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Skolnick charges there was plot in Chicago to assassinate JFK

By Larry Weintraub

Chicago legal researcher Sherman H. Skolnick charged Friday night that there was a Chicago plot to kill President John F. Kennedy three weeks before he was assassinated in Dallas.

Skolnick said a man arrested in Chicago at the time was linked to Lee Harvey Oswald, considered as Kennedy's assassin, and that a former U.S. Secret Service agent was falsely imprisoned so he would not tell about the plot.

The controversial Skolnick made his charges on the Ted Webber radio program on WRSV, an FM show taped from 6 to 7 p.m. and aired from 11 p.m. to midnight.

Skolnick maintained that the potential assassin, a Chicago lithographer, was driving an auto bearing New York license plates issued to Oswald.

Insirts on rifle

Newspaper accounts of the "potential assassin's" arrest here in 1962 said the suspect was carrying only a sheath knife, but Skolnick said the arrest report indicated that he had an M-1 rifle in the car.

Skolnick said his accusations were the result of research done by his class at Columbia College, a workshop in research for students of the

school at 540 N. Lake Shore.

On the radio show, members of the class took part in the questioning of their teacher about what had been found.

The "potential assassin" referred to by Skolnick was taken into custody near his home on Nov. 2, 1963, the date of an Army-Air Force football game in Soldier Field.

The late President, who was slain 20 days later in Dallas, canceled his Chicago appearance at the football game, saying he had a bad cold.

The why of it

Skolnick maintained that John Kennedy didn't come to Chicago because he knew of what Skolnick termed the Chicago plot.

The former Secret Service agent referred to by Skolnick is Abraham Bolden. Bolden was jailed in June, 1966, after being convicted of offering to sell the government's file to a defendant in a counterfeiting case.

The principal witness against Bolden later admitted that his testimony in the case

was a lie, but Bolden was never granted a new trial.

The former Secret Service agent has recently been released from federal prison on probation.

Contacted by The Sun-Times, he refused to comment on the Kennedy matter.

But documents Skolnick showed to a reporter indicate that Bolden was, in fact, trailing a potential assassin at the time of the football game.

The man Skolnick referred to as the potential assassin is a former Marine Corps buddy of Oswald, according to the legal researcher. Newspaper clippings confirm that the man had served in the corps.