

Letters to the Chronicles

Martin Shackelford Responds to comments on the Zapruder Film:

In his letter to the editor, James Fetzer refers to my "off-handed rejection" of work by Noel Twyman and David Mantik. He knows better than that. He is well aware that I have attended presentations by both researchers on the very points I discussed, and found them unconvincing. He admits this later in his letter. I don't need Mr. Fetzer to tell me what should be convincing. I have never doubted that Twyman and Mantik have invested considerable time and money into their research. It is their conclusions, not their efforts, that I questioned.

As he is well aware, I have spent considerable time in e-mail discussions going into detail on the evidence and reasons for my criticisms. Because these were not contained in a letter to the editor, Mr. Fetzer finds it convenient to ignore them, and accuse me of "cheap shots" and "shoddy research."

Mr. Fetzer writes that I was "allowed to participate" in the Zapruder sessions at Lancer. In fact, I was invited to attend them.

Mr. Fetzer continues to speak as if accumulation is sufficient to prove Zapruder alteration, though the specifics accumulated are in themselves too weak to do so. He wants us to accept citing his own work, that his is the "best explanation" of the available information.

He continues to refer to "the white blob," which was explained shortly after the Lancer conference, and which has been abandoned by most of its other proponents. He acts as though it has been proven, rather than simply argued, that Greer turned his head "unnaturally fast," that the limousine came to a full stop, that a Connally action occurred which isn't in the film, and that there were "peculiar changes in the visual field." Mr. Fetzer believes these things without real proof, and he doesn't understand why the rest of us don't do the same. He has re-defined "proof" for us: isn't that enough?

He continues to cite his own statements at the seminar as evidence, but they are less convincing now than they were at the time.

He reports the testimony of Roy Truly, describing something which happened before the Elm street limousine sequence begins in the Zapruder film, and seems to think its absence is proof of alteration. Three other films show that part of the event, and don't show exactly what Mr. Truly reported. Perhaps Mr. Truly is being misinterpreted to support the alteration thesis—or does Mr. Fetzer

argue that the Hughes, Martin and Paschall films were also altered to conceal something?

Mr. Fetzer proves himself quite good at cheap shots when he refers to reliance on the photographic evidence as "the Warren Commission's position." In the research community, it has long been regarded as "the responsible position," by many of us who reject the Warren Commission. Court rules don't help much here, however many Mr. Fetzer cites, as the photographic evidence is being used to clarify situations where the eyewitnesses contradict each other. He poses the situation as one in which the eyewitnesses report one thing, and the photographic evidence shows something else, which I consider to be a dishonest presentation of the matter.

In point of fact, the Warren Commission took shaky eyewitnesses like Howard Brennan and Helen Markham seriously, while *ignoring* most of the photographic evidence.

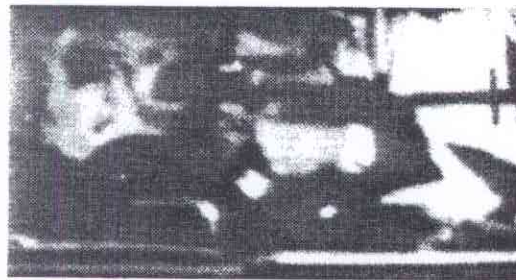
Mr. Fetzer assumes that those who disagree with him are relying solely on a set of Zapruder frames at the National Archives, while in fact I and others have consulted at least three separate complete frame sets, only one of them being at the Archives. In this matter, Mr. Fetzer has absolutely no idea what he is talking about. From my prior writings, it should have been apparent that I was consulting multiple sources, but he apparently is more interested in criticizing my "shoddy research" than in reading it.

Finally, his latest "revelation" is indicative of his entire approach to evidence. The feature he describes in the Weisberg



1.

Here is a blowup from a photographic copy made in the 70s. It doesn't show a "bullet hole." Photo prints contain various artifacts. Weisberg's apparently had a black spot by JFK's head. This one has a black spot on his wrist.



2.

If something appears in multiple-source copies, then it is likely a real feature, but if it only appears in Weisberg's copy, or anyone's sole copy, it is more likely an anomaly. There are plenty of 1963 copies of the photo to compare them to, anyway. The photo above is from the AP book The Torch Is Passed which was published in high-resolution in early 1964. Note there is no artifact.

copies of the Altgens photo is present in the Groden copy he mentions. There is no significant difference between the copies of the photographs, except that the one in Groden's book is larger and clearer, which may be what confused Mr. Fetzer, who seems to be arguing that Mr. Groden (one of Zapruder alteration's sharpest critics) has published Government-fabricated evidence. This is apparently an example of: if you can't prove your case, attack your critic.

I am looking forward to seeing if the evidence lacking in Mr. Fetzer's article and letter will finally surface in Assassination Science, or in Bloody Treason, but I am not holding my breath.

Martin Shackelford

A Reader Comments On Research

I wish to make a comment regarding Square Peg For A Round Hole by Officer J. W. Hughes. I find this to be excellent research but faulty in one regard. Hughes moves beyond the scope of his investigation and speculates about Lee Harvey Oswald's involvement in the conspiracy. The evidence implies that Oswald may have been involved as an undercover intelligence agent who infiltrated the plot. I am not sure he had foreknowledge of his possible use as a patsy. However, it is possible that he used precautions such as keeping his rifle clean of fingerprints.

The testimony of eyewitness Ed Hoffman, both in his manuscript and in "The Witnesses" video from the 1996 symposium, is both stunning and extremely credible. I find his testimony to be critical to the solution of the case. I looked into his eyes as he signed his story on the video. I am grateful that he had the courage to persist in the face of much adversity thrown his way due the ignorance of those attacking him.

I look forward to receiving my copy of Bloody Treason (new book by Noel Twyman) due out in November. After reading the Summer issue of the Kennedy Assassination Chronicles, I wish to say thank you to Debra Conway and Tom Jones for all you do to put out a first class publication.

Respectfully yours,
Robert M. Schwartz

Publisher's note: Thank you, and we have passed your compliments along to Senior Editor, George Michael Evica.

Letters to the Chronicles may be edited for clarity and space. Please include your E-mail address, postal address, and phone number on all correspondence.

Visitors to Our Website:

Guest: Jennifer
Age: 12
Homepage:
Date: 23-Sep-97 02:26 PM
Area of interest: School Project

This is a really good website!!!!!! I found all the information that I need! THANKS

Guest: Merrie Sofet
Age: 32
Date: 17-Sep-97 07:08 AM

My father was pilot of Air Force One for President Kennedy and was one of the people there in Dallas that day in November. He helped get the casket

aboard the aircraft, and signed as a witness to the swearing in of Lyndon Johnson. I can only imagine how it must have been to be a part of such a horrible situation. My father greatly admired President Kennedy, and to this day he still talks of him with great admiration and respect. He truly was a great man.

Guest: Andrea
Age: 22
Homepage: Fractal Art'n Fun
Date: 31-Aug-97 10:28 PM
Area of interest: JFK presidency

You are doing a great job here, and I am glad I found your site. I wasn't even born when JFK died - but he represents for me an ideal of life and dedication. I am somewhat sorry that we all spend so much time thinking about his death and seem to forget his life. In this age of cynicism and pettiness, he is to me a symbol of what we should (try to) be - and instead, look at what we are. Who killed him? Oh, what a useless question. The system did - he was too much unlike it. He wasn't a saint. He was just a man like us, and that's even harder to swallow. It seems there is no place under the sun for people like him. Maybe we just don't deserve them? Could be. But I sincerely think we should try, at least as a sign of respect. I'd like JFK to be proud of us up there in heaven, and feel that he didn't live and die in vain.



Tippit: After The Murder

Bill Drenas

Since publishing my J.D. Tippit timeline, "Car 10 Where Are You?" on the Internet, I have received many e-mails with wonderful compliments and additional Tippit questions.

It seems that many of the facts in the Tippit case have never been explained in detail and many readers are confused about certain issues. The following are two of the questions I am asked most frequently: "Why are there no photographs of Tippit's body" and "Why are there no photographs of the chalk outline of his body at the scene of the murder?" On the surface, this might seem to be something sinister, but the actual explanation is very simple.

