

NATIONAL
EXAMINER

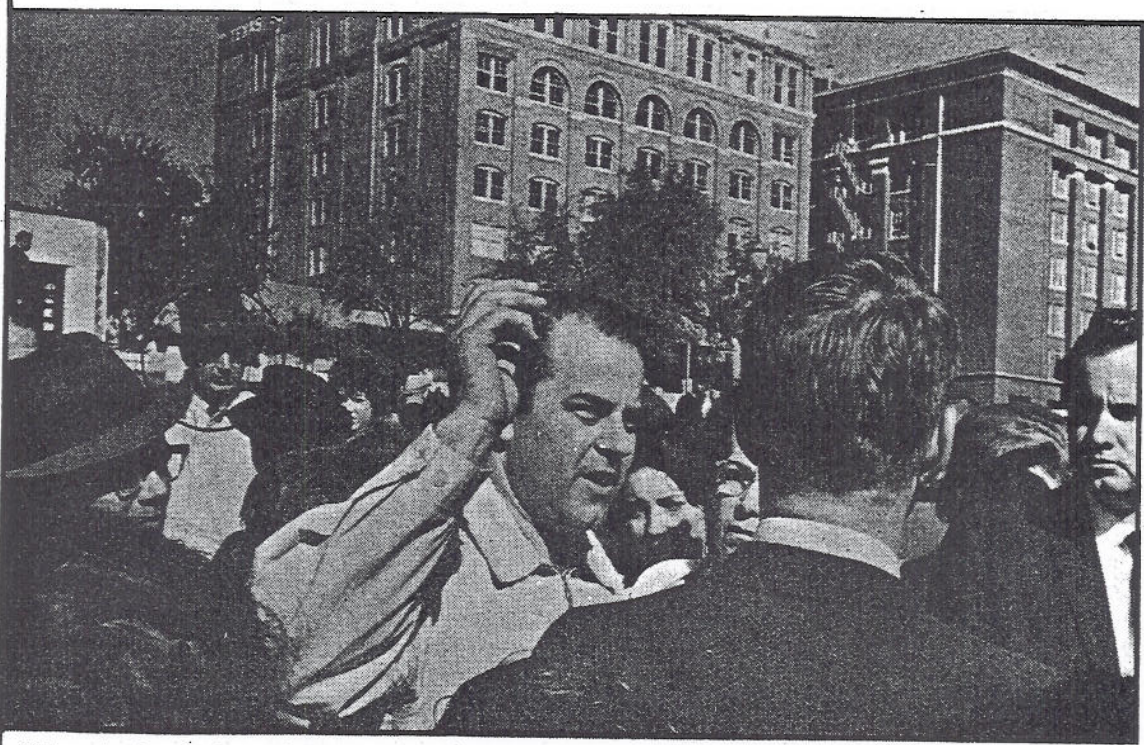
Takes a Close Look at



SPECIAL REPORT BY
DICK METZGAR

**MAFIA
AND CIA
LINKED
IN JFK
MURDER**

*June 9,
1975*



This photo, taken minutes after Kennedy's murder, shows Eugene Brading (circled) as an onlooker



JOHN KENNEDY... is his killer still alive?

Before Castro gained control of the Cuban Government, the country had been a lucrative bonanza for the Mafia... So they had every reason to put Castro out of business... It must have been another blow to underworld bigwigs when JFK turned down all suggestions to assassinate Castro... It could have made him the number-one target on their own hit list!

Did the Mafia and CIA conspire in the assassination of John F. Kennedy in 1963?

And did the ill-fated president seal his own doom with a decision he had made several months before?

New evidence now appears to support the credibility of this astounding theory concerning JFK's murder in Dallas.

Members of America's top-secret spy organization and known triggermen for the Mafia were reportedly observed on the scene when the fatal shooting took place.

Several CIA agents and at least one member of the Mafia were allegedly taken into custody shortly after the shooting ceased, but were quickly released by Dallas police.

It has never been ascertained just why they happened to be at that particular spot when JFK was brutally cut down.

Few experts believe that Lee Harvey Oswald could have fired all the shots which poured into the president's open convertible.

Many are now convinced that he was simply a patsy who was set up to take the blame for a carefully planned execution. They believe he was telling the truth when he insisted that he was not involved with the assassination.

The popular theory now is that Oswald himself was eliminated to keep his lips sealed.

His killer, nightclub operator Jack Ruby, was known to have close associates among underworld figures.

Witnesses claim photographs prove that former CIA agents E. Howard Hunt, convicted Watergater, and Frank Sturgis were present when JFK was slain.

Also identified in a photo of those nearby the presidential motorcade was a parolee with a criminal record as long as your arm.



An enlarged picture of Brading from the photo at left

Eugene Hale Brading, with a record dating back to 1934, was allegedly an associate of James (The Weasel) Frattiano, a well-known Mafia figure linked of gangland killings, who was then of the "Smaldones Family" of Denver.

In 1963, Brading was living in Los Angeles — on parole at the time. He claimed to be an oil prospector and obtained permission from his parole officer to visit Dalls on a business trip.

He was scheduled to be in Dallas only for the day of Nov. 21, according to records. He was supposed to be in Houston on Nov. 22, the day JFK was shot.

Why did he stay on in Dallas? It is known he did visit the offices of a huge oil company on Nov. 21. It was later admitted by Jack Ruby that he visited those offices on the same day.

