

THE THIRD DECADE

A RESEARCH ORGANIZATION FOR THE
JOHN F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1963-1973

1973-1983

1983-1993

Dear Third Decade Member:

The Third Decade is sponsoring a midwest symposium on the assassination of John F. Kennedy in Chicago on June 26-28. Proceeds from this event will be used to further our research efforts and fund organized activities designed to obtain the release of the 1979 *House Select Committee on Assassinations* (HSCA) files sealed until the year 2029.

A closed meeting for Third Decade members will be held on Friday, June 26th from 9 AM to 4:30 PM at the Newberry Library (see enclosed schedule.) In addition to sharing new research findings, we also need to use this time to discuss ways the proceeds from the symposium can best be used to help our cause. This session will be free. We also plan to hold a press conference Friday morning at the library at 11 AM. I am requesting that all of our keynote and expert speakers be present at this event.

During the press conference, we may proclaim a day on which a coordinated, nation-wide phone-in and letter-writing campaign is targeted at each of the senate and house committees involved in the release of the assassination files. However, our decision to do so will depend upon the status of the hearings at the time of the symposium. If you have any suggestions on other announcements or activism strategies for the this press conference, contact me immediately. Leave a message for me at (708) 574-3187, ext. 318, but please be discrete. This is my business office. Just leave your name, phone number, and identify yourself as a Third Decade member. You can also write me at the address shown at the bottom of this letter.

A public dinner party will be held Friday evening. Among our keynote speakers will be actor Ed Asner and political activist Dick Gregory. I plan to add two additional keynote speakers to this panel. The price for the dinner party will be \$75 per person. The symposium will be held on Saturday and Sunday, and feature public lectures by each of the persons listed on the enclosed flyer. In addition to these persons, I am also hopeful of getting Dr. Charles Crenshaw to tell us about the emergency room at Parkland Memorial Hospital. A number of our speakers will also discuss the assassinations of Robert F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King. As a Third Decade member, your total discounted price for the weekend lectures will be \$48.

Call the appropriate phone number shown at the bottom of the enclosed flyer if you'd like to acquire tickets for the dinner party and/or register for the symposium.

Sincerely



Douglas G. Carlson
Director, Planning Committee
7343 Arizona Avenue
Hammond, Indiana 46323
Days: (708) 574-3187, Ext. 318

The **THIRD DECADE** presents

A MIDWEST SYMPOSIUM ON THE ASSASSINATION OF JOHN F. KENNEDY

Including lectures on the assassinations of Robert F. Kennedy & Martin Luther King

DINNER PARTY, 6 PM FRIDAY, JUNE 26TH, \$75

(Site to be determined)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Ed Asner
Activist & Supporting Actor, "JFK"

Dick Gregory
Activist & Co-author, "*Code Name Zorro*"

PUBLIC LECTURES, SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH & SUNDAY, JUNE 28TH, \$48
Thome Hall, Northwestern University, Chicago Campus, 375 E. Chicago Avenue

The Movie & The Media:
Jane Rusconi
Oliver Stone's "JFK" Research Coordinator
Jerry Pollicoff
Assassination Researcher & Media Critic

The 1992 JFK Hearings & The MLK Inquest
John Judge
Founder, Committee for an Open Archive
Washington, D.C.

The JFK & RFK Autopsies:
Dr. Cyril Wecht
JFK, RFK Autopsy Expert & Forensic Pathologist

The Photographic Evidence:
Robert Groden
Co-author, *High Treason*,
JFK: The Case for Conspiracy
Expert Witness, 1979 HSCA Hearings

The Vietnam Policy Hypothesis:
Dr. John Newman
Author, *JFK in Vietnam*

LBJ Theories:
Craig Zirbel
Author, *The Texas Connection*

FOIA & The Assassination Files:
Jim Lesar
Pres. Assassination Archives & Research Center
Washington, D.C.

The RFK Inquest:
Ted Sharach
RFK Assassination Expert
Producer, "*The Second Gun*"

TICKETS & REGISTRATION:

In greater Chicago call 1-708-698-4090, Ext. 450
Outside area codes 312 & 708 call 1-800-323-4961, Ext. 450
VISA & Mastercard Accepted

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

June 26-28

Friday, June 26th:

Closed Third Decade Meeting & Press Conference

The Newberry Library
60 W. Walton
N.W. Corner, Clark & Walton
First Floor, East Hall
Chicago, Illinois 60610

9 AM - 11 AM
11 AM - 12 AM
1 PM - 4:30 PM

Closed Meeting
Press Conference
Closed Meeting (Continued)

6 PM - 7 PM
7 PM - 9:30 PM
9:30 PM - 12:00 AM

Dinner (Site to be announced)
Keynote Speeches
Party

Saturday, June 27th:

Public Lectures, Thorne Hall
Northwestern University, Chicago Campus
375 E. Chicago Avenue
S.W. Corner, Chicago Avenue & Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60611

