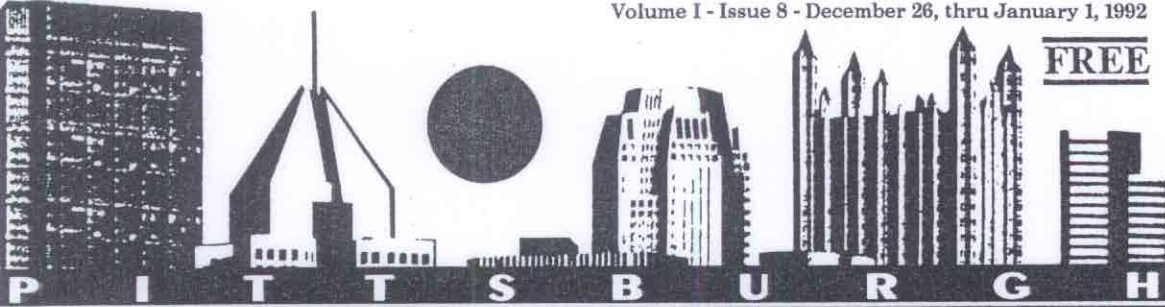
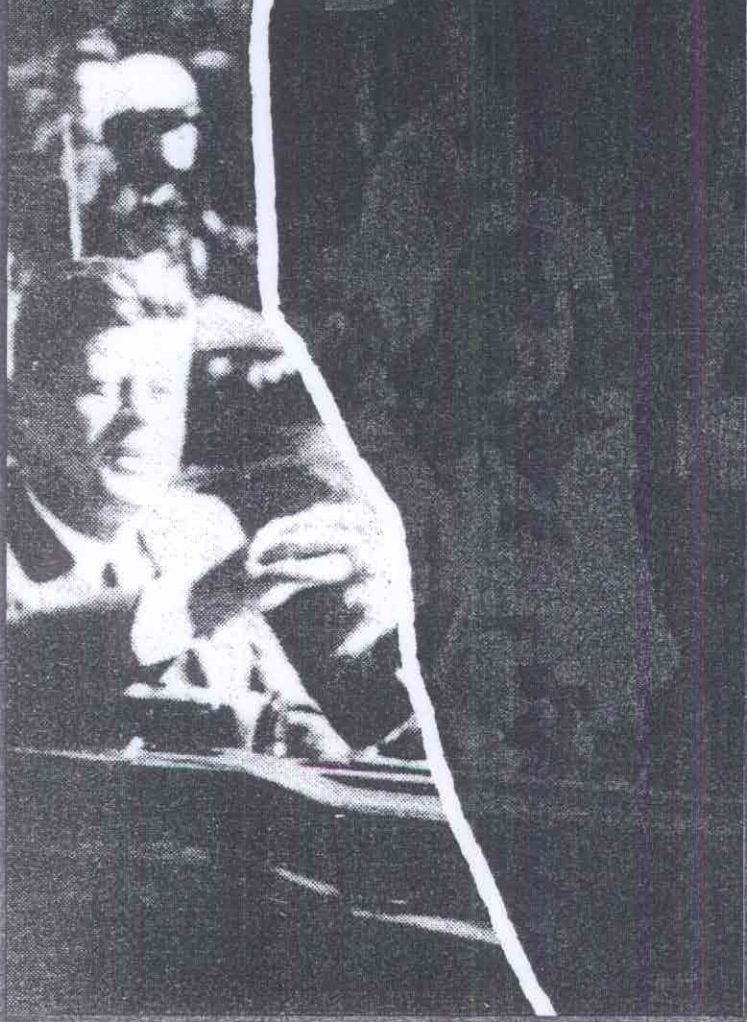


FREE



City Paper



**"UNAUTHORIZED
HISTORY:**

OSWALD

**AS
ENIGMA."**

PG.3



"JFK"

AN OLIVER STONE FILM

pg.12

- Riley Stoker.....pg.6
- News of the Weird.....pg.7
- In Health.....pg.10
- Sports.....pg.19
- Happenings.....pg.22

"UNAUTHORIZED HISTORY: OSWALD AS ENIGMA."

By BOB DRYLIE
Staff Writer

PART ONE

President To Tour Texas

Media personality Jan Robbins interviewed a group of European children some 30 years ago in order to gain their impressions of America, and specifically, Americans. One answer is particularly telling:

"The average American is of course, a Texan. He eats a lot of breakfast so he gets fat, and has to go on a diet, because he likes to look skinny. He calls everyone 'sweetheart' and is bad to colored people. If he doesn't like who the President is, he usually shoots him."

There was no love lost in the South for John F. Kennedy. When the "P.T. 109" film came out, there was a movie marquis in Georgia which read, "See how the Japs almost got Kennedy." There was also a popular joke going around at the same time: "If John, Bobby, and Teddy were on a sinking ship, who would be saved?"

A: "The country."

On Nov. 21, 1963, an aide to ultra-right wing activist Gen. Edwin Walker, named Surrey, hung up fly bills which read: "Wanted For Treason," and showed JFK full-face and profile. On that fatal day in Dallas, at 9 a.m., JFK joked with his wife Jackie in their suite:

"We're really in nut country now."

The Secret Service investigated 37 death threats against the President from Texas alone. Considering this, why did JFK go South that November?

It was, in fact, a critical trip for a number of reasons. JFK had barely carried the South in the 1960 Presidential Election, and in fact, won the election over Richard M. Nixon by just a few electoral votes; the closest race in American history. It was time to campaign again, for he had announced his candidacy for a second term, and the best place to start to carry the Southern delegates was in the home state of LBJ.

Louisiana's electoral college was against JFK to a man, and technically, the state was lost to him before the vote was ever taken. JFK endorsed LBJ for the Vice Presidency, but there were copious rumors to the contrary. The word in some circles was that LBJ would be dropped from the ticket.

LBJ had become an increasing liability to the Kennedy reelection campaign. He was teetering on the brink of ruin from several scandals which had

reached crisis proportion and were beginning to undermine the Kennedy Administration. There was the Billy Sol Estes scandal. Then there was Bobby Baker (LBJ's protegee from his Senate days) and Fred Black. All three of these men had close mob ties.

In addition to these problems, there was the growing schism in the Texas democratic party, between the old money represented by Gov. John Connally and the nouveau riche under Richard Yarborough. Yarborough charged, as

Texas, and the electoral votes to carry the coming election.

PART TWO

Nov. 22, 1963
12:30 p.m. (cst)
Dealy Plaza,
Dallas, Texas

As the President's motorcade drives



JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

late as Nov. 20, 1963, that Baker "had a hand" in keeping him from a choice commission seat.

Baker: "We can't afford to let Yarborough have that seat. He would be in a position to control Judicial patronage, or would be in a position of preventing LBJ from controlling it." Kennedy went to Texas to talk politics, to try and realign his party, and shore up some of this seething mess before it fell completely apart. He needed the state of

through Dallas on that placid November afternoon, large crowds which have gathered in anticipation of the event cheer at the sight of JFK and other notables.

