

THE CAST



Kevin Costner portrays Jim Garrison, the New Orleans district attorney who believed that CIA operatives and anti-Castro Cubans conspired to kill President Kennedy. Sissy Spacek plays Mr. Garrison's wife, Liz, who was often an assassination investigation "widow."



Tommy Lee Jones, left, plays Clay Shaw, the wealthy New Orleans businessman Mr. Garrison arrested and tried for conspiring to kill President Kennedy. Gary Oldman, right, plays accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald.



Four Dallas actors have leading roles in the film. Steve Reed, top left, will portray John F. Kennedy. Jodi Farber, middle, will play Jackie Kennedy. John and Nellie Connally will be played by Columbia DuBose, top right, and Randy Means, left.

SUPPORTING CAST



Joe Pesci John Candy Kevin Bacon



Sally Kirkland John Larroquette Walter Matthau



Laurie Metcalf Glenn Ford Jack Lemmon

COSTNER heads an all-star cast

By Jane Sumner
Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

Covering *JFK* is like trying to report on a chess match being played beneath a blanket. The script is being tightly guarded. And members of Oliver Stone's production company have signed a secrecy oath.

But this much is known: For the film exploring the John F. Kennedy assassination, Oscar-winner Kevin Costner trades in the tights from his upcoming film *Robin Hood* for an underdog suit.

He plays Jim Garrison, the embattled New Orleans district attorney who tried to prove that right-wing CIA operatives and anti-Castro Cubans — not a lone assassin — killed President Kennedy. Mr. Garrison prosecuted the only *JFK* assassination case ever carried to criminal trial.

And if the screenplay follows history, he will lose.

But along the way, he punched holes in the Warren Commission report that declared Lee Harvey Oswald the killer. He also attempted to prove that Mr. Oswald had ties to the CIA and anti-Castro forces and that the Warren Commission had little or fraudulent information about gun tests, JFK's autopsy and the famed film of the assassination by Dallas dress manufacturer Abraham Zapruder.

And with more than a touch of irony, Mr. Stone plans to cast Mr. Garrison, now an appeals court judge, as United States Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren, who presided over the investigation. Mr. Garrison also was seen as a jurist in *The Big Easy*.

"He was in LA the other week," says Mr. Stone, "and we were rehearsing Jack Lemmon, Walter Matthau and Glenn Ford (who also appear in the film), and these were all the stars of his era so he was like a kid in the candy store."

Tommy Lee Jones of San Saba, Texas, has been cast as Clay Shaw, the wealthy New Orleans businessman Mr. Garrison tried for conspiring to kill JFK. At the time, Mr. Shaw was one of the city's most respected citizens — the founder and director of the International Trade Mart who had retired to write plays and restore French Quarter homes. Mr. Shaw was acquitted in a 1969 trial.

Quitman, Texas, native Sissy Spacek, fresh from her turn as a Southern social butterfly turned civil rights worker in *The Long Walk Home*, takes on the role of Mr. Garrison's wife, who was often an assassination investigation "widow."

And Gary Oldman, one of the screen's powerful young actors, will play the accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald. The Britisher who burned up the screen as Sex Pistol Sid Vicious in *Sid and Nancy*, playwright Joe Orton in *Prick Up Your Ears* and a "Westie" in *State of Grace* has been in Dallas rehearsing and researching his role with local residents who knew the accused.

Dallas actors have been cast as President and Mrs. Kennedy (Steve Reed and Jodi Farber) and as Texas Gov. John Connally and his wife, Nellie (Randy Means and Columbia DuBose).

Also in the cast are Oscar-winner Joe Pesci; Kevin Bacon who played a psycho freed by Mr. Oldman's defense attorney in *Criminal Law*; Sally Kirkland; *Night Court*'s John Larroquette; Laurie Metcalf who was such a stand-out as Andy Garcia's police partner in *Internal Affairs*; and ex-*Saturday Night Live* member Bryan Doyle Murray. John Candy, star of *Uncle Buck*, is still in negotiations for a part.

Warner Bros. will release *JFK* in late 1991 or early 1992.