Did they know each other, and did they meet by a pre-arranged plan? And did they speak of the assassination which was to take place the following day?

Ruby told the Warren Commission that he visited the Hunt Oil Company offices on Nov. 21 to get a job for an attractive coded named Connie Trammel.

The Commission did not connect Ruby's visit with Brading, although the exconvict had given a phony name and story when questioned by the

FBI just after the shooting.

This coincidence did not come to light until years later through the efforts of concerned private citizens, headed by Dallas pharmaceutical salesman Al Chapman.

It is now learned that JFK may have incurred the wrath of the CIA and underworld figures because of the touchy Cuban situation at the time.

The young president, allegedly, discussed the possible assassination of Cuban Premier Fidel Castro with a close friend, Sen. George A. Smathers of Florida in 1961 and 1962. He absolutely refused to consider the suggestion, although it has now been learned that the CIA had been linked with assassination attempts throughout the Caribbean for years.

The conversations between JFK and Smathers are allegedly contained in the oral history archives of the Kennedy library.

"As I recollect," Smathers began, "he (Kennedy) was throwing out a great barrage of questions — he was certain that it could be accomplished . . .

"The question was whether or not it would accomplish that which he wanted it to do — whether or not the reaction throughout South America would be good or bad . . . And how would the American people react, would the people be gratified?"



**OSWALD... few believe
he was the killer**

It has been reasonably established that both CIA operators and Mafia henchmen were present during the murder of JFK... There is cause to believe that they knew each other — and were considered to be experts in the art of assassination... Were they involved in the events of that tragic day in history? If not, it has to be an amazing coincidence!



**AL CHAPMAN headed
citizen investigation
into murder**

JFK apparently decided that such an act would only bring world opinion down heavily onto the U.S., and refused to discuss the project any further, according to Smathers.

"I remember," Smathers recalled, "he took his fork and hit his plate and it cracked and he said: 'No, dammit, I wish you wouldn't do that! Let's quit talking about this subject!'"

The late president's brother, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, was said to have become incensed at a later newspaper column accusing him of plotting Castro's death.

"Far from approving any plot to assassinate Premier Castro," RFK reportedly told close aides, "I found out that some people were going to try an attempt on Castro's life — and I turned it off!"

There can be no doubt that the CIA was heavily involved in attempts to overturn Castro's regime in Cuba. The disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion in April of 1961 was proof enough of that. It was a CIA-instigated military operation.

The world-wide repercussions from that terrible failure undoubtedly turned off the president concerning any further such clandestine projects.

The people RFK was referring to are believed to have included Chicago gangster Sam Giancana, who was known to be on the payroll of the CIA.

The Mafia had plenty of motivation to want to see Castro out of power and dead.

Before Castro gained control of the Cuban government, the country had been a lucrative financial bonanza for the Mafia and organized crime.

The bearded dictator ended all of organized crime's endeavors in Cuba and the tremendous financial shock must have jarred the backbones of Mafia "Families" throughout the U.S.

Oh yes, the Mafia had every reason to want to put Castro out of business! It must have been another blow to underworld bigwigs when JFK turned down all suggestions to assassinate...

Castro. It could have made him the number-one target on their own hit list.

The Cuban conspiracy was not the first time America's superspy organization used the Mafia for help in an overseas operation.

The Mafia's involvement goes all the way back to World War Two when the OSS (Office of Strategic Services) went to Charles (Lucky) Luciano for help when the U.S. was attempting to establish clandestine operations in Sicily and Italy.

Luciano became all-powerful in organized crime in the U.S. and is credited with creating the notorious "Murder, Incorporated." He was allegedly involved in countless gangland executions, as well as narcotics, prostitution, gambling, the protection racket, etc.

He was probably destined to spend the rest of his life in a U.S. prison, when General William (Wild Bill) Donovan, head of the OSS, and his aides suddenly realized that Luciano

could help them in their Italian undercover operations.

So a deal was made with the notorious criminal.

He was to give the OSS a list of Mafia contacts in Sicily and Italy who would agree to work hand-in-hand with the OSS agents. The OSS was particularly interested in those Mafia members who were experts in the art of assassination.

Reportedly, Luciano was able to recruit a large number of expert Mafia killers for the OSS. High German officials and local Nazi collaborators are listed among their victims.

The OSS and the U.S. Government lived up to their bargains with Luciano.

Instead of spending the rest of his life in prison — or worse — he was deported to his native Sicily.

So the CIA's contact with underworld hitmen might have been blossoming for almost 20 years before the Dallas assassination.

The ex-con Brading, picked up after the JFK murder, gave

the FBI questioners a phony name, Jim Braden, and produced a valid driver's license to that effect.

It was not until later during Chapman's investigations that Braden and the convicted felon Brading were discovered to be one and the same.

Supposedly, according to reliable witnesses, he arrived in Dallas just before the assassination in the company of three well-known Mafia triggermen.

He had not informed his parole officer in Los Angeles of this association because it was in direct violation of his parole.

So now it has been reasonably established that both CIA operators and Mafia henchmen were present during the murder of JFK.

There is cause to believe that they knew each other.

Were they involved in the events of that tragic day in history?

If they were not, their presence at that spot at the very same time has to be one of the most amazing coincidences of all time!



The assassination scene: new evidence brings up the possibility of a Mafia-CIA conspiracy