The motorcade turns right, 90 degrees onto Houston Street. Amateur photographer Hughes films the motorcade heading directly toward the Texas School Book Depository, then turning onto Elm Street. Inadvertently, his film catches and records two figures poised at the sixth

floor window of the TSBD.

The Presidential limousine turns left, enters Dealy Plaza and slowly heads for the triple underpass leading onto the Stemmons Freeway. Gov. Connally's wife turns to JFK and says:

"Mr. President, you can't say that Dallas doesn't love you."

"That is very obvious," he replied. In the next few seconds, there is a fusillade of gunfire. The Governor is critically wounded and the President is killed outright.

Listen to what the witnesses who came forward have to say about those few seconds in Dealy Plaza to Josiah Thompson author of "Six Seconds In Dallas."

WILLIAM NEWMAN: "We were looking back up the street to see if the motorcade was coming and the first two shots were fired, and of course the first shot: boom, the President threw up his arms like that, and then he looked like he was looking into the crowd, you know, like he was looking for something, just kind of a wild expression."

KENNETH O'DONNELL: "The President seemed to be guarding his face with his clenched fists, his elbows elevated to either side."

The first shot, which many experts believe was a dud, struck the President in the upper back, on the right hand side, about seven inches below the collar of his shirt. Eye and ear-witnesses remember that the shot sounded like a firecracker, a pop. Surplus ammunition will sometimes misfire like this if it is too old. It was not, however, a fatal wound.

HOLLAND: (A witness standing on the triple underpass directly in front of the approaching motorcade.) "And the Governor turned to...his right...then he turned like that, and that's when the Governor was shot...He definitely was not hit by the first shot."

THOMPSON: "So you believe the Governor was hit by the second shot?"

HOLLAND: "I know the Governor was hit by the second shot."

Gov. Connally was struck at an angle of 27 degrees, which represents a much steeper angle than the first shot which struck the President. The bullet passed through Connally's back, and exited through his right chest, and slammed into his wrist, which shattered what was left of the projectile. A tiny piece of this missile embedded itself into his right thigh, and there were three large fragments found under the jump seat of the limousine. There is a large fracture on the inside of the windshield, and a large dent in the chrome strip at the rear of the car, where JFK and his wife Jackie

continues on next page

continued from page 3

were seated. The full grain weight of the bullet was never recovered after the shooting.

HOLLAND: "The report of the third shot wasn't nearly as loud as the first and second shot or the fourth shot...The bullets travel faster than sound, but the report I heard of the third one-I heard that before I heard the fourth one, the fourth shot...The third and fourth bullets hit the President in the head."

Note that the witnesses that Tompson interviewed for his remarkable study said that the third shot wasn't nearly as loud as the other three. Note as well that Holland believes he heard four shots, which is more in keeping with what really happened. There may have even been more. Someone missed the limo altogether, because the projectile struck a curb better than 200 yards away in the Dealy Plaza, and a bystander who was 70 yards from the impact of that bullet was struck in the cheek by metal fragments. The Warren Commission actually had this piece of curb removed for study later.

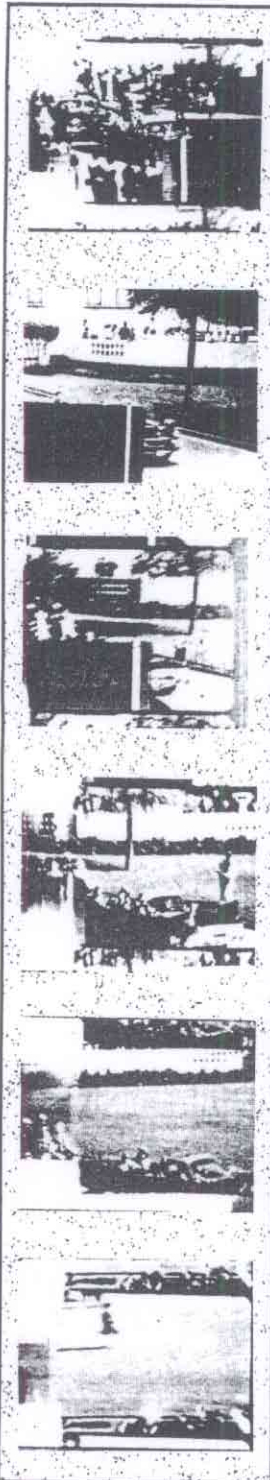
There are other peculiar eye witness accounts from Dealy Plaza that day. Gordon Arnold, a soldier home on leave, was shooed off the Grassy Knoll by a man who showed him Secret Service credentials. He was trying to find a good location to take some motion picture film of the passing motorcade.

Patrolman Joe Smith charged the assassination with his weapon drawn, and distinctly remembers smelling

The Secret Service investigated 37 death threats against the President from Texas alone. Considering this, why did JFK go South that November?

gunpowder. Remember that several people thought they saw smoke, and in fact, amateur photographer, Emile Zapruder swings his camera toward the picket fence on the Knoll just moments after the shooting for a few shaky seconds of footage. Remember as well that modern ammunition does not make large puffs of smoke, unless of course, it is some kind of specialty load.

There was one man on the Knoll when Officer Smith arrived, and he immediately produced his Secret Service credentials. Smith says he saw a man running in the distance, by the railroad tracks. Smith later recalls that the man was casually dressed; sports shirt and slacks, and had greasy hands and black fingernails, something which he didn't pick up on at the time, but, he conceded, doesn't fit. ALL of the Secret Service agents on duty that day were with the motorcade, and at that moment, they were all enroute to the Parkland hospital, about four minutes away.



Officer John Tilson, who was off duty at the time, was driving nearby with his daughter in the car when they spotted a man in a white shirt, no tie, and khaki trousers sliding down the railroad embankment to a black automobile parked there. He put something on the back seat, and then hurriedly got in and took off, according to Tilson. Tilson gave chase, but lost the black sedan. Despite this, they did get the license plate number, and reported it to the FBI. There was never any follow-up that can be found on record.

The President threw up his arms like that, and then he looked into the crowd, you know, like he was looking for something, just kind of a wild expression.

—William Newman

Bystanders Arnold Roland and his wife saw two men on the sixth floor of TSBD. One man was wearing a tan or brown coat, and held a rifle across his chest. A radio on a police motorcycle next to them squawked out the time as they stood there, 12:15 p.m.

At exactly the same time, Mrs. Arnold, secretary to the Vice president of the TSBD saw Lee Harvey Oswald in the Domino room on the second floor. Later, after the assassination, when Dallas police officer Marrion L. Baker and building superintendent Mr. Truely charged the steps, Oswald was still there, drinking a Coke.

James Worrell and Carolyn Walther saw a man "leaving in a big hurry" by the rear door of the TSBD. Oswald exited the building by the front entrance, and in fact directed Robert MacNeil to the telephone, mistaking his press card for a Secret Service badge.

