

4 . J. Garrett Underhill -- Shot Dead

The day after the Kennedy assassination, Gary Underhill  
 left Washington in a hurry. <sup>Late that evening</sup> ~~the following~~ he showed up at the  
 home of Robert and Charlene Fitzsimmons, friends of his in New  
 York. He told Charlene he knew ~~someone~~ who ~~was~~  
 responsible for the assassination, and said he was afraid  
 for his life. Less than six months later Underhill ~~was~~ was found  
 shot to death in his Washington apartment; the coroner ruled it  
 a suicide. He was 48.

J. Garrett Underhill was a Harvard man, a ~~government~~  
 intelligence agent during <sup>World War II</sup> ~~the second world war~~ and

Underhill's body was discovered on a bed in his Washington apartment on ~~May 8, 1964~~ <sup>(1964)</sup> on May 8 by Asher Brynes, a friend and former ~~New York Times~~ contributing editor of the New Republic

obviously  
Brynes said he had/been dead for some days, ~~apparently~~ from a bullet wound in the head. He said the pistol was under the body on the left side, ~~and, knowing that Underhill had been was~~

~~right-handed~~  
right-handed, noticed particularly that he had been shot behind the left ear, with the bullet traveling from left to right through the head. A medical student, who was present with Brynes at the morgue, made the same observations about the wound.

Records of the investigation by the District of Columbia homicide squad are confidential. Deputy Police Chief John B. Layton did ~~not~~ say, however, that an automatic pistol had been found in Underhill's right hand -- contrary to the observation of Brynes, who discovered the body -- <sup>and</sup> that the coroner had performed an autopsy and ~~ruled it a~~ ruled it a suicide.





... his distress at what he considers police bungling of the investigation, accepts the ~~inexplicable~~ <sup>with the qualification:</sup> suicide theory, "If you could not believe the police were so stupid, ~~you~~ you might think there was some other reason for it." Underhill, according to friends, had ~~many~~ marital and financial troubles which might have driven him to suicide. On the other hand, the medical student who viewed the body said that considering the angle of the wound it ~~was~~ next to impossible for it to have been a suicide. ~~Lacking the~~

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Whether Underhill ~~in fact~~ actually possessed any hard information of a CIA-Pan East plot to kill Kennedy is a matter of speculation. Certainly he was in a position to