At the time Tippit was shot, most of the Dallas Police patrol cars assigned to Oak Cliff were at the Texas School Book Depository. ⁽¹⁾ They were dispatched there at 12:45 P.M. after the report of the President being shot, and many of them were still there at 1:16 P.M. when a call came over the police radio from a citizen stating "There's been a shooting out here." ⁽²⁾ The citizen was T.F. Bowley ⁽³⁾ who is heard on the audio copy of the Dallas Police tapes, not Domingo Benavides, who had been mistakenly credited for making the call.

While Bowley was giving the police dispatcher the location of the shooting, Mrs. Frank Wright was also acting quickly. Mrs. Wright and her husband who lived at 501 East 10th Street (about half a block away from the shooting) were ear-witnesses to the murder. Although Mrs. Wright was never interviewed by the Warren Commission, she was interviewed by George and Patricia Nash for



Officer J. D. Tippit, National Archives photo

their article in the October 12, 1964 issue of The New Leader magazine. She stated "I heard 3 shots. From my window I got a clear view of a man lying there on the street. I didn't wait a minute I ran to the telephone. I didn't look in the book or anything. I ran to the telephone, picked it up, and dialed '0'. I said 'call the police, a man's been shot!' After that I went outside to join my husband. It wasn't but a minute till the ambulance got there."

When the operator forwarded Mrs. Wright's call to the police, the police in turn pushed a buzzer connecting them by direct line to the ambulance dispatcher. Anybody who studies the transcript of the Dallas Police radio logs will notice that initially there was some confusion about the actual location of the shooting. There was no confusion for the ambulance that picked up Tippit, because Mrs. Wright's call bypassed the police radio dispatcher. By this point in time, the police dispatcher was giving out 3 different locations of the shooting, 510 East Jefferson, 501 East 10th Street and 501 East Jefferson. ⁽⁴⁾ The ambulance got there so quickly because the central ambulance dispatching point for southern Dallas in 1963 was the Dudley M. Hughes Funeral Home; it was and still is located at 400 East Jefferson Boulevard., and it is only 3 blocks from the Tippit murder scene. ⁽⁵⁾ The funeral home is directly across the street from the Texaco gas station where Oswald allegedly ducked behind and threw his coat under a car in the parking lot behind the gas station. ⁽⁶⁾ Dudley M. Hughes, Jr. took the call from the police, quickly filled out the ambulance call slip, put the slip into the time clock, and stamped it 1:18 P.M. Hughes then dispatched ambulance driver Clayton Butler and attendant Eddie Kinsley to the scene. Butler radioed his arrival at the scene at 1:18 within one minute of leaving the funeral home. ⁽⁷⁾ At 1:18, most of the police eventually responding to this shooting were just learning about the shooting or were just starting to leave Dealey Plaza for 404 East 10th Street. ⁽⁸⁾

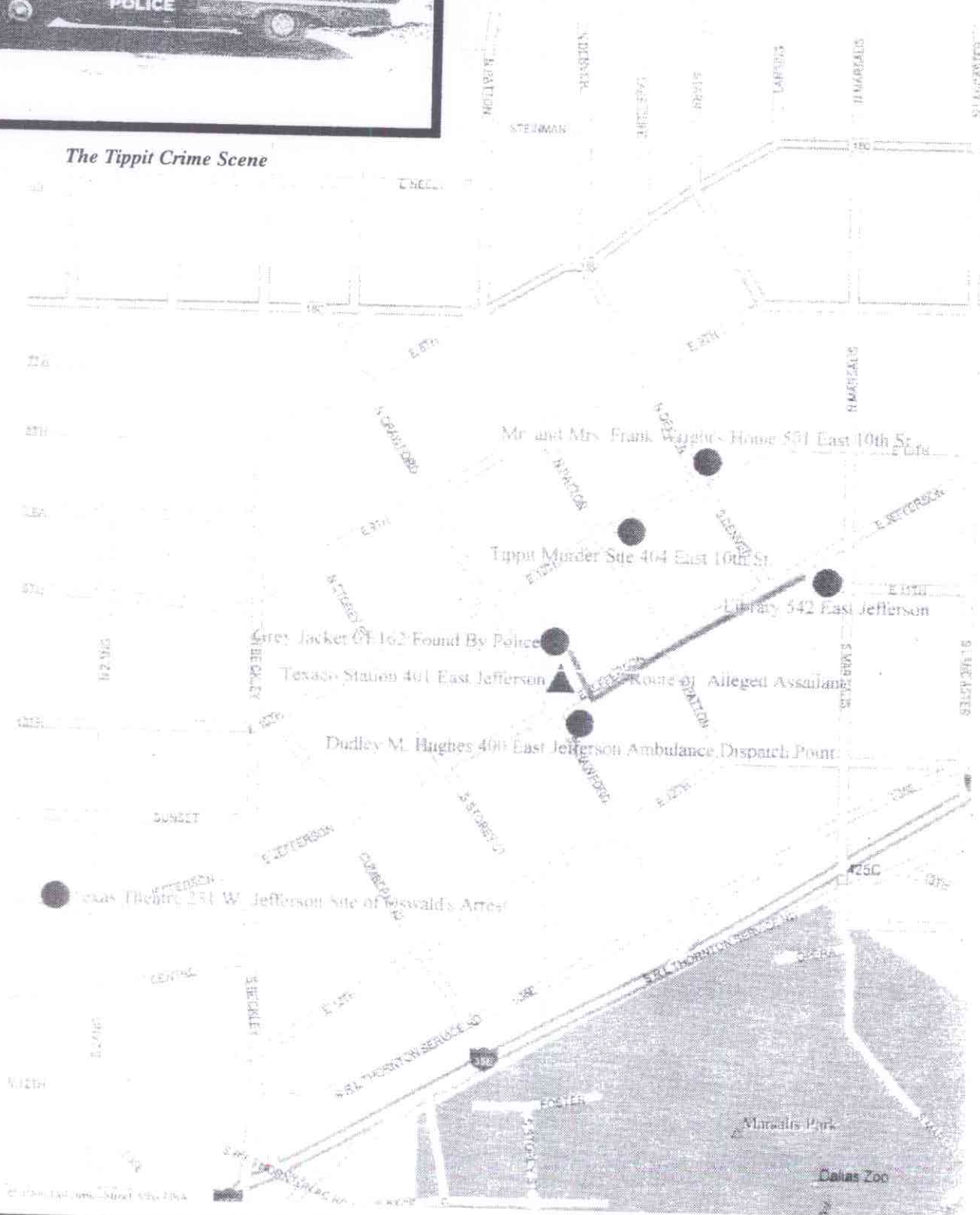
In 1977, ambulance driver Clayton Butler was interviewed by investigators for the House Select Committee. When he was asked how long he was on the scene he replied, "I was on the scene one minute or less. From the time we received the call in our dispatch office until Officer Tippit was pronounced dead at Methodist Hospital was approximately four minutes." From the initial call at 1:18 P.M., that places the ambulance arriving at Methodist Hospital at about 1:22 P.M. Ambulance attendant Eddie Kinsley gave two interviews in 1978 and 1981 in which he told a very important story that could possibly place Lee Harvey Oswald



The Tippit Crime Scene

near the murder scene.

As the ambulance was leaving to go on the Tippit shooting call, a man ran in front of the ambulance directly in front of the Hughes Funeral Home, despite the red lights and siren blaring. According to Kinsley, this is what happened; "He came out from behind that Texaco station, and he was on the median [a median strip runs down the middle of East Jefferson Blvd. in front of the Hughes Funeral Home] and he run across in front of us.... We



(Kinsley and Butler) were downgrading him for running across in front of us. You know, how stupid. Anyone seeing red lights and siren on the ambulance and still run out in front of you."

"And we didn't know who he was from Adam until we got back to the funeral home. And it was on TV showing the Texas Theater where he was wrestling with the policemen. And we said, 'Well, that's the fool we like to [have] hit, [because he ran out in front of the ambulance]. He was heading for the library'" [at the corner of East Jefferson and Marsalis].⁽⁹⁾ If Kinsley's statements were true, he witnessed the assailant going East on Jefferson toward the library at the corner of East Jefferson and Marsalis, a direction totally opposite to the direction of the Texas Theater where Oswald was eventually captured. The Texas Theater is 6/10 of a mile west of the funeral home⁽¹⁰⁾. Could it be possible Kinsley mistook the library employee that ran excitedly into the library to tell people about the president being shot as the man who ran in front of the ambulance? This same man was mistaken as the Tippit assailant by the police at 1:34 P.M.. If this was the same man, it does not fit the timeframe, because there is a gap of about 16 minutes between the time the man ran in front of the ambulance (1:18) and the call for the police to investigate the library (1:34) at 542 East Jefferson, which is about 2 blocks away from the Dudley M. Hughes Funeral Home.