Richard Carr, watching the motorcade from a building that was under construction on Commerce Street, observed this same man on the sixth floor of the TSBD, and then again, going down Houston street, turning onto Commerce, and then getting into a light colored Rambler station wagon driven by a Negro, or dark-complected man. Deputy Sheriff Roger Craig and motorist Richard Robinson both saw this man as described by witnesses cited above. Note the similarities of these sightings with later reports of a Latino accompanying Oswald in and around Dallas three weeks prior to the assassination.

About two hours after the assassination, in a flurry of activity, Oswald was arrested in a Dallas movie theater. He was the prime suspect in Tippett's murder. He produced a .38 revolver which he tried to fire. Much to his surprise, and the relief of the police, it emitted only a loud click. Oswald was roughed up by the officers, and someone gave him a black eye.

This is how we remember Oswald: a young man in a sloppy T-shirt with a swollen face, paraded back and forth

through the halls of the Dallas police station, amid a throng of reporters, lights, and cameras with popping flash bulbs.

PART THREE

"Oswald as Enigma"

Oswald remains a man of enigmatic proportions. His story is one of many contradictions. It seems likely that his name will stand forever as the assassin of President Kennedy. When considering Oswald, it is well to bear in mind that, while he stood accused of the assassination, he was never tried by a legal court, and never convicted of any crime. As much as my case for this man is unproven, so is the case slapped together by the Warren Commission.

To be entirely fair about the matter, the Warren Commission, headed by Earl Warren and considered ineffectual by most, was whitewashed by J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI. Allen Dulles, in the Warren transcripts, questions Hoover's viability on the issue. It is a telling moment.

It was the general consensus of lawmen and newsmen nation-wide that Oswald was subject to a Texas-style lynching. While in the care of the Dallas police department, Oswald was kept sequestered, especially from the press. The media took every opportunity to ask questions as he passed, bundled about by a score of deputies and lawmen through the crowded hall. He was allowed one press conference, on the evening of the assassination, after he had been arraigned.

Shortly thereafter, he is introduced to the mob of reporters. Presumably, Jack Ruby was there as was reported later.

Oswald is introduced by a policeman:

"Fellah's name is Oswald."

Oswald: "I positively know nothing about the situation here, I would like to have re-, legal representation."

Q: Unintelligible.

Oswald: "Well, I was questioned by a judge. However I protested at the time that I was not allowed legal representation during that very short and sweet hearing. I really don't know what the situation is about. Nobody has told me anything except that I'm accused of murdering a policeman. I know nothing about that. I do request that someone come forward and give me legal assistance."

Q: "Did you kill the President?"

Oswald: "No, I haven't been charged with that. In fact nobody has said that to me yet. The first thing that I heard about it was when the newspaper reporters in the hall asked me that question."

A policeman nearby states: "You have been charged with that," repeating it again.

Q: "What did you do in Russia? What happened to your eye?"

Oswald: "A-a policeman hit me."

Oswald was terrified that his nemesis the FBI was on the case, and refused to

even speak with the agents. When the Secret Service approached him however, he was willing to talk to them. Unfortunately for him, and the rest of us, Jack Ruby prevented that.

It is curious that Oswald's 1962 income tax return is still being held as classified material in the assassination. It will no doubt reveal what is already clear; that he was a paid FBI informant. Oswald, at this time, no doubt comes to suspect what his associations with the Bannister/Ferrie group out of New Orleans have come to. He has no way, however, of knowing the degree to which he has been manipulated or incriminated by both circumstantial and physical evidence in the two crimes for which he asserts he is blameless. Oswald was framed, and what a pretty picture he made.

Hoover was well aware of Oswald, due to the fact that Oswald was only the third American since the Second World War to "defect" to Russia. He sent the following memo to the State Department, on June 3, 1960.

"Since there is a possibility that an imposter is using Oswald's birth certificate, any current information the Department of State may have concerning subject will be appreciated." Hoover knew that an imposter was being groomed. This was a particular fascination for Hoover, eg, the double. Oswald reported his birth certificate stolen shortly before he left the country and emigrated to the Soviet Union.

The double evidence is compelling, and reinforces the enigma that continues to surround the man and his actions in the last months of his life.

On Jan. 20, 1961 while Oswald is in Minsk, in the Soviet Union, a group of men attempt to buy a number of trucks from Bolton Ford Inc. The American identifies himself as Joseph Moore, but later asks that the name Oswald be used on the purchase document.

There are numerous and disturbing incidents that seem to place Oswald in various locales, doing things tailored to

rhetoric. He was also friends with Anthony D. Varona of the CIA-backed Cuban Revolutionary Council.

A neighbor of Gonzales found a note, just five days prior to the assassination, which had been forwarded to Gonzales via Oswald. It was an urgent request to call two Dallas-area phone numbers. When presented with this note by his neighbor, Gonzales was reported to have been noticeably nervous, and then hurriedly made calls from a nearby public pay phone. Shortly after the assassination of JFK, Gonzalez will leave the U.S. and disappear into Venezuela.

Oswald moved to New Orleans in April of 1963, and came into contact with the FBI contract agency, run by ex-agent, Guy Bannister. The newest information suggests that Bannister drew Oswald into an American intelligence scheme, perhaps aimed at compromising an organization known as the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. Bannister served briefly on Louisiana's Committee on Un-American Activities, and was a member of both the "Minutemen," and the infamous John Birch Society. Curiously enough, Bannister died of a heart attack in June 1964, before he testified before the Warren Commission. His voluminous files were immediately impounded and whisked off by the FBI.

David Ferrie, whom Bannister's secretary, Delphina Roberts suspected had CIA ties, was also a part of this group. Ferrie turned up at Oswald's residence just hours after the assassination and asked his landlady about his library card. It was found in

Nobody has told me anything except that I'm accused of murdering a policeman. I know nothing about that. I do request that someone come forward and give me legal assistance.
--Lee Harvey Oswald

Oswald's possession at the time of his arrest by the Dallas police. When later questioned, Ferrie denied that he knew Oswald. The truth of the matter is that Ferrie had known Oswald for a long time. In fact, Oswald had been in Ferrie's Civil Air Patrol as a teenager in the mid-1950s.

Incidentally, because Oswald was underage, he presented his birth certificate to Ferrie as proof of age. Ironically, David Ferrie died just days after Jim Garrison's indictment of New

Orleans businessman Clay Shaw. Ferrie had been implicated as well.

The Walker incident, in which Oswald is said to have taken a shot at General Walker on April 10, 1963 in Dallas, is another frame after the fact. It is hardly worth looking into again. Note that it was Walker-aide Surrey who hung up and passed out those "Wanted For Treason" fly bills which caught the President's attention on that fatal November day.

There are many "double" incidents which should be considered, and they began to multiply in the final three weeks of Oswald's life, in and around Dallas. Again, they are incidents that are meant to cast Oswald in a very unfavorable light.

Dial Ryder, an employee of the Irving Sports Shop in Dallas, found a repair tag for a gun. The tag bore the name Oswald. Ryder remembered the weapon and the man who had brought it in. The man requested that the gun be mounted with a telescopic sight. Ryder identified the weapon as a Manchliner-Carcano 6.5 mm rifle. The scope was mounted by drilling the three holes.

