

Crossfire

September 3, 1993

Transcript # 913

"CROSSFIRE" (CNN)

Sept. 3, 1993

TYPE: Show; Interview

SECTION: News; Domestic

LENGTH: 4393 words

BODY:

ANNOUNCER: Live from Washington, Crossfire. On the left, Mike Kinsley. On the right, John Sununu. Tonight, The Kennedy Case. In the crossfire, Gerald Posner, author of Case Closed; and pathologist Cyril Wecht, Professor at the
CNN Transcripts, September 3, 1993

University of Pittsburgh.

MIKE KINSLEY: Good evening. Welcome to Crossfire. It's 30 years since President John F. Kennedy was shot and killed by someone in Dallas, Texas. Suspects over the years have included the mob, the CIA, the FBI, the KGB, LBJ, or in moviemaker Oliver Stone's operatic scenario, nearly all of them. Now comes a new book to bring the argument full circle. Case Closed, by our guest Gerald Posner, argues that the killer was none other than Lee Harvey Oswald acting alone, no conspiracy, just as the Warren Commission said years ago. Posner's most important new evidence is a computerized enhancement of the famous Zapruder film. It confirms, or so he says, the so-called single bullet theory, that one bullet shot from the School Book Depository hit both Kennedy and John Connally, but is the case closed? The government just released 800,000 pages of previously secret documents about the Kennedy assassination, but the CIA withheld some 160,000 pages more. Fortunately for viewers of Crossfire, we're going to settle this thing once and for all right here. John?

JOHN SUNUNU: Gerald Posner, before we give you a chance to lay out how you come to your conclusions, let me ask you. Don't you feel unfashionably out of step writing a book that supports the Warren Commission? Conventional wisdom has it that you've got to have a complicated conspiracy theory to sell a JFK book.

CNN Transcripts, September 3, 1993

GERALD POSNER, Author, 'Case Closed': You're absolutely right, John. As a matter of fact, I remember when I went back to Random House and I said, after about a year and a half of doing this, I think that you can draw definite conclusions in this book, and they said, 'Yes, and the answer is?' And I said, the answer is, Oswald alone, and there was this moment, where I could tell from my publisher, they weren't quite sure that they were happy that I'd gone off and done this work and come back with this answer. Once they realized it wasn't a rehash of the Warren Commission, that I disagreed with the commission, and there was new evidence, then they finally got enthusiastic when they saw the manuscript, but you're right. It is out of step. I can't believe 30 years later this is the most controversial position.

SUNUNU: All right, tell us quickly, but tell us exactly what the most important steps and the conclusions you drew were.