9 AM - 12:30 PM:
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM:
6 PM - 7:30 PM:
7:30 PM - 10 PM:

The Movie & The Media, Jane Rusconi, Jerry Policoff
The Photographic Evidence, Robert Groden
FOIA & The Assassination Files, Jim Lesar
The 1992 JFK Hearings & The MLK Inquest, John Judge

Sunday, June 28th:

Public Lectures, Thorne Hall

9 AM - 12 PM:
1 PM - 4 PM:
4:30 PM - 7 PM:
7:30 PM - 10 PM:

The JFK & RFK Autopsies, Dr. Cyril Wecht
The Vietnam Policy Hypothesis, Dr. John Newman
LBJ Theories, Craig Zirbel
The RFK Inquest, Ted Sharach

ROBERT C. DEAN
30 CONESTOGA WOODS RD.
LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA 17602

May 20, 1992

To: All Third Decade Group Conveners

Re: Letter to the Editor Project

With the enthusiastic approval of Jerry Rose, I am writing to request your support for a coordinated national letter-to-the-editor action designed to (1) counter the recent news-capturing pronouncement of the autopsy doctors, (2) seize an opportune political moment to refocus the debate on a prime conspiracy suspect, none other than "Poppy", himself, (3) show ourselves we can do more than just research, and (4) above all, put pressure on the system to open up the files NOW while the tide is running with us. With this in mind, I respectfully ask that you join in this effort.

Enclosed is the proposed letter to be sent to the editors of the newspapers in your area--major and minor ones. Feel free to modify the text if you feel compelled to do so. One or more people must sign it, adding their addresses and phone numbers so that the newspaper may confirm authenticity. (In the Philadelphia area, for example, Joe Heyer is asking each of the group members to sign.)

With both vacation season and campaign season fast approaching, there is a need for urgency. We are aiming for all letters to be sent out by about June 15th.

This is the first of a series of actions we might be able to engage in. As something of a newcomer--but one who has just finished reading every article in every back issue of the Third Decade, plus about 3 dozen books, my opinion is that the Conspiracy Busting community comprises some of the best minds in the nation. I am wholly confident we will one day be vindicated in our efforts. But it will take actions such as this to move the politicians and to reach our goal. We must seize the moment. There may never be a better time to act.

I can be reached at 717/397-7703 (message) or 717/397-7417 (M-F, 8-10am) with any questions, or comments. Feel free to offer your criticisms as well. Please let Jerry know what you are able to do on this. Keep the torch burning...

Bob Dean

[DATE]

The Editor
[NEWSPAPER NAME AND ADDRESS]

Dear Editor:

The Bush Administration has announced that it will seek to block the proposed opening of the JFK assassination files. To many this action--which runs contrary to the will of a huge majority of Americans--raises questions about George Bush himself.

Bush's 1948 graduation from Yale coincided with the birth of the CIA. CIA founders naively believed that the inherent conflict between secrecy and democracy could be resolved by recruiting "the best and the brightest" from Harvard and Yale. Son of a U.S. Senator, George Bush was a natural candidate.

While Bush supposedly became a Houston oil man, it is believed by many that he used his Zapata Oil Company in the early 1960s as a cover for CIA activities. Former CIA and Pentagon official Colonel Fletcher Prouty says that Bush was in charge of outfitting the two troop ships (named "Barbara" and "Houston") used for the landing phase of the Bay of Pigs invasion (this phase was code-named "Operation Zapata").

There is undeniable evidence that a George Bush met with J. Edgar Hoover the day after the assassination of President Kennedy. In a memo dated November 29, 1963, Hoover himself recounted his meeting of the 23d, concluding with: "The substance of the foregoing information was orally furnished to Mr. George Bush of the Central Intelligence Agency." Later, Bush--whose only known public service at the time was two terms in Congress--was named to head the CIA by former Warren Commission member Gerald Ford.

--(continued)--

[DATE]
The Editor
[NEWSPAPER NAME AND ADDRESS]

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This is not to suggest that Mr. Bush was a co-conspirator in any assassination plot. But these facts do raise several legitimate concerns:

- 1) Was Mr. Bush in the CIA in the early 1960s, working with the anti-Castro Cuban community?
- 2) What, if anything, did George Bush know about the assassination?
- 3) What role, if any, did George Bush play in the subsequent "investigation" by the CIA, or its acknowledged misleading of the Warren Commission?
- 4) Is Mr. Bush's involvement the key reason these files are still secret? Is it the reason the White House is now trying to block release of these files?

Americans have had enough--and more than enough--of government delay, deception and duplicity surrounding the assassination of John F. Kennedy. He was our President. We are citizens of this democracy. The time has come for all of us to demand--absolutely, unequivocally demand--that every single file and document related to this tragedy be released now, without further delay--and before, not after, the November elections.

Very truly yours,

[NOTE: One signer is enough. When many wish to sign, those who cannot sign the original should sign an attached copy. Be sure to attach names, addresses and phone numbers, so the newspaper is able to confirm the intentions of each signer. In retyping this, be sure to fill in [DATE] and [NEWSPAPER ADDRESS] on pgs 1&2.]