Oswald's weapon also bore a telescopic sight, which was mounted with two holes. Oswald's surplus rifle also had a broken firing pin. There is no mention of this in the Irving Sports shop repair record. The rifle was brought to them at the first of the month and picked up somewhere between Nov. 4-8, while Oswald was downtown at the TSBD working.

On Nov. 1, a look-alike also bought ammunition at Morgan's Gun shop in Fort Worth. The shopkeepers from both Morgan's and Irving's identified the man as Oswald.

Again, there are numerous reports of this double, acting brashly as he applies for a job at the Dallas Southland hotel, trying to buy an automobile. The first sighting of the man took place at the Sports Drome rifle range on Nov. 9, 1963.

Dr. Homer Wood's 13-year-old son, who was present at the Sports Drome that day, remembers a rifle with a different scope. He also remembers that the rifle emitted a "ball of fire," and that the man was a crack shot. The man infuriated other sportsman by firing at their targets as well, and picked up his casings when he departed. He was seen more than once, and in the company of a Latin, or Cuban gentleman. Another witness, at the Walker incident, also identified one of the three men that he saw as being Cuban or Latin.

Oswald checked a book out of the library on November 6. It was "The Shark and The Sardine," and was highly critical of JFK's policies and especially the Alliance for Progress. This volume was anonymously returned to the library in 1964, but never turned up in the exhaustive search of Oswald's other effects at the time of the assassination.

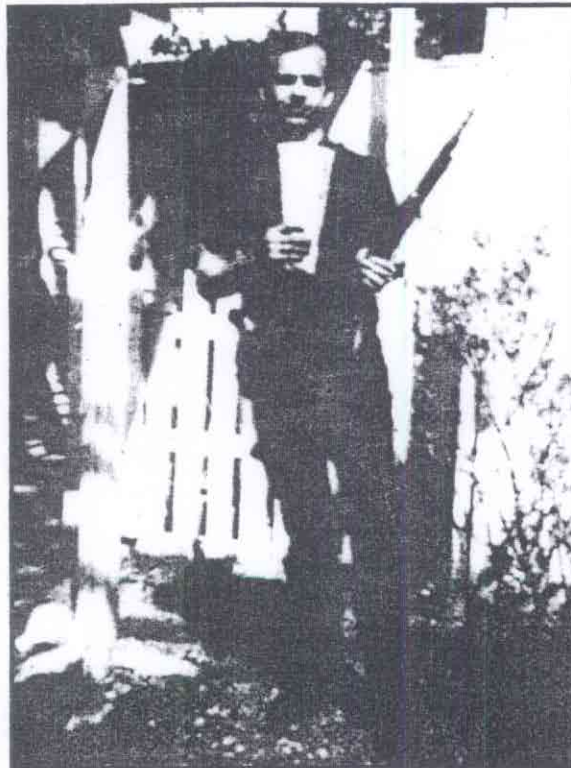
It becomes disturbingly clear from Hoover's original note in June of 1960, that someone else WAS using his identity

continues on page 7

There was one man on the Knoll when Officer Smith arrived, and he immediately produced his Secret Service credentials.

reveal his identity, and specifically to draw attention to him as boisterous and obnoxious. There is the Sylvia Odio incident, the Lee Dannelly incident when "Oswald" confronts this man at the Selective Service office in Dallas, concerning a change in the status of his discharge. There is one more incident, which bears further scrutiny, and that is the Ahlene incident.

Pedro Gonzalez, President of the local anti-Castro group called Cuban Liberation Committee, is remembered for his extreme anti-Kennedy sentiments and



Long believed to be a composite photo, it shows Oswald with his rifle and pistol, holding a copy of the "Militant" newspaper.



Riley Stoker

Tall Tales From The Working Class



Riley, (back row) Shelly of the Inn, and author jhb, sharing some Christmas Grog.

Riley's Christmas

We interrupt your regularly scheduled Riley to bring you the following holiday special. "Western: A Ghost Story," will be run next issue.

I went over to Riley's place to see what he gotten for Christmas. I hadn't seen him in a while, and had been wondering what he was up to over the holiday.

Riley was at home, but was walking around his apartment in his "woodies," eg, the Carhart one-piece work suits that are usually for outdoor wear. I noted at once that his apartment was freezing, and so left my coat on.

"Hot coffee?" Riley asked. I nodded, and Riley poured me out a cup of his famous roofing tar that made my hair stand on end. We took a scat in the living room, lit by the four tall windows that looked down onto the main street of the town, now at a midday standstill, with just a few idlers going from here to there.

"Have a nice Christmas, Riley?" I asked after a couple of sips. Riley nodded, but didn't speak. I persisted, "You didn't have to work, did you?"

Riley wagged his head from side to side, then: "No, we only worked one Christmas eve, and that was at the end of my third year with the company." He paused as if considering whether to trot out that story, and must have decided against it, because he continued on another track:

"Did I ever tell you about the horse lady?" He asked.

"I don't think so," I replied, and so Riley filled my cup again, before continuing his story.

"I sometimes spent Christmas there, because my family was thousands of miles away," Riley began. "Marge E-- ran a horse ranch, and was also a college professor, but she was always a horse woman first, at least to me, and that's the context I see her in. She has a stallion breeding station not far from here. I had worked off and on for her in our slow times for years, sometimes going over on weekends. You always worked when you went there. When you raised your hand to wave, Marge put a hammer in it, hung a crowbar on your arm, and showed you to a broken piece of fence or a stall which needed repairing."

"She has about fifteen to twenty horses in the barn at any given time, all Hanoverian or Arabian stock. Some of the mares even have some Clydesdale blood in them; Pinny especially, a twenty year old mare that is gentle as a lamb. Everyone loves Pinny," Riley observed.

"Marge always had a million chores to do, and so an average day there was feeding and watering three or four times, and a multitude of repairs; stalls, fences, gates, the round ring, and the like. In between the chores, Marge fed you pretty well, and we would sit and talk about philosophy and aesthetics of art."

"That doesn't sound like you, Riley," I commented.

"Surprised? Old Riley knows more that he lets on," He commented.

"Marge was full of surprises. She was Canadian born, and is a resident alien, having lived most of her life in the United States. She attended Columbia University, where she received her Doctorate in the arts. While she was in New York, she lived in with the famous painter Hugo Weber, who had broken his leg while falling down the steps. She was his aide, in exchange for residence. She scrimped by, having left a husband and two small children behind in Canada, and came to the United States to pursue her education. She also related to me how she was picked up twice off the streets of the city, having fallen over from malnutrition. Weber it seems, was a friend of beat poet Jack Kerouac, and she also told me about an ugly incident between Hugo and Jack. The poet arrived inebriated, and proceeded to make overt passes at Marge until Hugo fiercely interceded."

"That's some story," I said.

"It's not a story, it's true. Marge also has a neighbor, Mr. G--, who also

While she was in New York, she lived in with the famous painter Hugo Weber, who had broken his leg while falling down the steps.

attended Columbia at the same time, and hung out with the Soho crowd, which at the time included Yoko Ono. They're pretty neat people, and the lunchtime and dinner conversations are fascinating, to say the least."