When Clayton Butler was asked if he recognized that the man who ran in front of the ambulance was Oswald he said "No sir, I could not positively identify him, it very possibly could have been Oswald because I was watching traffic."⁽¹¹⁾ We may never know who it was.

Under normal circumstances if the police had arrived at the scene first, it is very possible the police would have kept Tippit's body at the murder scene for photographs and criminal investigation work. Because the ambulance arrived first (1963 predated the era of paramedics and highly-trained emergency response personnel), Butler and Kinsley, with the help of T.F. Bowley⁽¹²⁾, simply loaded Tippit into the ambulance and raced to Methodist Hospital where Tippit was pronounced dead by Dr. Richard Liguori.⁽¹³⁾

By the time the first police unit arrived at the Tippit murder scene, it was 1:22 P.M.⁽¹⁴⁾. At this point, the ambulance had already left the murder scene and was probably at, if not close to, Methodist Hospital.

Briefly, the ambulance was nearby the murder scene and responded very quickly, and the police units were much further away and got to the murder scene about 4 minutes after Tippit's body had been removed. That is why no photographs of Tippit were taken at the murder scene.

It has been stated that Tippit's body was lost for one hour, and during this time conspirators switched the body of J.D. Tippit for the body of President Kennedy. Could this have happened? In order to deal with this question objectively, I set out to establish a "chain of possession" (so to speak) of Tippit's body and to set up a timeline of events after the Tippit murder. We have already established from official documentation and eyewitness interviews that a Dudley M. Hughes ambulance with attendants Clayton Butler and Eddie Kinsley picked up Tippit's body from the murder scene. This information is also corroborated by witnesses at the murder scene.

As the ambulance raced to Methodist Hospital, a Dallas police car with Traffic Division Safety Officer R.A. Davenport and another unidentified officer was racing over the Houston Street viaduct toward the Tippit shooting scene when the

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THE SECRET SERVICE INTERVIEWS

Vincent Michael Palamara

"Many of the agents take to the grave what they know," said Jerry Parr, the Special-Agent-in-Charge (SAIC) of the White House Detail (WHD) during parts of the Carter and Reagan years who began his career in the Secret Service shortly before 11/22/63. During the course of my more than seven year odyssey of heavily researching the actions and words of the United States Secret Service, I have interviewed and corresponded with over twenty-five different agents who protected President Kennedy. The fruits of much of my labor are made manifest primarily in my book The Third Alternative- Survivor's Guilt: The Secret Service and the JFK Murder and, to a certain extent, in several of my conference presentations and articles. However, I felt it would be appropriate to give a sort of "sneak preview" of my work and present highlights of my interviews with the agents themselves. I believe the reader will see the importance of taking a much closer look at the Secret Service, especially in relation to the tragic events of 11/22/63.

Not including the former agents who passed away after they were interviewed by me, the following agents were deceased years before I pursued this endeavor: Emory P. Roberts (late 1960s), Stewart G. Stout, Jr. (shortly after Dallas), Thomas J. Kelley, John J. "Muggsy" O'Leary (1987), William R. Greer (1985), Roy H. Kellerman (1984), and Henry J. Rybka (unknown). Although others passed away before my pursuits, these are the agents better known to researchers as having some direct bearing on the tragic events of November 22, 1963, in Dallas. (For what it's worth, the other agents known to be deceased from JFK's time are Lubert F. "Bert" deFreese, William B. Payne, Morgan L. Gies, Dennis R. Halterman, Andrew M. Hutch, Burrill Peterson, Urbanus "U.E." Baughman, and Harvey Henderson.)

In the summer of 1996, Tom Samoluk of the Assassinations Records Review Board (ARRB) requested that my Secret Service interview audio tapes and any relating correspondence be submitted for inclusion in the JFK Collection at the National Archives. I responded promptly and soon received a Deed of Gift signed by David Marwell of the ARRB and John Carlin, Archivist of the United States. I was thrilled and am honored to have a part of my work donated to the public and to history. Here are a few highlights:

ARTHUR L. GODFREY was one of the three Shift Leaders of the WHD during the Kennedy years (the others were the aforementioned Stout and Roberts, both long since deceased). Art did advance work on several major

trips for JFK before Dallas, including Rome and New York in 1963. During the Texas trip, Art's shift (12Midnight to 8AM: SA Gerald S.

Blaine, Kenneth S. Giannoules, Gerald W. O'Rourke, Paul A. Burns, and Robert R. Faison) guarded JFK at the Hotel Texas and then waited for him to complete his Trade Mart speech while they were stationed in Austin at the Commodore Perry Hotel. I spoke to Art in late May and early June of 1996; incredibly, I am the only one to interview him (the other two ATSAICs, Stout and Roberts, died without speaking to anyone)!

When I asked Art if it was true, according to "official" history, President Kennedy had ever ordered the agents around, including having them dismount the rear portions of the limousine, Godfrey told me on two occasions: "That's a bunch of baloney; that's not true. He never ordered us to do anything. He was a very nice man...cooperative." Asked if Aide Ken O'Donnell did any similar ordering, Art said emphatically that "he did not order anyone around." As just one example, Art was on the Italy trip and agents frequently rode on the rear of the limousine -- one of the agents was none other than Winston G. Lawson. When JFK was killed, Godfrey flew back to Washington with the aforementioned agents in his command plus SAs Robert R. Burke, William B. Payne, John F. Yeager, and a PRS agent named Norton who would go on to photograph the bloody limousine on 11/23/63 with James K. "Jack" Fox.

CHARLES T. "CHUCK" ZBORIL, also never interviewed by anyone before me, was a new member of the WHD when Kennedy went to Dallas. Before I spoke to Mr. Zboril on 11/15/95, his wife had told me "Chuck had just joined the Secret Service at that time and hadn't been in very long. [The Tampa, FL trip] was the last trip he took with [JFK]." Chuck then told me that "I normally don't talk to anybody and I haven't talked to anybody -- you're the first one that I've talked to and I'm a little hesitant about saying a lot...I'd like to help you.... You've done a lot of research to come up with all those names and all." Zboril confirmed he was one of the two agents who did indeed ride on the rear of Kennedy's limousine on the Florida trip of 11/18/63 (the other was Donald J. Lawton -- more on him in a moment). Chuck went on to tell me: "We were close-mouthed for so long...the

"That's a bunch of baloney; that's not true. He never ordered us to do anything. He was a very nice man...cooperative."

only one who really did any of the talking was Clint Hill."

Regarding the Warren Commission, Zboril said: "Well, Don Lawton and I are just sub-notes [sic] because somebody else testified in behalf of us about what happened in Tampa": that "somebody else" was Clint Hill, testifying to Arlen Specter about why agents were not on the rear of the car during the assassination [see The Third Alternative, pp. 4-8]. When I asked him if it was true JFK had really ordered the agents off the limousine four days before Dallas (which I already knew not to be true!), Chuck got emotional: "WHERE DID YOU READ THAT? I...If--if you read it in the Warren Report, that's what happened...DO YOU WANT ME COMMENTING OFFICIALLY? I'm speaking to someone I don't know... I gave you more than I would give someone else." Zboril then gave me his address and requested that I send him anything on this matter and he promised to respond to me...he never did.

DONALD J. LAWTON, as mentioned above, was the other agent who rode on the rear of the limousine in Tampa on 11/18/63 (as verified in unpublished photos by Cecil Stoughton obtained by this author from the JFK Library; a small part of the start of the Tampa trip can be found in the David Wolper film "Four Dark Days"). Lawton was a member of Roberts' 8AM to 4PM shift (along with SAs John D. "Jack" Ready, William "Tim" McIntyre, Clinton J. Hill, Paul E. Landis, Jr., George W. Hickey, Jr., PRS Agent Glenn A. Bennett, and driver Samuel A. Kinney. Lawton, known for his protective work during JFK's trips to Chicago (3/23/63) and Tampa (11/18/63), was inexplicably left behind at Love Field on 11/22/63 with Dallas agents Roger C. Warner and William H. Patterson (and agent-in-name-only John J. "Muggsy" O'Leary from Kennedy's Senate days who handled luggage).