Sec'd from Rochester on 1/19/92 → NEWSPAPER & DATE UNKNOWN

Local group fights to open Kennedy files

Hearings in Congress closely followed here

By Stephanie A. Reid
Democrat and Chronicle

Non-disclosure of sealed files on President John F. Kennedy's assassination nearly 30 years ago is a waste of taxpayer's money, says a local watchdog group.

That's why the Rochester Chapter of The Third Decade is closely watching U.S. House of Representative hearings, which began Tuesday and have continued through the week, on a proposed joint resolution to make public more than 700,000 pages of classified information.

The 12-member local branch was formed in February — amid renewed interest in the Kennedy assassination brought on by the movie *JFK* — to fight for release of the information.

State University College at Fredonia professor Jerry Rose founded The Third Decade in November 1984 as a clearinghouse for new information on the assassination.

The organization now is headed by Fredonia professor Gregory Quail, who says it has more than 300 members in 31 chapters in the U.S. and one in Belgium.

"A lot of us have been interested in the assassination for a lot of years, but we're not like most buffs," said John Giunta, media coordinator for the Rochester chapter.

"We're concerned citizens and taxpayers who do not want to see another investigation go by the wayside and waste our money."

Even with U.S. Reps. Frank J. Horton (R-Penfield) and Louise M. Slaughter (D-Perinton) supporting the resolution, members are "hopefully optimistic but cautiously skeptical" regarding the resolution's success.

Said Giunta: "We'd like to look at the glass as half full rather than half empty."

Quail said part of the group's skepticism has to do with whether the information will be censored, if and when it is declassified.

"Historically, we're in an age of Watergate and Iran-Contra," said Quail, whose interest in the Kennedy assassination dates

back to second grade. "A lot of times when documents are released by the government, they come out chopped up with important information crossed out."

Slaughter, who along with Horton is one of the resolution's more than 40 sponsors, earlier this week had no doubt about the information's eventual review and release by a five-member board as the resolution calls for.

THE INFORMATION includes classified material from the CIA and FBI, the Warren Commission and two later Congressional investigations.

"It's terribly important for the people to know the truth where ever it leads," she said, adding that the material could clear up a number of inconsistencies.

Slaughter also supports making public files in the Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy assassination cases.

Horton argued in a statement at Tuesday's hearing that further delay in releasing the material would "simply bring to a boil the already simmering controversy."

BUT HE ALSO was fearful that by making the files public, lawmakers would fall prey to the current fad of re-examining the deaths of previous presidents.

Within the past year, authorities exhumed President John Tyler's body to investigate a theory that he died in 1862 as a result of poisoning.

And scientists plan to screen small amounts Abraham Lincoln's DNA using blood from the clothes he wore when assassinated in 1865 to test a theory that he suffered from Marfan's Syndrome.

The syndrome, which is estimated to affect more than 40,000 people today, is a genetic disease of the body's connective tissue.

Add to that renewed interest in re-examining the Kennedy assassination brought on by director Oliver Stone's movie *JFK*.

"MR. CHAIRMAN, I support the opening and review of the old records as we approach the normal 30-year review anniversary and I sincerely hope that the full, satisfactory truth will be discovered and this matter finally put to rest," Horton said in the statement.

"And quite frankly, let the chips fall where they may. I fear, however, that some of those chips will undoubtedly land on predisposed shoulders, and we all know that anyone with a chip on his shoulder is never fully satisfied."

Despite the passage of nearly 30 years and several government investigations, many critics still dis-

pute evidence that points to Lee Harvey Oswald as the lone gunman.

Kennedy was shot to death Nov. 22, 1963, during a political trip to Dallas, making him the youngest president to die in office.

OSWALD IS believed to have shot the president from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository.

Numerous conspiracy theories exist — the latest coming from Stone, who argues in *JFK* that Kennedy's assassination was the result of a government conspiracy orchestrated mainly by the Pentagon and the CIA.

Local Third Decade members have started a nationwide grassroots campaign to have the files released as a way to restore taxpayer trust in the government.

More openness would encourage others with valuable information on the case to come forward, they say.

"**WE FEEL** there are literally hundreds of people out there who have eyewitness testimony, actual hard physical evidence who have been afraid to come forth for the last 29 years," said Giunta.

"Before *JFK*, if you discussed this topic you were immediately characterized as a buff or nut."

The Rochester group is the first chapter to form solely as a political action group to pressure lawmakers into gaining the information's release through a number of activities, including postcard and letter-writing campaigns.

It also hopes to persuade other chapters to follow its lead. Already, the group has produced a how-to video on starting a new chapter.

Branch organizations are in the works in Syracuse and at Cayuga College.

SAID GIUNTA: "Eighty percent of the public doesn't believe the government's version. Especially with the movies and all the things cropping up, there's a lot of interest in this subject."



Louise Slaughter



Frank Horton

FOR MORE

For more information about the Third Decade, call 718-854-5969 or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Third Decade, P.O. Box 10578, Rochester, N.Y. 14610.