"Anyway, I went for Christmas, and true to form, Marge had me out there on the business end of a shovel. It was too cold to put the horses out, and so we would move them from stall to stall as we cleaned up around them. Marge would pilot the old John Deere C Series tractor that started with a gigantic bloom-splat as it turned the massive pistons over. We would fill the spreader to bursting, before taking it out to the field, often having to clear the rear lanes to get the tractor to the field."

"There was a broken stall to deal with before the Christmas dinner, and so we tackled that project after the clean-up was done and the feeding and watering taken

care of. Marge hauled out the tools, and we broke out the surplus lumber that I provided from the barn business I ran on the side. She unrolled the extension cord, and we proceeded to saw, drill and fit the boards into place, driving eight penny nails into the petrified antique woods to hold them together. I would get two inch thick planks from the old barn floors, and we used them to rebuild that stalls for the kick-happy yearlings that seemed to always be taking out the walls."

Weber it seems, was a friend of beat poet Jack Kerouac, and she also told me about an ugly incident between Hugo and Jack.

"It might seem to you that the horses were dangerous, and occasionally you might get run down or stepped on, but it wasn't their fault. They are naturally high-spirited animals, and when you release them into pasture and watch them run, they have an aesthetic all their own. Actually they were all very nice, and you got to know them like people. Swapzie and Pinny were my favorites, and Camille, the Philly, was the most cantankerous, always trying to nip you, or turning around to kick. You had to be careful around her, and occasionally bat her one on the nose to make her keep her place. Swapzie, on the other hand, would give you a kiss, and sometimes take a mouthful of hay and drop it down your collar while you were filled his water bucket. I really like him."

"We were sort of an odd collection for Christmas; Mr. G-- the video pirate that lived like a recluse in the large Brownstone next door, Marge, her daughter Lori, Billy, her former son-in-law, and his new wife Pat. Sometimes there were others, and the door was always open to new members. We would finish the chores, stage the tools, and then repair to a sumptuous Christmas dinner and hearty conversation. It was always a nice time, despite the work. After all, horses can't wait, not even for Christmas."

"Sounds like a pretty good time," I said, "except that part about cleaning the stalls."

"Horses poop on Christmas too," Riley said, and then shook his head with a smile, then: "What a life, standing around in a stall watching your shit pile up."

I laughed out loud, and then Riley continued:

"It's a good place to contemplate the meaning of Christmas," Riley said, "after all, it all began in a manger."

"Pretty nice Christmas story, Riley," I added as Riley fired up a smoke.

Next Week: Western: A Ghost Story.

news of the WEIRD

Roy McCarthy, 36, was charged in Clayton, Mo., in October with assault in three incidents in which he allegedly posed as a doctor and tried to rub men's feet. In the latest incident, he was accused of dropping gallon jugs of wine on the feet of three clerks at Dierbergs Market. One clerk hobbled to the storeroom with a broken foot and was followed by McCarthy, who said, "Let me take a look at your foot. I'm a doctor," whereupon McCarthy "manipulated" and "massaged" the foot, according to the clerk.

What Goes Around, Comes Around

◆ A bank robber in St. Leonards, Australia, was crushed to death in August when he leaned over the teller's counter to check the drawer at just the time that the teller activated a bullet-proof steel screen that rose from the counter and pinned the robber's head between it and the frame on the teller's cage. The robber screamed to his accomplice for help, but the other man fled.

◆ Rudolfo Naranjo, 49, died of a heart attack as he was cleaning out a safe in the middle of robbing the Bill Miller Bar-B-Q restaurant in San Antonio in August. His two accomplices at first dragged him toward the back door and

yelled for employees to call an ambulance but then decided to leave Naranjo behind and flee with their \$60 booty.

◆ In Nashville in July, 85-year-old Addie Davis stopped a burglar in her home by repeatedly hitting him over the head with a six-pack of canned Sprite. The man, Kenneth D. Huggins, 24, had already been badly cut by glass from entering through a window, and Davis said he begged her just to kill him to put him out of his misery. Said a police officer, "He was cut worse than any human I've ever seen."

◆ Louis Vaughn Hooper, 50, was burned to death when his getaway car smashed into a tree and exploded in a ball of flames. The crime he was getting away from was a service station robbery in which he made off with \$9 worth of gasoline.

◆ Wayne McLaren, 49, filed a lawsuit in Santa Ana, Calif., in September against his physician, who McLaren says failed to diagnose his lung cancer in time for treatment. McLaren is a former male model who once portrayed the "Marlboro man" in cigarette ads and was a pack-and-a-half smoker for 25 years.

Just Can't Stop Myself

◆ Herbert G. Fisher, the former official Virginia state archaeologist,

serving 20 years in prison for murdering his wife, was discovered in August trying to dig his way out of Gloucester County Jail.

◆ Two Minnesota law firms (including Dorsey & Whitney, the states' largest) were fined \$50,000 each this summer for exceeding the page limits on briefs filed in an age-discrimination lawsuit. The limit is 40 pages, which each firm exceeded by more than 600 pages.

◆ Rex Layne Millender, 37, on the lam for bank robbery in Alabama, was arrested in Dothan in April for shoplifting an 89-cent carton of orange juice.

◆ Ettore Gagliano, 83, was arrested outside a cathedral in Milan, Italy, in July, for hitting Dom Timoteo Moschopoulos, 69, a Greek orthodox priest, marking the 59th time he had been charged with assaulting a priest. Gagliano yelled "Thieves!" during the assault and told police: "I don't like priests. When I see one, I just have to give him a punch in the ear. There is nothing you can do to save priests from me. I shall bash them all until my last breath." He is usually released from custody because of his advanced age, and Milan priests are warned of Gagliano when they first come to the area.

◆ Anthony Galante, 31, a New York City computer analyst, was accused by police in July of having made 30,000 obscene phone calls in New York and Connecticut. His preferred scheme was to tell a woman that he was holding a family member hostage and that she should stand outside her house naked as he drove by. Police estimate Galante was successful in one of every 100 phone calls.

◆ Hillary Parker was arrested in Louisville in February and charged with robbing the Citizens Fidelity Bank. He had just been released from prison after having served 13 years for robbing that same bank in 1976.

◆ The New York City Department of General Services reported in October that a thief has made off with 109 toilet bowl handles from various government buildings since March, including one from a men's room just down the hall from Mayor Dinkins' office.

By Chuck Shepherd
Syndicated Columnist

(Send your Weirdest News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 57141, Washington, D.C. 20037.)

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JFK continued from page 5

for malevolent purposes. They were creating a spectacle of him, showing off on a rifle range (Oswald was the joke of his platoon for his ineptitude on the rifle range) and driving recklessly as he attempted to buy a car (Oswald was being taught to drive, just prior to the assassination by Ruth Paine) and affiliating him with causes and particular viewpoints that might seem extremely suspect should anything untoward occur.

A Miami police informant, William Somerset, in a conversation with Joseph Milteer, a wealthy and ultra-right wing activist in the Cuban exile community tells him (Somerset) that JFK will be hit.

