

Biography
Willem Oltmans

On the receipt of his honorary degree from Yale in 1962, President Kennedy quipped that now he had the best of both worlds --- "A Harvard education and a Yale degree." Willem Oltmans has added a new dimension to that quip with his Yale education (political science, 1950) and the degree of his worldwide experience.

Willem Oltmans has been an investigative journalist for over twenty-five years. In that time, this well-known and respected author, reporter, and television commentator has become a close contact from the fifth estate for such lobbyist organizations and world leaders as: "The Club of Rome," "The World Wildlife Fund," Mrs. Indira Gandhi, President Sukarno of Indonesia, Patrice Lumumba, and Nikita Khrushchev. He has also interviewed literally hundreds of international leaders, economists, environmentalists, population specialists, educators, sociologists, and statesmen, including: U Thant, Margaret Mead, Arnold J. Toynbee, B.F. Skinner, President Luis Echeverria Alvarez of Mexico, and Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka of Japan, among others.

Oltmans is the author of several books, including: On Growth I (G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1974), which treats the crisis of exploding population and resource depletion in a unique series of seventy interviews with renowned specialists. Oltmans' On Growth II (G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1975) continues the discussion of accelerating population with a series of forty-nine probing interviews.

Oltmans is also the author of USSR In 1990 (Bruna, Amsterdam, 1976) in which he presents an objective European's view of the first Marxist-Leninist social laboratory in the world. Oltmans compiled the background for this work on fourteen extensive tours of the USSR from 1971 - 1976.

Oltmans has recently been invited by ABC television to travel to Kiev and prepare material for a documentary film on old age (gerontology) in the USSR. He is also preparing an extensive work with Professor Jerman M. Gvishiani, the son-in-law of Prime Minister Aleksei N. Kosygin, to be published in the U.S. later this year.

In the last sixteen months, Oltmans has received much attention in the U.S., as well as in Europe, for his startling disclosures about two newly discovered important links to the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Oltmans is the first investigator, since the Warren Commission findings, to pursue Count George De Mohrenschildt. Since March of 1977, Oltmans has released several major stories connecting De Mohrenschildt, a one-time close friend of Oswald, to the Dallas assassins and their Washington commanders.

Oltmans has recently exposed a new witness, General Donald A. Donaldson, who Oltmans believes knows the true identity of the man who ordered Kennedy's assassination.

Oltmans has been following the Kennedy assassination since 1964, and is considered to be an internationally respected specialist and expert on the Kennedy assassination.

For further information on Mr. Oltmans, see attached AP story.

-This AP story has been retyped exactly as it appeared on the wire. It has been retyped so that it could be reprinted clearly. This release has not been edited in any way.

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oltmans (w551) (ny only)
amsterdam (ap) - dutch journalist willem oltmans claims to have spent more than a decade probing the assassination of president john f. kennedy.

the amsterdam freelance said in a story published recently in the dutch magazine "'nieuwe revu'" that he became interested in the case after a chance meeting in the united states with the mother of lee harvey oswald, the key suspect in the kennedy killing.

oltmans, in his forties, is described by the dutch reporters who know him well as being a man who explores angles which sometimes get missed in the rush of news. they say he traveled widely and has some good contacts.

the dutch journalist is known to have been a close friend of george de mohrenschildt, a dallas professor and acquaintance of oswald who apparently killed himself in palm beach, florida, on wednesday after learning he would be called before the u.s. house assassination committee. in the "'nieuwe revu'" story, oltmans claimed de mohrenschildt told him that he felt responsible for oswald's actions. however, there was no elaboration on this.

oltmans, a prominent figure in dutch news circles for more than 15 years, has worked on a freelance basis for television networks as well as for major newspapers and magazines in the netherlands.

(more)

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amsterdam -- oltmans 2 (ny only)

in the nieuwe revu story, oltmans said he interviewed de mohrenschildt in dallas in february and the russian-born professor told him he wanted to tell what he knew about the kennedy assassination.

oltmans quoted de mohrenschildt as saying he didn't want to talk in the united states "'because for a number of reasons i don't feel safe here any longer.'" oltmans accompanied de mohrenschildt to amsterdam but he later disappeared during a trip to brussels.

asked by oltmans why he felt responsible for oswald's actions, de mohrenschildt was quoted as replying:

"'just read the warren report. the moment news reached port-au-prince, the capital of haiti, that john f. kennedy had been shot, i knew with absolute certainty that oswald had done it. i told this to the commission, which was chaired by gerald ford when i gave evidence. they read around this. nobody asked me why i was so certain.'"

the story did not elaborate.

oltmans has written a book on ex-president sukarno of indonesia - with whom he was a personal friend - and published articles on indonesian affairs. he has also written investigative stories on the dutch royal family and soviet affairs.

a dutch television source who knows oltmans well said he has "'excellent'" connections and that he sometimes uncovers "'useful'" material. (end)

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