When I told Lawton what fellow agent Kinney told me, that JFK never ordered the agents off the rear of the limousine, he said "It's the way Sam said, yes." Asked to explain how he dismounted the rear of the limousine in Tampa, he said "I didn't hear the President say it, no. The word was relayed to us -- you know, 'Come back to the follow-up car.'" ASAIC Floyd M. Boring, riding in the front seat of the limo next to William R. Greer, radioed to ATSAIC Emory P. Roberts, who then told SAs Zboril and Lawton to fall back, a common occurrence, but one blamed on JFK after-the-fact to sell the idea that JFK was responsible for no agents being posted on the rear of the limo in Dallas four short days later. According to Lawton, JFK was "very personable...very warm." Asked about the tragedy in Dallas, Lawton said, "Everyone felt bad. It was our job to protect the President. You still have regrets, remorse. Who knows, IF THEY HAD LEFT GUYS ON THE BACK OF THE CAR...You can hindsight yourself to death." (emphasis added) As for ATSAIC Stout's presence on the Texas trip, Lawton said "I didn't know he was on the trip; I didn't know that...I didn't know that." Other agents doubted his presence on the trip, despite "official" documentation [see the author's article in the latest issue of JFK/Deep Politics Quarterly]. I am also the first one to interview Lawton about the assassination, although the HSCA did have his work address.

ROBERT E. LILLEY was a member of JFK's detail from Election Night, 1960 until October, 1963, when Lilley went to the Boston Office. Interviewed three times between 1992 and 1996, Lilley spoke to no one else before me (sounds familiar, huh?). Lilley was emphatic to me on all three occasions that JFK never ordered the agents to do anything. "Oh, I'm sure he didn't. He was very cooperative with us once he became president. Basically, 'Whatever you guys want is the way it will be.'" As just one example out of many, Lilley added that he rode on the rear of the limousine with Roy Kellerman in Caracas, Venezuela, and that the car reached speeds of over 50 miles an hour and the bubbletop was ON (it was a bright, humid day, as well). Regarding

the bubbletop, Lilley said he believes the top might have deflected a bullet.

Lilley told me Press Secretary Pierre Salinger, who normally made these trips, was "extremely knowledgeable" about motorcade planning and security concerns, because the Secret Service had "worked with Pierre on all of our advance work" -- except for Dallas....

SAMUEL A. KINNEY was the driver of the follow-up car on 11/22/63. Interviewed three times between 1992 and 1994, Kinney was a rich source of information. Regarding the notion that JFK ever ordered the agents to do anything, Sam said "That is absolutely, positively false....No, no, no, he had nothing to do with that [ordering agents off the rear of the limo]....No, never -- the agents say, 'o.k., men, fall back on your posts'....President Kennedy was one of the easiest presidents to ever protect; Harry S. Truman was a jewel just like John F. Kennedy was....99% of the agents would agree...[JFK] was one of the best presidents ever to control -- he trusted every one of us."

In regard to the infamous quote from William Manchester, whereupon Kennedy allegedly said "Keep those Ivy League charlatans off the back of the car" (The Death of a President, p. 37, 1988 version), Kinney said, "That is false. I talked to William Manchester; he called me on the book [sic]....For the record of history that is false. Kennedy never ordered us to do anything. I am aware of what is being said but that is false." Finally, just to nail down this issue, I asked Sam if an exception was made on 11/22/63: "Not this particular time, no. Not in this case." Sam also told me JFK had nothing to do with the limiting of motorcycles during motorcades, and that Ken O'Donnell did not interfere with the agents: "Nobody ordered anyone around." Sam told me he did NOT speak to Gerald Posner!

As for the critical and controversial removal of the bubbletop on 11/22/63, Kinney was adamant: "I am the sole responsibility of that...Yes, I was." Asked if Kennedy ordered it off, Sam said "that is not true." In regard to SAIC of the Dallas office, Forrest V. Sorrels, who was alleged to have removed the top by Jim Lehrer (A Bus of My Own, p. 83), Sam was equally adamant: "I knew him very well; he had nothing to do with it." As far as any regrets over his decision, Sam said, "That's one of my thirty-year concerns -- whether I made the right decision or not." Kinney went on to say that the top "came in 7 pieces" and that the "only thing the bubbletop may have prevented- it may have distorted Oswald's sight [sic] or possibly caused a ricochet...it might deflect a bullet." Sam said the reason he took it off was that "We were down there on a political move," meaning a presidential movement that was POLITICAL in nature, as opposed to one that was merely for

Kinney was explicit: "He had no brain left-- it was blown out...there was nothing left...(it was) the back of the head. I saw it (the shot) hit and I saw his hair come out...I had brain matter all over my windshield and left arm, that's how close we were to it...it was the right rear part of his head...because that's the part I saw blow out."

the public, a matter in some dispute (i.e. between the Connally camp and the O'Donnell faction).

Sam said Kennedy "Would have survived the first one, probably. The second shot hit Connally right in the back; I remember talking to Connally and I've talked to him since then-- I said 'Governor, I'm the one who called you a son-of-a-bitch.' He said, 'I wondered who that was, but I knew I had to be taken out of there before you got the president out.' I saw all three shots hit" [without acknowledging the (known) missed shot (s)!]. In regard to JFK's head wound, Kinney was explicit: "He had no brain left. It was blown out...there was nothing left...[it was] the back of the head. I saw it [the shot [hit and I saw his hair come out...I had brain matter all over my windshield and left arm, that's how close we were to it....It was the right rear part of his head, because that's the part I saw blow out. I saw hair come out, the piece blow out, then the skin went back in -- an explosion in and out." After I told him that's where the Parkland doctors also saw the wound, Sam elaborated further stating, "I would say that, too...it involved half his head." Asked to explain the 1500 gram brain at the autopsy, Sam seemed perplexed, saying, "there was brain matter all over the place."

If that wasn't enough, Sam said, in regard to the "Today" show interview of 11/22/93, "I told them 'I'm going to tell you some things that haven't been in books yet: I brought a piece of the President's skull back in my suit pocket.' Now, all these books are wondering about this hole, this unbelievable missing part--I got the answer to that, but nobody's called me. I went over that automobile coming home. I found it [the skull fragment] on the plane (C-130) in the car and I put a phone patch in to Admiral Burkley who was a very good friend of mine--he was one hell of a man; I've got his picture on my wall along with the presidents and I thought just as much of him as I did them." Returning to the skull fragment, Kinney added that it looked "like a piece of a flowerpot, clean as a pin...like piece of a clay pot -- there wasn't blood or hair or anything on it....I don't know what else it could have been but the back of his head...mine was a big piece...I told him [Burkley], 'I may have something that is crucial to the autopsy...I gave [the fragment] to one of his aides.'" Interestingly, Sam was aware of the separate "Harper" fragment found 11/23/63.

"I believe there was a conspiracy," Kinney told me: "This thing was so well set up- whoever did the shooting -- he picked that area where he knew there wouldn't be any men by the car [!]." Sam told me PRS Agent Glenn A. Bennett was making his first trip, and that Assistant Press Secretary. Mac Kilduff was (like ASAIC Roy H.

Kellerman) a third-stringer and HE was making his "first trip -- first official debut" without Assistant Press Sec. (#2) Andy Hatcher or Press Secretary. Pierre Salinger. In regard to SAIC Gerald A. "Jerry" Behn's absence from

the Texas trip, leaving ASAIC (#2) Floyd M. Boring to be the agent in charge of the Texas trip, Kinney said: "I'll tell you how that happened. We got, as agents, federal employees, 30 days a year annual leave, but they couldn't let us off....There was only x amount of agents back then in the whole country. Jerry Behn probably worked three years without annual leave, so he decided to take some time off....Roy Kellerman was third in charge--he's qualified. Floyd Boring stayed home -- he could still handle whatever came about from his house; there was very little correspondence between because Win Lawson had the advance....Jerry Behn doesn't know anything because he wasn't there."

Amazingly, when I told Kinney there was a book- High Treason- that alleged that "Emory Roberts ordered the men not to move," Sam said, "Exactly right!" Interestingly, Kinney told me that Roberts became the "Off-Records Secretary to Johnson" [a Mrs. Juanita Roberts was LBJ's Chief Private Secretary]. In regard to Roberts' fellow ATSAIC Stout, Kinney told me that he died shortly after Dallas. Finally, while confirming that there were alternate routes, Sam would not give me a straight answer as to why the motorcade could not have travelled straight down Main Street to Industrial Blvd.