MILTEER: "Oh yeah, it's in the working. They will pick up somebody within hours afterward, just to throw the public off."

Then there is the disturbing account of Rose Chermie, found beaten up on the road in Eunice, La. She desperately tried to tell her physician, Dr. Victor Weiss, that JFK will be assassinated in two days. She also says that she works for Ruby, when she awakens, two days later, and the deal is done.

Final notes on Oswald: He said it himself, right to the newsmen and the

lights and the cameras, and in effect, to all of us that day in Dallas: "I'm just a patsy."

His paraffin tests for his cheek and hands were negative. There were no metal nor gunpowder particles found on his cheek or hands, although both hands tested positive for some sort of chemical, which could be because he handled texts at the TSBD all day, which were sealed and preserved by chemicals.

The important thing to remember here is that his cheek tested negative, which precludes the use of such an old and leaky rifle like the Carcano. And the other part is, if he fired the inoperative .38 taken from him, at Tippett, why would both hands be positive? The paper bag, which he supposedly used to smuggle the rifle into the TSBD that day had no oil or metal scratches on it, anywhere, and when the Carcano was found it was very oily. There was supposedly a palm print of Oswald's found inside the disassembled rifle, but when the FBI tried to lift this palm print, they could not make an image. The Dallas police supplied them with one-and it looks like the one they found on a carton on the sixth floor of the TSBD.

It seems that everyone knew about the conspiracy, and better, they were all in on it, from the FBI/CIA down to the talking heads on the television, all of

continued on page 26



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JFK continued from page 7

them, that is, except for the enigma that Oswald represents in retrospect. Oswald, most probably, was not in on it, or tricked into believing he was going to take part in a small demonstration that day in Dealy Plaza. Regardless, he was having his picture taken for a frame.

PART FOUR

The Warren Commission

Twenty-seven years have passed since the Warren Commission produced their findings, which, incidentally, upheld the FBI investigation of the assassination of the President. Most people didn't believe it then, and even fewer people believe it now.

The Warren Commission drew its name from Chief Justice Earl Warren of the Supreme Court. Warren had few admirers and many detractors in government. It may well be the reason for his appointment.

There were two men who supposedly represented the private sector, and they were John J. McCloy and Allen Dulles. McCloy was the former president of the International Bank of Reconstruction. Importantly, he was an ongoing and highly influential member of the Council On Foreign Relations, which controls everything from international banking to local newspapers. Dulles was the ex-chief of the CIA. He was terminated after the disastrous Bay Of Pigs Affair, which blew up in Kennedy's face like a load in a Havana cigar. Richard Bissel, of the same family which made their fortune in sweepers, was also fired as project director at the same time. To be fair, the Bay Of Pigs Invasion was a carry-over from the Eisenhower Administration.



After his arraignment on murder charges pertaining to Tippett and JFK, Oswald is exposed to a jammed press conference that evening.

The other members were Hale Boggs (R) Georgia, John Sherman (R) from Kentucky, and Richard B Russel (D) from Georgia. Russel was also Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and notably, the lone dissenter to the "Magic Bullet" theory, which was the wet dream of our Sen. Arlen Specter, who went on to national prominence along with Gerald Ford. Ford who, backed into

the Presidency when Nixon fell from grace, is revealed to be Hoover's go-between.

The Warren Commission was wholly at the mercy of the FBI. Within hours of Kennedy's murder, without having seen or examined any of the evidence in the case, Hoover was asserting, in writing, that Oswald was the killer, that he acted alone, and so on. He sanitized Oswald's file, lied to the Commission when asked about Oswald's informant status, and generally made the entire commission suspicious of him.

The FBI similarly shut down an attempt by Texas to conduct their own independent investigation, and sat on the Dallas police, effectively gagging them and taking the case out of their hands just hours after the assassination on the claim that they had violated Oswald's civil rights.

Curry I understand, cannot control Captain Fritz...who is giving much information to the press. Since we now think it involves the criminal code on a conspiracy charge under section 2-11, we want them to shut up.

--J. Edgar Hoover

Listen to a part of a memo of Hoover: "...Curry I understand, cannot control Captain Fritz...who is giving much information to the press. Since we now think it involves the criminal code on a conspiracy charge under section 2-11, we want them to shut up. Furthermore I have ordered the evidence be secured by the police department...The thing I am most concerned about, and so is Mr. Katzenbach, is having something issued so we can convince the public that Oswald is the assassin."

"In the interest of National Security..." was the oft-repeated phrase in the coming months as the FBI and others enjoined the participants, eg, the police and the press, from saying anything. They even threatened witnesses, and held Marina Oswald in seclusion for months after the assassination, and prior to her appearance before the Warren Commission on Capitol Hill.

PART FIVE

Back to Dealy Plaza,
Nov. 22, 1963
12:30 p.m. (cst)

MARILYN SITZMAN: (in Dealy Plaza) "And the next thing I remembered clearly was the shot that hit...him on the side of his face...above the ear and to the front...between the eye and the ear."

A bystander at the Parkland hospital whom the press will quote: "I could see a hole in the President's left temple (from the viewer's perspective) and his head and hair were bathed in blood."

SETH KANTOR: a Scripps-Howard reporter: "It appeared that the bullet had struck him above the right ear or near the temple."

WASHINGTON POST: "He was shot at 12:30 p.m. (cst) by an assassin who sent a rifle bullet crashing into his right temple."

NBC NEWS one and a half hours after the assassination: "The President was struck in the right temple by the bullet."

PART SIX

Rebuttal; Conclusion?

Since the publication of that famous report, for which I am no apologist, there

Oswald, the violent and troubled loner, Oswald the Godless Communist, ad Oswald the Lone-nut of the theory, a 24-year-old man, who was a lousy shot, stood up in the sixth floor of the TSBD and killed the President. For lack of any one better, Oswald is still taking the fall.

The spectre of JFK's assassination still hangs over us as a nation. It was the demarcation point for many people, as to their faith in the institutions which represent themselves as the government. Josiah Thompson remarked at the end of the Nova film, "Who Shot The President?" that with most crimes, it grows more apparent with time who the perpetrators were. In the case of the assassination of JFK, it is just the opposite; the trail grows ever so much cooler, and the edges become that much more rounded.

It was a fundamental and turning point for the nation, and it was the first full pause of doubt, as we watched our leaders scramble to lie and hush up the messy murder of the President.

I watched the caisson rolling down Pennsylvania Avenue on that cool November afternoon, as he took his final ride to Arlington National Cemetery. The air was cool and crisp, and the people's breath hung on the air. Their figures and the bare trees threw long shadows which preceded them to the tomb.

The eternal flame was set alight, at long last. The funeral had lasted for three days. And there it burns today, like a light in the window of the Nation's conscience. It is a light for one who can never return, for an ideal that died just as abruptly and finally, for loss of faith, and truth. It is both a reminder and a beacon, that will burn until justice is done, and the truth is known. ☞

has been an ongoing controversy into the murder of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy. Subsequent hearings by the House Select Committee on Assassinations, 1976-78 has basically upheld the original conclusions, though they reversed themselves as late as 1988, and said, yes, there probably was a conspiracy. And there the matter hangs.

