

A computer expert who analyzed 300 photographs and 25,000 frames of movies taken at the time John F. Kennedy was killed, says the President was assassinated by a conspiracy involving more than 50 people, including some Dallas policemen and members of the CIA. Richard Sprague explains his theory:

[Sprague:] "First of all, a conspiracy. Four assassins, that is, four men firing shots from four different locations in Dealey Plaza where the assassination took place. Two of these men were on the so-called grassy knoll area and the other two in buildings, one of which was the Depository building, and the other building called the Dal-Tex Building. However, Oswald did not fire any of the shots. We feel the photographic evidence definitely proves that no shots were fired from the window where he was supposed to have been. And therefore we have the implication of course that he was framed or set up as a patsy. He actually claimed that he was and used that expression, 'patsy'."

Sprague, the president of Personal Data Service, Hartsdale, New York, said the Kennedy assassination was the most photographed murder in history but the Warren Commission examined only 26 of the 500 still photographs available. Sprague used computer analysis in his study of the photos. His conclusions are printed in the May issue of "Computers and Automation."

[First few words missed.]

..... that 50 people, not just Lee Harvey Oswald, were involved in the conspiracy. Richard Sprague says the killing was the most photographed murder in history, that there were 500 still photos available, that the Warren Commission, he asserts, only looked at 26 of them. Sprague says he analyzed several thousand frames of movie film and says the CIA and the Dallas police were in on the deal.

[Sprague:] "I've been working on the analysis of the photographic evidence for three years, and it's extremely complex. We have more than 50,000 frames of movie sequences and several hundred still photographs. There must be many thousands of objects, events, people and places in these photographs that are of importance. And we have such [? - garbled word] voluminous amount of data it's almost impossible to process it or analyze it by hand, although that's what I have been doing.

"About three months ago, Computers and Automation Magazine, in particular the editor, Ed Berkeley, approached me with the thought that perhaps computers might be applied to the analysis of the evidence, and I agreed. So we started work on this idea."

The outcome has been a new fantasy to add to the legion that surrounds the death of the young President. CBS spent several hundred thousand dollars on research into the matter and came to essentially the same conclusions as the Warren Commission but using better evidence. The most dramatic revelation from the CBS study was a new look at the Zapruder film which proved, first of all, that Oswald did have time to fire the shots, and secondly, conclusively proved the exact time of the sequence of the shots. This was done for the first time by noting a flinching of Zapruder's hand-held camera that occurred each time a rifle shot was fired.