FLOYD M. BORING was the Assistant-Special-Agent-In-Charge (ASAIC) of the WHD during the Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, and part of the Johnson years; he was the #2 man, behind SAIC Behn and ahead of #3 man Kellerman. I spoke to Boring twice from 1993 to 1994, and I am the only person to get Boring to talk in detail about the JFK years (U.E. Baughman's book Secret Service Chief, David McCullough's Truman, and Boring's Truman Library oral history deals almost exclusively with Harry S. Truman. The quote attributed to Boring in Manchester's book is false -- Floyd told me "I never told him that....No, no, no-- that's not true"). When asked, point blank, if JFK had ever ordered the agents off the rear of the limousine, including in Tampa on 11/18/63, Boring told me, "Well, that's not true. That's not true. He was a very nice man; he never interefered with us at all." In regard to Tampa, Floyd said "He actually -- No, I told them....He didn't tell them anything...He just -- I looked at the back of the car and I seen these fellahs (Zboril and Lawton) were hanging on the limousine -- I told them to return to the (follow-up) car...He [JFK] was a very easy-going guy; he didn't interfere with our actions at all."

As for his involvement in the planning of the Texas trip, Floyd told me simply "I was involved in that, yeah." In fact, he also told the Truman Library in 1988: "I was on all the advance work out of there....I did all of the advance work, sort of an administrator." [see also The Day Kennedy Was Shot by Jim Bishop, p. 558 (1992 edition) and my interviews with Sam Kinney mentioned above]. Incredibly, even more so that agent Lawton above, Floyd seemed to doubt that ATSAIC Stu Stout was even IN Dallas: "Oh, gee, I don't think so...then again, I guess I should have known he was there cause he died shortly thereafter."

GERALD A. "JERRY" BEHN was the SAIC of the WHD from September 1961 until January 1965, and had served in the Secret Service from 1941 until 1967. I spoke to Jerry Behn three times on 9/27/92. I was the first private researcher to interview Behn. Other than the FBI and the HSCA [documents only recently released], no one else had spoken to Behn in detail about 11/22/63, and the JFK administration. Behn joined many of his notable colleagues mentioned above denouncing the whole mythology of JFK ordering the agents off the rear of the

"I told them 'I'm going to tell you some things that haven't been in books yet: I brought a piece of the President's skull back in my suit pocket.' Now, all these books are wondering about this hole, this unbelievable missing part - I got the answer to that but nobody's called me."

limousine: "I don't remember Kennedy ever saying that he didn't want anybody on the back of his car. I think if you watch the newsreel pictures and whatnot [sic] you'll find agents on there from time to time." As just one of many examples, Behn cited the June 1963 trip to Berlin.

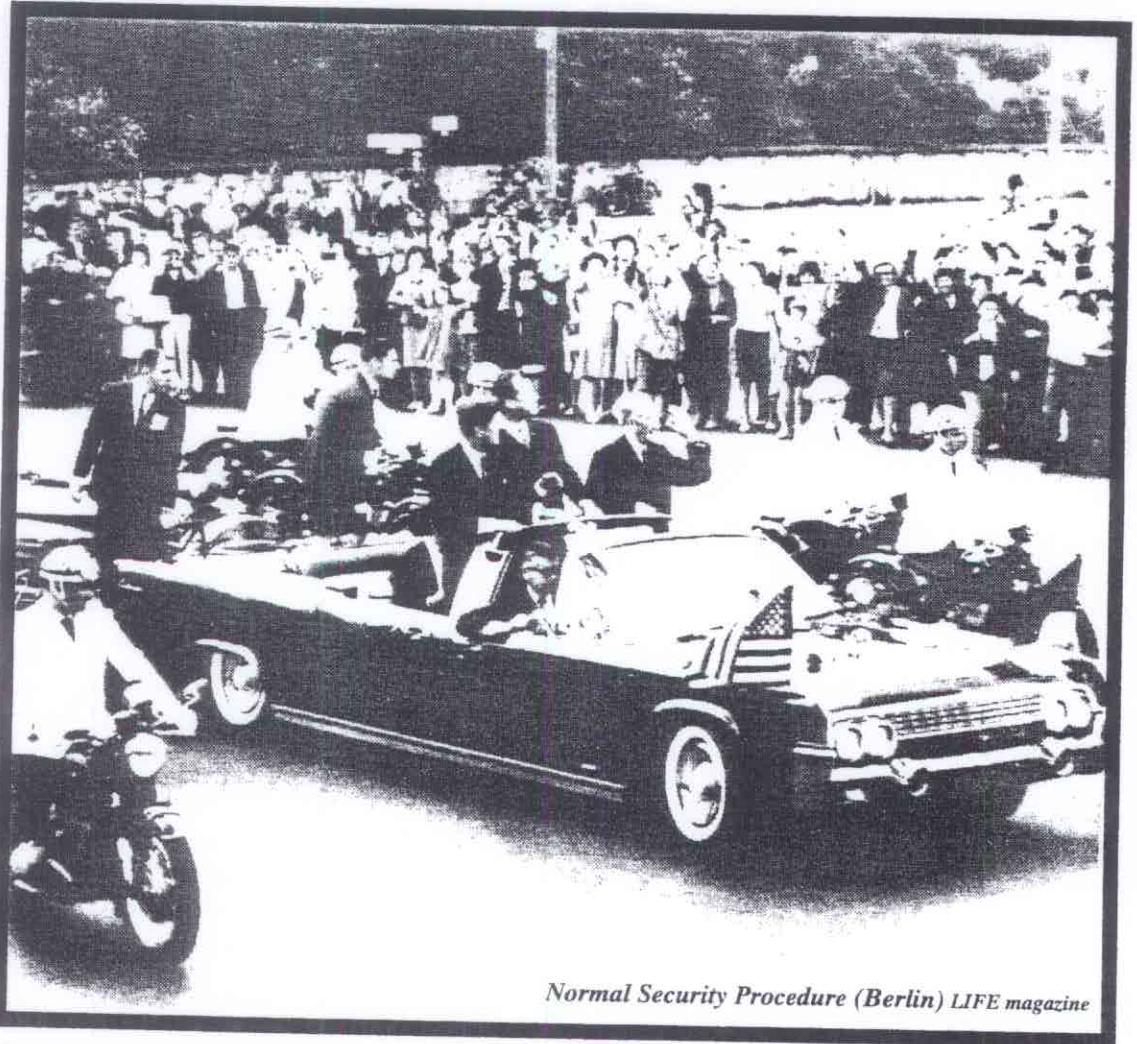
Although Behn was on the very next trip, El Paso, Texas, 6/5/63, riding in the limousine with Greer and Governor Connally, he did NOT make the Texas trip in the fall (El Paso was in the initial planning stages FOR the Texas trip; as we know, Behn took his first-ever vacation in the three years under JFK). When I asked Jerry what the HSCA asked of him in Executive Session [not the staff interviews just released], Behn told me he was asked two things: they wanted to know about the Florida trip (manned by ASAIC Boring) AND WHY THE ROUTE WAS CHANGED FOR DALLAS! (author's emphasis) Behn told me "I know it was changed, but why...I've forgotten completely -- I don't know." Interestingly, Jerry considered his January 1965 transfer out of the WHD a "demotion." Jerry passed away in April, 1993.