The work I reviewed last week for the book section of the paper dealt with the FBI update, and is a highly disturbing, and what's more, incriminating look at Hoover's role, and the actual assassination, which author Mark North contends was carried out by the Marcello mob.





Movies

"JFK"

AN OLIVER STONE FILM

A WARNER BROTHERS PRESENTATION

By BOB DRYLIE
Staff Writer

Oliver Stone's "controversial" new film, "JFK" is based on Jim Garrison's crusade against the alleged killers of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, which resulted in the trial of Clay Shaw, the New Orleans businessman in 1969, and the subsequent volume "On The Trail Of The Assassins." Jim Marr's "Crossfire: The Plot That Killed Kennedy," is also used as a model. Many critics have already lambasted Stone for mixing his apples and oranges in the docu-drama on the assassination.

Because the lengthy trial of Shaw resulted in the acquittal of the accused, many seem to believe that this discredits Garrison's work toward a solution of the assassination puzzle. Garrison, a New Orleans District Attorney, was the only man to try anyone for the murder of JFK, and Shaw was acquitted by virtue of the fact that the key witnesses in the case against him died or disappeared before they could be compelled to testify: the hit and run death of Rose Cheramic, and the "suicide" of David Ferrie, to name just two.

Ultimately what Oliver Stone is relaying, via this film, is that Kennedy's assassination amounts to a coup de etat.

Ultimately what Stone is relaying, via this film, is that Kennedy's assassination amounts to a coup de etat. He stages this revelation through the hard-driving Garrison, who sacrifices his reputation and almost his family, in a single-minded pursuit of the case. Again, through Garrison, he asks the question which must be foremost in discussion of the assassination: Who stood to benefit most from the liquidation of JFK? This is a much easier question to ask than answer. Ultimately, we as a nation may never know, although all documents pertaining to FBI/CIA involvement will be released

in the year 2026, and someone may be able to put the story together then.

The film opens with a video clip of President Eisenhower's farewell address to the nation after eight years in office. He warns (and here we must assume that he is speaking for the benefit of JFK) of the growing influence and power of the military-industrial complex. Garrison, at one point in the film, refers to the President's duties to consist of talking peace to the public, and for acting as a salesman to the Congress for war and armaments. It is a short and terse clip that sets the tone for the entire contention of Stone's film, eg. namely that the military-industrial complex was ultimately responsible for the murder of JFK.

It became necessary, however, to film in the time in order to set the proper tone. What I mean by this, is that in order to understand what happened on Nov. 22, 1963, you must understand the times and have a profile on all of the characters involved. It is impossible to understand the emphasis that the nation as a whole placed on opposing Communism. It is hard to understand America as overtly racist toward the South, and it is hard to understand the Cold War, and adequately discuss the intrigues which occurred then. It was a different nation in all respects.

It is also important to understand the term Permanent Government, which is intrigue, power, and evil which these edifices perpetuated in fighting Communists and the Cold War. Elected officials come and go, but in their tenure, they appoint officials in the permanent government which outlive their administrations by years, even decades, as we see in the case of J. Edgar Hoover, and Allen Dulles of the CIA.

The reason that so many people still cling to the Warren Commission version of the events is that it requires a clean break with all the government edifices in order to embrace the conspiracy theory; they must ultimately admit to themselves that their government lied, and conspired to hide the truth from the American public.



Director, producer, writer Oliver Stone on the set of his gripping suspense drama "JFK," a Warner Bros. release.

During the course of his pre-trial investigation, Garrison flies to Washington D.C. to meet with a mysterious Col. X, played here by Donald Sutherland. They stroll through the park while Col. X recounts with a certain reverie about his role in many "black operations" which he participated in as a figure in military intelligence. The CIA, and the covert arm of the military, regularly ran black operations with governmental approval which were carried out under the auspices of "plausible denial," eg; an escape clause which would allow the President to declaim the group's actions should they be captured so that the blame could not be traced back to the Chief Executive. This casts the blame on the Bay of Pigs fiasco, which is an illuminating way to look at the

Col. X points up many disturbing points during the conversation with Garrison that day. He divulges all the material which he holds from his perspective in military intelligence. Col. X, his name is never disclosed, becomes a major mystery until he becomes a witness in Garrison's investigation, and the most compelling evidence of the film. Col. X relates how he was sent to the South Pole on a military mission upon his return, picked up a plane that crashed Friday afternoon in Australia, and discovered the whole story of Kennedy's assassination. Because of the time constraints, the arraignment hadn't even occurred in Dallas. Oswald was not arraigned for Tippet's murder until 7 p.m.

He also relates that the telephone service for the Capitol went out for an hour just after the assassination occurred. Col. X explains that this was to keep interagency contact to a minimum. He also mentions something strictly from the military intelligence view point: and that is the lack of a military presence in Dallas that day, especially on the motorcade route. He points out how they would have never allowed the limousine to make that sharp left into Dealy, slowing to the speed of 11 mph. They would have never allowed people to stand and wait for the procession on

overpasses, or looking out of open windows and rooftops. He states that there would have been a least a hundred agents, in addition to the Secret Service, on the streets that day.

Something that the Col. X did not add is that several of the Secret Service agents had been out late the previous evening and a couple of them had way too much to drink, which was a strict breach of policy. The military intelligence definitely let down their guard.

Armed with these hints, he asks Garrison to speculate: 1. Who would have the power to arrange such a maneuver? 2. Who would likely benefit from the operation? (He discounts the Mob as not having the stones to do the job, and forget the Castro and anti-Castro splinter groups that abound at the time, which were mostly under the control of the CIA or other spooks anyway.)

From the point of view, and I cannot emphasize this enough, it was a coup de etat. He will not divulge any more than this however, and demurely declines to testify or reveal his name, revealing that he resigned his commission in 1964. We can assume that he wanted to live out his life in peace.

Col. X fires Garrison on with the name of the man who fired him, Kevin Kostner is great as the man who fired Garrison. Jesse Spacke is his long suffering wife. I really didn't care for the film, I must admit. It is a good movie. The film is stacked with stars: Kevin Asner playing ex-SAC agent Guy Banister, and Jack Lemmon as private eye Jack Martin who works out of Garrison's office doing his domestic investigations as a contract agent. (He also refuses to testify.) Clay Bertrand aka Shaw is played with cool composure by Tommy Lee Jones. With white hair and while linen suits, he is the epitome of a "spook," an agent of the CIA or military intelligence, something which the government didn't even acknowledge existed at the time. Stone gives the impression in the film that these guys are loose cannons running around with impunity.

Kevin Bacon appears as a witness later during the trial, but he is convicted male prostitute Willie O'Keefe and we

see him for the first time in a Southern prison where Garrison and Ivon (Jay O. Sanders) visit him to hear his story and reveal his connection to both David Ferrie and Clay Shaw.

