. Jackson again

of the details are lost in the past. . . . This is part of UPI's history, not its has dealt with in recent years. A lot "It is not something that anyone here president for corporate affairs at UPI selves," says Milt Capps, senior vice "We have no pursuable leads our-

was finishing an all-night shift at the air-conditioning system downtown, where he worked on the wishers at Love Field airport, Mr. Nix Mrs. Kennedy shook hands with well-On Nov. 22, 1963, as President and Services Administration

eagerly for the president's motorhis new Keystone Auto Zoom 8-mil-Main and Houston Streets and waited limeter movie camera, he walked to hat that he always wore and carrying Dressed in the Frank Sinatra-style

captured Mrs. Kennedy's pink Chanel and his camera were ready. The film turned onto Houston Street, Mr. Nix suit and the president talking to When the presidential Lincoln

identity of an assassin.

ning." and he just kept (the camera) runhim is dive-bombing into the ground grandfather. "He said, 'I was right grew up hearing the tale from hergunman over there (on the grassy knoll)," says Mrs. Jackson, 33, who there. I know it.' Everybody around "He told us there was another

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fore a bullet strikes the president's coming from the grassy knoll just be pointing out three flashes of light Nix showed the film to FBI agents According to Mrs. Jackson, Mr

the equipment, it was broken. see his camera again for eight cial ever called Mr. Nix - not even months. And when the FBI returned Yet, she says, no government offi Warren Commission. He didn'

one know his identity. Those stipula two conditions: that they eventually sassination, and he and his son flew return it to his family, and that no the film, his granddaughter says, on to New York City to meet with Mr movie to UPI the week after the as Reinhardt, Mr. Nix sold the rights to Mr. Nix decided to sell his home

Jackson.

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per month

which bought the news film section UPI and Worldwide Television News, stuffed with letters from the Na-Lancaster, Mrs. Jackson has a folder tional Archives in Washington, D.C., In her desk at Orville Nix Co. in

locked in a safety deposit box after it had the key, "although I was aware of treasurer. In Mrs. Jackson's file is a to Alexander P. Bock, UPI's retired its existence." letter from Mr. Bock saying he never mission and the key was turned over was examined by the Warren Com-Mr. Reinhardt that the film was Mrs. Jackson says she was told by

building in Manhattan. The building was kept in the Clinton Union Trust was demolished about 10 years ago told her that the safety/deposit box UPI officials, Mrs. Jackson says

Some of the bigshots might have got turned over to the leadership at UPI," must have it. "The griginal was doesn't want to be identified says UPI Television News should have the film in its files; a WTN employee who he says, "It wasn't turned over to us UPI's Milt Capps says Worldwide

"Basically, right now I'm at a dead

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Clear, light wt., single vision lenses

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sassination at all. Not at all." "Toward the end of his life,

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Managing Editor UPI Newsfilm

A simple contract was typed up by UPI Newsfilm managing editor Burt Reinhardt for the purchase of Orville Nix's film of the assassination.

Nix came to fear talking about his film

Continued from Page 2C.

work, Mr. Groden says he has determined that the man many people including himself - believed to be Lee Harvey Oswald standing in the doorway of the School Book Depository during the assassination was, in fact, Mr. Oswald's co-worker, Billy Lovelady. He also determined by analyzing films that Mrs. Kennedy picked up a piece of her husband's head when she climbed onto the trunk of the limousine.

film in slow motion, he came to be- though other films and photos taken

The state of the s

may well be gunfire. Mr. Groden says tive. there are two men standing in the shadows about 15 to 20 feet apart. And one seems to be in a military

Groden says, he might be able to make out more.

Mark A. Oakes, an assassination researcher in St. Louis, Mo., says the After watching a copy of the Nix original film could be invaluable. Al-

lieve that the first and third flashes that day indicate that someone was of light on the grassy knoll are standing on the grassy knoll, he says merely shadows. But the second one the Nix film could be more defini-

-54", - - - -

"I've seen parts of that film, and I think it would be excellent," he says. "If anyone can do it, Groden can."

Mrs. Jackson says she is not seek-If he had the original film, Mr. ing the original film for fame or money. She simply wants her grandfather, who quit school in the fourth grade and picked cotton to help support his family, to have the place in history she feels he deserves.

"I know this might sound real corny, but God put him down there for a purpose - I really do believe that," she says.

"My hope is that this film will hold the answers. If this film shows what happened, what a tribute it would be to my grandfather."