Other agents I interviewed were Rufus W. Youngblood (ASAIC of the LBJ detail on 11/22/63; interviewed 1992-1994; deceased October 1996), Robert I. Bouck (SAIC of PRS; interviewed 1992), Abraham W. Bolden, Sr. (WHD, 1961; Chicago Office, 1961-1964; interviewed 1993-1996), Maurice G. Martineau (SAIC of Chicago Office; interviewed 1993 and 1996), Winston G. Lawson (advance man, WHD; interviewed 1992), P. Hamilton Brown (Joe Kennedy, Sr. detail; interviewed 1992), Forrest V. Sorrels (SAIC of Dallas; interviewed 1992; deceased 1993), Richard E. Johnsen (keeper of CE399; interviewed 1992), Robert A. Steuart (Dallas office; interviewed 1992 and 1994); James J. Rowley (Chief, 1961-1973; interviewed 9/27/92; deceased 11/1/92), H. Stuart "Stu" Knight (SAIC of LBJ detail on 11/22/63, later Chief, 1973-1981; interviewed 1993-1994), Gerald S. "Jerry" Parr (SAIC of WHD, Carter-Reagan; interviewed 1995), and Bill Livingood (rookie Dallas agent, later WHD; interviewed 1992). I also interviewed Richard Greer (son of the late William R. Greer; interviewed 1991-1992), June Kellerman (wife of the late Roy H. Kellerman; interviewed twice in 1992), Sandra Kane (daughter of the now-deceased Jerry Behn; interviewed 1995), Jean Brownell Behn (wife of the now-deceased Jerry Behn; interviewed 1995), Marty Underwood (DNC advance man for Houston and Austin trips; interviewed 1992 [responsible for Livingstone's interview]), Dave Powers (aide, riding in follow-up car on 11/22/63; corresponded 1993), Cecil Stoughton (WH photographer on Texas trip; corresponded 1996), Gerry Patrick Hemming (intelligence operative; interviewed twice in 1992), and Jerrol Custer (x-ray technician at Bethesda on 11/22/63; interviewed with Livingstone, 11/22/91).

Needless to say, this was a rich body of primary-source information; luckily many of these people will not now go to their graves without revealing what they know about the tragic events of 11/22/63.

Mr. Palamara is a graduate of Duquesne University where he earned a degree in Sociology. In his research, he has contacted over twenty different former Secret Service agents, White House aides, and surviving family members, resulting in the manuscript entitled The Third Alternative- Survivor's Guilt: the Secret Service and the JFK Murder, (now re-published by JFK Lancer). Since 1991, His articles have been published in the following journals: The Third Decade, The Fourth Decade, Investigator, Back Channels, Lobster, JFK/ Deep Politics Quarterly, and Kennedy Assassination Chronicles. Research assistance credit: High Treason 2, Killing the Truth, and Killing Kennedy by Harrison E. Livingstone, The Complete Videography-1963 to 1992 by Anthony Frewin.

Treachery in Dallas, The JFK Assassination Quiz Book and The Warren Omission by Walt Brown, Breach of Faith by Dr. William Truels, Motorcade Schematic by Todd Vaughan.



Normal Security Procedure (Berlin) LIFE magazine

Tippit, continued from page 16

ambulance carrying Tippit's body passed in front of them at the intersection of Zangs Boulevard, and Colorado. At this point Davenport's car followed the ambulance to Methodist Hospital. Davenport stated "I didn't know who it was at first and then when they started unloading him I saw that it was Tippit." Davenport knew Tippit personally because they had gone through police training school together. According to Davenport's Supplemental Offense Report,⁽¹⁵⁾ "We assisted in getting the officer to the emergency room and observed the doctors and nurses trying to bring the officer back to life." At 1:30 P.M. Officer Tippit was pronounced dead by Dr. Richard Liguori. Davenport also stated "By request of Captain Talbert, Dr. Paul Moellenhoff removed a bullet from Officer Tippit's stomach so identification could be made as to the caliber of the gun used in the shooting."⁽¹⁶⁾ This also explains why bullets were removed from Tippit at two different locations --Methodist Hospital and Parkland Hospital-- as stated in Tippit's autopsy report written by Dr. Earl Rose. These statements about the Methodist Hospital activities regarding Tippit are verified by comments made in an interview of emergency room nurse Lotti Thompson.

Because most of the police were still at the Texas School Book Depository or the Tippit murder scene, Tippit's body stayed at Methodist Hospital until after Oswald was arrested at the Texas Theater at about 1:50 P.M.. Tippit's supervisor, Sergeant Calvin "Bud" Owens was enroute to Methodist Hospital at 2:02 P.M. ⁽¹⁷⁾. Sergeant Owens' Warren Commission testimony stated, "I left the [Tippit murder] scene and went to Methodist Hospital where Officer Tippit had been taken, and I was taken back to the room where he was taken." Sergeant Owens briefly examined Tippit's body. He then went on to say: "I remained at the hospital for quite a time and then I went back to the Oak Cliff substation where I was assigned."

According to Clayton Butler's HSCA interview "We were given permission from the Dallas Police Department to move Officer Tippit's body to Parkland Memorial Hospital for an autopsy. Upon arrival at Parkland Hospital all streets leading into the hospital were barricaded and manned by uniformed officers. We had to show we had a Dallas Police Officer in our ambulance before we were permitted to proceed to the hospital. We went through normal DOA procedures set forth by Parkland Hospital in placing Officer Tippit's body in the County Morgue." According to the Dallas Police Homicide Report of Officer J.D. Tippit, "Judge Joe B. Brown ordered autopsy, transferred to Parkland Hospital."⁽¹⁸⁾

The best possible documentation suggests strongly this transfer could have taken place somewhere between 2:15 and 2:30. The autopsy report is signed by Dr. Earl Rose at 3:15 P.M., 11/22/63. Given travel time from Methodist Hospital to Parkland Hospital and allowing time for the DOA paperwork procedures, this time-frame seems logical. In Darwin Payne's book Reporting the Kennedy Assassination, we get additional confirmation of Tippit's body arriving at Parkland by KBOX radio reporter Ron McAllister Jenkins. Jenkins was trying to get into the Parkland Hospital Emergency Room, but there was no way. Every entrance was sealed. He then recalled: "Since that was part of my beat too, I finally figured out I'd go around to what they called the DOA room. And I quickly scooted around to the backside and came in the backdoor. And the lady who ran the desk was named Fern Elliott. I'm sure a lot of reporters will remember her. And I asked her, 'Fern do you know what's going on?' And she said 'no they are not telling me a

thing.' And I stayed in the office there, and while I was in there, this was some time later, they wheeled in a body and I asked one of the ambulance drivers I knew at the time said...His name is Tippit."

It is highly unlikely that a body switch could have taken place in Dallas, since the two bodies were never close to each other at Parkland. The hearse with President Kennedy's body left Parkland for Love Field at 2:08 P.M.. This is about the time that Sergeant Owens was arriving at Methodist Hospital to view Tippit's body; this fact is corroborated by several witnesses there. So without reviewing the discrepancies in physical appearance and medical evidence of the two bodies, and without considering all of the people just mentioned were involved in a large conspiracy, it is almost impossible to understand how a body swap could have taken place.

END NOTES

1. Kimbrough / Shearer DPD radio transcript
2. Ibid. transmission 900
3. Affidavit of T.F. Bowley 12/2/63
4. Kimbrough/Shearer DPD radio transcript transmissions 905,914,932,941
5. See attached map
6. The Warren Commission Report page 175-176
7. Interview of Clayton J. Butler Jr. HSCA 180-10107-10180
8. Kimbrough/Shearer DPD radio transcript transmissions 920,925,933,943
9. See accompanying map
10. See accompanying map
11. 1981 interview of Clayton J. Butler Jr. 12. Affidavit of T.F. Bowley 12/2/63
13. Dallas Police Homicide Report of Officer J.D. Tippit
14. Kimbrough/Shearer DPD radio transcript transmission 1011
15. 1982 interview of R.A. Davenport
16. HSCA 180-10119-10049
17. Kimbrough/Shearer DPD transcript transmissions 1670, 1671
18. Dallas Police Homicide Report of Officer J.D. Tippit

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See also Drenas' article, "Car 10, Where Are You?" at <http://mcdams.posc.mu.edu/car10.htm>

Summer Puzzle:

Why would the blanket found in the Paine's garage still be folded in the shape of the rifle?

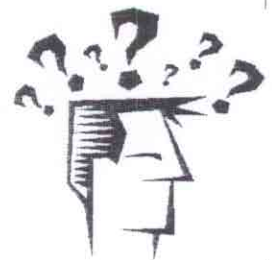
Answer:

To make someone believe the rifle was still there.

- a. Marina, who said she saw the rifle in the blanket
- b. Ruth, who said she didn't know until Marina told her.
- c. Michael, who said he thought it was camping equipment..
- d. Lee, if the rifle was ever in the blanket.

Sorry, no Fall Puzzle.

More on the Spring Puxxle:
personal ad in the Dallas Morning News of 10-15-1963:
"Running man. Please call me. Please. Please. Lee"
There was a movie called "Running Man" starring actress Lee Remick released around this time. Some researchers have made this connection. A curious factoid.



CLIPPINGS

Hersh: "I want to make a big score" and retire.'