Garrison introduces his staff to the case by taking them to a certain district in New Orleans that Oswald frequented when he was tied to the Bannister/Ferrie group, which was covert military Intel directed at the Cuban affair. Garrison shows how two rival factions inhabited the same offices, separated only by a floor, and that elsewhere on the square was the Department of Justice, the



(L-R) SISSY SPACEK as Liz Garrison, GARY GOLDMAN as Lee Harvey Oswald, ED ASNER as Guy Bannister, DONALD SUTHERLAND as X, KEVIN BACON as Willie O'Keefe.

regional headquarters of the FBI and the CIA. This is where the purported Communist (he referred to himself as a Marxist-Leninist) Oswald came to hang out, played here by Gary Oldman.

Again, what the film is making plain is that Oswald was probably acting as military intelligence in some capacity, though what that capacity is remains unclear. The film reiterates that documents pertaining to Oswald's affiliations with the government have been classified and will remain so until the year 2029. This also pertains to Oswald's 1962 income tax return. If you ask why they would want to keep something as seemingly mote as a tax return, it is probably because it will reveal that Oswald had an additional source of income; eg, one of these agencies.

Some more contradictions arise. Oswald joins the FPCC the day after he is rejected by an anti-Castro group, whose members attack him on a downtown street. His fly bills also have Bannister's address on them, before Guy forces him to change the stamp. Importantly, he resists in a non-violent way when attacked. The film continues to key in on the strange enigma which is Oswald.

Fact: He was stationed at Subic Bay while a Marine, and part of his duty was guarding the hanger that housed the U-2 spy plane. He emigrated to the Soviet Union, the third person since WW II, and returned with apparent ease while the tone of the country was virulent anti-Communist, and even socialist tendencies could bring the FBI to your door. In other words, this is unheard of ease in passing from one nation to another, and again, they speculate that Oswald was serving the Intel community in some capacity.

Why done it? It is the question that the film is trying very hard to answer, and for the mechanics end of the film it gives a couple alternatives to how the assassination was carried out and draws heavily on Jim Marr's "Crossfire: The

Plot That Killed Kennedy."

The scene has already been set: the motorcade proceeds as Col. X described it, unprotected, drawing into a kill zone, where a triangulation has been set up to catch and kill JFK in a deadly crossfire. It slows to 11 mph as it enters Dealey Plaza.

In the Zapruder film, Kennedy is already reacting to a hit when the limousine emerges from behind the sign, raising his clenched fists toward his face. Stone's theorem is that the first shot was frontal and hit him in the throat, nicking his collar and the knot of his necktie. The

evidence of the Zapruder film is telling, as he seems to be protecting his face. I had always assumed that he had been hit from the rear. The throat wound is unexplained, and Josiah Thompson's "Six Seconds In Dallas" speculates that this was a fragment wound, about one-quarter inch in diameter. There was no exit wound either. Last, how did the Knoll man hit him behind the sign?

It is a military-style ambush, the pattern of which would be used extensively to fight the Viet Nam war. Let's go along with the Marr's theory as Stone portrays. Kennedy is hit and reacting, and as he leans, or is pulled across the seat by his wife, Gov. John Connally is hit, and everyone seems to agree that the Governor was not a target and probably was hit by mistake. Thompson's witnesses describe the first two shots as coming in rapid succession, and so a lot of people were busy hitting the dirt. The shot that hit Connally was fired from one of the lower floors of the Dal-Tex building adjacent to the TSBD. The third shot, fired from the Depository, hit Kennedy in the back, and was probably the source of the "pristine" bullet. This film shows Jack Ruby

Col. X, his identity undisclosed, becomes a microcosm of the mystery and becomes the voice of Garrison's investigation...

planting the bullet at Parkland hospital, on the stretcher they used for JFK. The only problem is that this was not the right stretcher, but actually was used for a little girl checked in at the same time that JFK was brought in to the hospital. More than likely, the dud round which lodged about two inches in JFK's back was dislodged during vigorous cardiac massage.

The next shot, number four, was a

miss, it struck the curb way past the limo and a fragment struck a spectator on the cheek as he stood by the Triple Underpass at the end of Dealey Plaza. Shot five came from the TSBD, and shot six came from the Grassy Knoll, and both hit Kennedy in the head. Shot five splintered into his brain and created more than 150 trails, and may be responsible for the throat wound. Shot six was specialty ammunition and exploded his head, as the Zapruder film shows. The three shooting teams quickly make their escapes.

One more interesting note; a man has an epileptic seizure downtown just minutes before the motorcade, and momentarily confuses and distracts the police and they get him an ambulance. Later, this man disappears from the hospital without any record of his name. There are many people in Dealey that day who have pictures or film they have taken, by men that identify themselves as FBI or Secret Service agents.

In a matter of hours, LBJ is President, and in a matter of months he gives Hoover a waiver on his mandatory retirement and the military hawks get their ground war in Viet Nam. Bobby Kennedy, the acting Attorney General falls from power, and the mobs are able to breathe easier. Mrs. Kennedy got a flag.

Stone goes this one better by tying in the assassinations of MLK and RFK in 1967 and 1968 which allows the same web of deceit and intrigue to continue, both domestically and abroad. These hijinks would abound into the mid-Seventies, until the Church Committee and the Select Committee on Assassinations began to pick the Agency apart. All this, of course, was perpetuated by the Watergate scandal, and the ongoing crisis of Viet Nam.

The farewell address of Eisenhower returns in a chilling light and blends with the light reverie of the mysterious Col. X scaring the pants off Garrison in Washington D.C. that day. The Colonel really doesn't give the D.A. a penny's worth of chance of solving his case, but commends him for his effort. "It's a mystery inside a riddle, wrapped in an enigma," he says as they part that day. What he is saying in effect, as the 'voice' of the film, states that they are not going to get that close.

Many will argue, if there is a conspiracy of this magnitude, why didn't they kill Garrison, or even kill Stone for making this film?

The answer lies in the fact that most of those involved are already dead, and it is too long ago. The younger age bracket of this generation, as Stone states, do not even know who Ruby and Oswald are.

The film culminates with the trial of Clay Bertrand, aka Clay Shaw, the only person who was ever tried for the murder of JFK, and subsequently acquitted. His potential witnesses begged off, disappeared, or died suddenly as we see, and the government obstructed Garrison's investigation, even spreading disinformation through the medias and threatening his aides, as in the case of Lou Ivon's encounter with the FBI agent.

As a result of the deliberate obfuscation, Shaw is never tied to the conspiracy, and walks away. It is the same experience as the audience has at the end of the film, wondering, and still wondering, about the magnitude of JFK, and the meanings of this film. It is a valuable piece of work for all of the clues that it finally brings together for the first time, and presents an exhaustive and comprehensive picture of the intrigue that forever surrounds the mystery of JFK. Highly recommended viewing. ☞



(L-R) WALTER MATTHAU as Senator Russell Long, JACK LEMON as Jack Martin, JOE PESCI as David Ferrie, TOMMY LEE JONES as Clay Shaw, JIM GARRISON as Chief Justice Earl Warren.