Famed investigative reporter Seymour Hersh claims his new book on the Kennedys will be "the death rattle" for the storied dynasty.

Daily News, Tuesday, October 7, 1997
MAG RAKES JFK MUCKRAKER'S MUCK
By Keith J. Kelly and Helen Kennedy, Daily News Staff Writers

But November's *Vanity Fair* magazine casts doubt on Hersh's methods, painting the Pulitzer Prize winner as a money-hungry bully who was easily suckered by phony documents claiming Marilyn Monroe blackmailed President Kennedy.

"He believed in these documents like life itself for a long, long time — over two years — despite clear warnings from first-hand sources that they were frauds," said *Vanity Fair* writer Robert Sam Anson.

Hersh cut the supposed blackmail parts from his book, "The Dark Side of Camelot," due on shelves next month.

Other revelations in the book are not based on the phony documents, Hersh says.

- John Kennedy used prostitutes in the White House. "The guy was really into some kinky stuff," Hersh says.
- The Mafia helped fix the 1960 election by muscling the balloting in six key states.
- Bobby Kennedy was behind CIA-mob attempts to assassinate Fidel Castro and helped fix the cases of hoodlums who had aided his brother's election.
- JFK thought his wife was sleeping with Aristotle Onassis. "She's getting back at me 'cause I have so many," he was supposed to have said.
- JFK was linked to the murder of South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem.
- There was a secret US-USSR joint plan — never carried out — to attack a Chinese nuclear center.

But Anson said Hersh hurt himself by clinging for so long to the bogus contract in which Kennedy supposedly agreed to

continued on page 24

New Book: LBJ Tapes LBJ didn't believe Warren Report

Washington AP
October 5, 1997

President Lyndon Johnson thought Cuban President Fidel Castro played a role in the 1963 assassination of President Kennedy, but worried that a retaliatory strike on Cuba could lead to nuclear war, according to a new book. He said publicly blaming Castro would generate a public outcry for an attack on Cuba or the Soviet Union that could "check us into a war that can kill 40 million Americans in an hour." According to the book, *Taking Charge: The Johnson White House Tapes, 1963-1964*, by historian Michael R. Beschloss, Johnson also told the late Sen. Richard Russell in 1964 that he did not believe the conclusion of the Warren Commission, of which Russell was a member, that Kennedy was killed by a lone gunman.

The book casts Russell as a reluctant member of the commission who was pressured into signing the report against his will. "I'm just worn out, fighting over that damned report," Russell is quoted as saying on one tape. "Well, I don't believe it." "I don't either," Johnson said.

Newsweek magazine, in its edition on newsstands Monday, carries excerpts of the book, which details conversations from the secret tape recordings Johnson kept running during his stay in the White House.

The book, published by Simon & Schuster, is to appear in bookstores this week. In another conversation with former Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield in May 1964, Johnson suggests he might use the FBI to investigate Republican campaign contributions to get back at them for investigating his family finances.

"They've been down inspecting Miz Johnson's property in Texas and they've harassed and harangued her every day since we've been here," he said. "The FBI can look into their contributions and it



Historian, Michael Beschloss

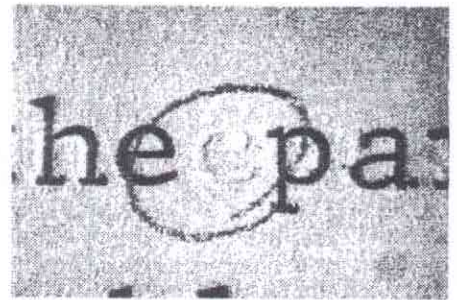
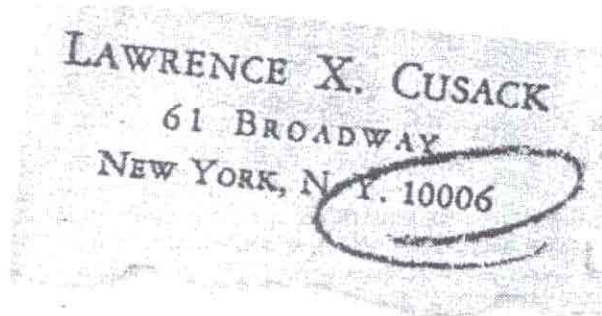
continued on page 26

pay Monroe's mother \$100,000 to hush up his affair with the voluptuous actress.

The legal papers were purportedly found by Lex Cusack among the papers of his late father, Washington attorney Lawrence Cusack Sr. Hersh, who exposed the 1968 My Lai massacre, admitted he's been hoodwinked by "one of the great scams of all time." But Anson suggests Hersh's judgment was clouded by his "wanting to believe the very worst about the Kennedys from the get-go" and by greed. Hersh is quoted as saying he wants to "make a score and retire."

Anson details the tortuous attempts to verify the papers, in which the principals were referred to as JFK and MM — hardly convincing legalese. Handwriting experts couldn't debunk the signatures, but technicians noticed a zip code on a document dated 1961, even though zip codes didn't exist until 1963. Also, the documents were written on a typewriter with self-correcting tape, which wasn't invented until 1973.

photos of Cusack's documents from *Newsweek*, October 6, 1997



Hope and Despair: Visiting the Dark Side Of Camelot

by Debra Conway

Sam Anson called me in early September after my name was given to him by another researcher. "Debra, what's the word out there on the Hersh book?" he wanted to know. "I'm writing an article on him for *Vanity Fair*." I answered, "Hope and despair. Hope that the book will be fair, and despair that if Hersh finds conspiracy, he'll say that JFK was so bad he deserved to die anyway." Then I told him that the word from most researchers is that both "the mob did it" and "Castro did it" seemed to be in fashion again and that Hersh would probably pick one. The old "limited hang out" I called it. We laughed and I wished him luck on the article. "Hersh can be tough." I warned him needlessly. Anson said the article would be coming soon, so I waited for the bomb to drop. I wasn't disappointed. The article and the claims Hersh is making for his upcoming book, *The Dark Side Of Camelot*, got plenty of press.

Before I knew about the Anson article, I had received the RFK appointment books from the National Archives and called Jim Lesar, Judith Exner's attorney and JFK researcher, with the request that someone match dates with the Exner diaries and her claim to be meeting with the Kennedys and the Mafia as a go-between.¹ Lesar's answer was that Hersh was already working with Exner. I had already begun a log based on RFK's meetings with any CIA personnel after Max Holland stated the 1962 log had Robert meeting with Charles Ford "as was the 'Siscollini'" alias that Ford used for his secret assignments with the Mafia at RFK's insistence.² I could not find this purported meeting, only Ford's name and office phone number in the phone section of the appointment book; nor could I find the use of the alias. Wherever Holland got his information, I doubt it was his reading of the appointment book.

When the Anson article hit the papers and the television show "20/20," I called Lancer Productions in New York, the company producing the documentary.³ The gentleman there didn't sound surprised to hear from me. Although we had a pretty intense conversation about their misrepresentation of what their documentary was about and how the publicity was causing JFK Lancer problems, I realized there wasn't a damn thing I could do. He said to me, "What if a person contacted you that said he had documents that proved the [anybody] killed JFK? Wouldn't you check it out?" I answered, "We get calls like that every week. The first thing you do is check out the background of the caller." (Which is what was finally done *two years* after Hersh had the Cusack documents — Cusack had lied about his education and military record.) "You guys *wanted* to believe these documents," I said to him accusingly. No reply. Finally, I said, "You know, the man was already assassinated once. Just be sure you can sleep at night when you assassinate him again."

From the *NY Times*, 9/27/97:

Warren Littlefield, the President of NBC Entertainment...told the author "in our investigation of the documents, serious questions that have been raised that we cannot answer."

Mr. Littlefield also said, "Our attorneys were far more specific with his attorneys about what the difficulties were." ...

"I have no idea what Warren is talking about," Hersh said. "I'm agog, I couldn't be more numbstruck if you stood me on my head." ...

Hersh accused NBC of "trying to discredit me" and suggested that the network's real purpose was to "try to get at ABC." He continued to challenge Mr. Littlefield's account of their phone conversation. "I can't begin to understand why Warren would say this."

Mr. Littlefield said, "It would be very hard to imagine that he didn't get the message."

"You know, the man was already assassinated once. Just be sure you can sleep at night when you assassinate him again."

Notes:

1. "The Exner Files," Liz Smith, *Vanity Fair*, January, 1997. Smith writes,

"Two years ago I received a phone call from the rambunctious, Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Seymour Hersh, former giant killer for *The New York Times*: 'Liz, you and I are about the only journalists who believe Judith Exner. I want to get her to speak with me. I am doing a book on the Kennedys that is going to be a bombshell. And believe me, it isn't going to be about their sex lives. That will be a mere footnote.'

"I asked Exner to talk to Hersh, but I never tried to find out what she told him. Then, only months ago, she called and said she needed to see me. I have something sensitive to talk about. It's a hard story for me to tell, but I've told Hersh. But I think you deserve to be the one to break the (abortion) story..."

"Liz, Hersh is incredible. He has proof of every word I ever said during the Kennedy years. He also has incredible material on Marilyn Monroe. I know he is going to reveal the large part Bobby Kennedy played in the CIA-Mafia-Castro business.'

"You know, I used to be at the White House having lunch or dinner with Jack and Bobby would often come by. He'd squeeze my shoulder solicitously and ask, 'Judy, are you O.K. carrying these messages for us to Chicago? Do you still feel comfortable doing it?'"

2. "Conspiracy Theories Keep Coming, But Under Scrutiny the Plot Gets Thinner," Max Holland, *Washington Spectator*, May 15, 1997. Holland is now completing a history of the Warren Commission, *A Need To Know*, to be published by Houghton Mifflin.

3. We found out about Lancer Productions a year ago and contacted them the first time about the use of the name "Lancer." They assured us they were making a documentary about the Kennedy presidency with "maybe just a little about the assassination." Just a one-time project, then they would shut down. Nothing was said about the documentary being a part of Sy Hersh's work. Later, persons at MPI Media Group let me know that Lancer Productions was asking for lots of assassination footage, so I questioned what the documentary would actually cover.

Hersh's "Dream Team" of Robert Kennedy, Marilyn Monroe, and President John Kennedy pictured here at a gathering after JFK's birthday party.

Except from "20/20" ABC television show on the Hersh book and Cusack papers 9-25-97:

PETER JENNINGS: (voice-over) Cusack had told Hersh he was a retired naval officer. But we couldn't find any evidence of that.

And there were other questions. Lex Cusack's 1991 marriage announcement in *The New York Times* stated that he'd graduated cum laude from Harvard University and was attending New York University Law School. In fact, Cusack had never enrolled at either school.

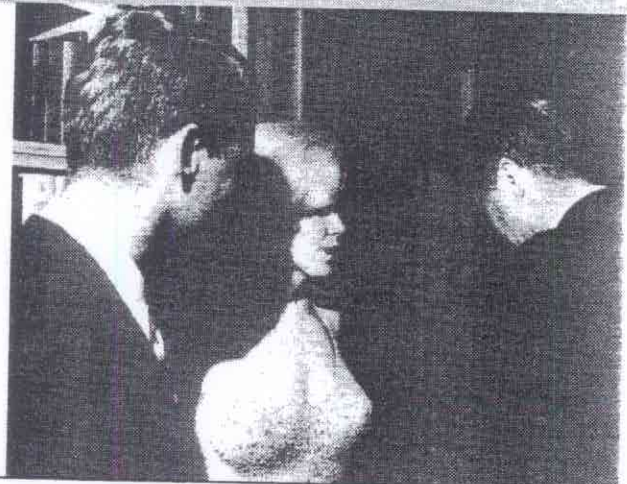
Several months later, the Cusack story really began to unravel after we asked a former document examiner for the FBI, Jerry Richards (ph), to do a forensic analysis of the documents. He reported to us that he'd found a problem. *The lie, he said, was not in the handwriting, but in the typewriting.*

JERRY RICHARDS, Former FBI Document Examiner: All of a sudden, some flags started coming up because the typewriting, at that time, to me, did not coincide with the timing of when these documents should have been prepared.

PETER JENNINGS: (on camera) Can you be more specific?

JERRY RICHARDS: Sure. Basically, the typewriting turned out to be a Prestige Pica Selectric type of type. And that particular type did not come on out until the early '70s.

American Broadcasting Companies, Inc.



LBJ Tapes continued from page 23

won't look very good."

The tapes reveal that Johnson had strong reservations about involvement in Vietnam. "I stayed awake last night thinking of this thing," he tells his national security adviser McGeorge Bundy in May 1964. "It looks to me like we're getting into another Korea. ... I don't think we can fight them 10,000 miles away from home. ... I don't think it's worth fighting for. ... It's just the biggest damned mess that I ever saw."

Politics, the tapes reveal, was part of the decision to bomb North Vietnam in Aug. 1964, following a second incident in the Gulf of Tonkin -- which later was shown never to have happened. After the first incident, Johnson called Defense Secretary Robert McNamara to instruct him to gather together people from the Senate and House Armed Services committees. "I want to leave an impression on background ... that we're gonna be firm as hell," the president said. AP-NY-10-05-97

wwwhear selected excerpts on the web:

<http://oyez.nwu.edu/history-out-loud/lbj/warren/>

wwwOrder the book, Taking Charge, by Michael Beschloss on the Lancer Resource page at the end of the magazine.



Background on the LBJ Tapes

On January 29, 1973, Mildred Stegall, a longtime member of President Johnson's staff, transferred control of a collection of recordings and transcripts to the Director of the LBJ Library, Harry Middleton. At that time, she indicated that President Johnson had wanted this material to be closed for research until fifty years after his death. This collection currently consists of two types of recordings: 1) recordings of telephone conversations, primarily made on Dictaphone Dictabelt Records, from November 22, 1963, through January 1969, and corresponding transcripts; and 2) recordings of international meetings and of meetings held in the Cabinet Room from late November 1967 through 1968, made on reel-to-reel audio tape, and corresponding transcripts.

In response to the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, the staff of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library prepared a special series of recordings and transcripts of telephone conversations. This series, entitled "JFK Assassination-Related Conversations," consists of the recordings and transcripts of all recorded telephone conversations from November 22, 1963, through December 31, 1963, as well as conversations containing information related to the assassination of President Kennedy from selected later periods in the Johnson administration. This series was opened in increments from September 30, 1993, through April 15, 1994.

The only previous release from this collection was made in response to a subpoena in conjunction with the CBS v. Westmoreland lawsuit in 1984, when small portions of selected transcripts were released to the court.


With the fifty-year restriction effectively broken by the congressional mandate of the JFK Assassination Records Collection Act, the decision was made by the Director to continue to open these materials. The White House Series of Recordings and Transcripts continues chronologically where the JFK Series left off, beginning in January 1964. The Library staff will open chronological increments of the collection periodically. If you wish to be notified when additional recordings and transcripts are released, please contact the Library.

Researchers should be cautioned that the transcripts provided by the Library are not always reliable and should never be used without checking them against the actual recordings to assure accuracy. An example of the types of inaccuracies which may appear in the transcripts occurs in the transcript of a conversation between President Johnson and Speaker of the House John McCormack on November 29, 1963. According to the transcript, President Johnson says, "I've got a pack them bastards waiting on me," but the recording reveals that he in fact said, "I've got the Pakistani Ambassador waiting on me."

E-Mail Address: LIBRARY@JOHNSON.NARA.GOV

512-916-5137, ext 257

Internet address: <http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu>



July 21, 1964

Johnson

Kennedy

CAUGHT ON TAPE
from the October 14, 1997
NEWS HOUR TRANSCRIPT

President Johnson and Attorney General Robert Kennedy

ROBERT KENNEDY: I understand that--you know--he [FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover] sends all kinds of reports over to you about me and about the Department of Justice.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON: Not any that I've seen. What are you talking about?

ROBERT KENNEDY: Well, I just understand that--about me planning and plotting things.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON: No, he hasn't sent me a report that I remember. He hasn't sent me any report on you or on the department any time. And I get, I guess, a letter every three or four days that summarize a good deal of stuff. And Walter Jenkins gets eight or ten of 'em a day on Yugoslavia, various routine things where people are talking. But as far as I know they haven't involved you.

ROBERT KENNEDY: Well, I had understood that he had had some report about me.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON: No, no.

ROBERT KENNEDY: About the overthrow of the government by force and violence.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON: No, no.

ROBERT KENNEDY: Leading a coup.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON: No. That's an error. He never said that or indicated or given any indication of it.

Note: Robert Kennedy sounded very weary or depressed on this tape.