

Post 877190

Texan Claims His Father Helped Assassinate Kennedy

DALLAS—An unemployed oil equipment salesman said yesterday that his father was one of three men who fired the shots that killed President John F. Kennedy on CIA orders.

Ricky White, 29, said his late father, Roscoe White, joined the Dallas Police Department two months before the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination so he could carry out the shooting. He went by the code name "Mandarin" and was stationed at the grassy knoll opposite the Texas School Book Depository overlooking Dealey Plaza, the assassination site, White said.

Two other CIA operatives with code names "Lebanon" and "Saul" were stationed in the Depository and the nearby County Records Building, he said.

CIA spokesman Mark Mansfield denied the allegations of CIA involvement. White "was never employed by the CIA or associated in any way with the agency," Mansfield said. "We normally never confirm or deny employment, but these allegations are so outrageous that we felt it was necessary and appropriate to respond."

White said Lee Harvey Oswald was a part of the plot, but did not fire shots. He described Oswald and police officer J.D. Tippit, who died in the assassination aftermath, as "patsies."

The Warren Commission concluded that Oswald, acting alone, fired the shots from the Depository that killed Kennedy and wounded John Connally, then the Texas governor. Despite the commission's findings, conspiracy theories have abounded since the assassination.

Dear Gary,

8/8/90

although page-~~owned~~, the story in the local paper wasn't much. I enclose it.

I was glad to get your evaluation of the show as your station picked it up from the satellite because it was not my ~~own~~ own. And my own was based on what was satellited from here to New York. Which is not what I saw on WBAL-TV, Channel 11.

I got a similar evaluation from Roger Weinman, who said that the White fabrication had been getting heavy TV play in New York.

Unless what was sent ^hat you saw included what was not in what I saw, the enclosed story refers to what was transmitted from here and was not on the show as aired by 11. I do assume that only one show ^{was} ~~as~~ aired. The ^{New York} reporter and photographer were the only audience here. They heard what I said and was sent. Roger perceived the editing immediately, although he had no idea what had been filmed.

I'm glad I learned long ago to begin any confrontation with what the other side cannot face or address. I had a half-dozen or more places in the AP copy marked but had picked the one I used ~~out~~ as the one with which to begin. It is not easy to edit the beginning out! *And I was not aired on anything else.*

These people took up our day until 3 p.m. for the ⁴losy one minute plus of me they aired! So I'm glad you and Roger thought it was effective.

They were not Inside Story staff. The technical crew was by a company that has its own satellite truck and if the reporter was not from them she also was not from any D.C. TV station that we look at. I have no idea why they included her because although she was a pleasant woman she did nothing at all. Except get lunch for that crew, after I said I'd order it by phone, to which she said she'd passed some places coming here and would like to go get it. She included us out. We had a sandwich after they left, close to supper-time. Never had that experience before with any of the many TV crews that have been here.

I asked, before they started filming, if they were going to go for the whole half-hour, saying clearly that I wanted to know so I could pace myself. The answer I got was not merely an affirmative. I was told that you don't buy expensive satellite time not to use all of it.

But I wasn't told anything about what they planned until we were on the satellite and the New York producer or moderator told me he'd been with two questions and that I was to feel free to interrupt. The impression was that after those two questions it would be a dialogue. So, I was quite surprised to find myself being cut off after less than the half-hour and was stunned to see how little was aired. Particularly because of the terrible news judgement reflected by those who air what is ostensibly an "inside story" news show. Given the attention the story had gotten they could have had a sensational show to air and I'm confident that before it was over the Whites would have fled from the Sallas camera.

~~RIX~~ It was scheduled for 4 p.m. on WRC-TV, Channel 4, D.C. That is after you called. That airing was delayed by an Iraq special and when they ~~statated~~ started to air the show they did not have the opening. It wasn't even identified. I was being aired with the first thing I said when that was pre-empted by what is hot news in D.C., the developments with the jury in the Barry case. With Barry the indicted mayor, that was top news. And the Barry interruption ran the rest of the hour and into the slot of the 5 p.m. news.

A little before five, which was after the initial airing of the show, I got an excited call from New York, a production woman on the show named Neala. with my impaired hearing - never got her last name. We had talked a number of times, she knew what I could say and what had been sent up and apparently what I'd told Joanne, the reporter, because she said what they aired was great and that the top brass on the show, both of whom happened to walk past while they were getting it initially from the satellite, had been excited and thought it was wonderful. Apparently the producer was not aware of that! In any event, she said she was going to propose an entire show on me. I don't expect it and won't do it under similar conditions. Lil was inhibited most of the day, we couldn't even

eat and I have medications to take at regular intervals with food, it took just about all of my day, and I think for very little in return.

I have a fair amount on White and his fabrications that I cannot use because it was confidential when given to me. But I do have the AP copy from a Balt. "un friend" and I look forward to getting the copies of the Dallas papers you said you'd send and if they want to go ahead I'll be better prepared with the Dallas stories.

I'm sorry - don't now know anyone on the Dallas papers or I could give them an expose I think they'd love.

Neala did tell me something I did not hear. That could be because it was before they had me on the satellite or because it was after they cut me off it. Mrs. White said "We've been set up." That impressed her. I am inclined to think it was after they stopped the satellite at this end, when she had more reason to think that. In part this is because they got the White's agreement in advance to face me. Or someone not identified to them.

I was surprised at the reflection I got of the show's audience. Not by any means a meaningful reflection, don't misunderstand me.

although there are usually more walkers than those who were at the mall where I walk early mornings, there were about a ^{dozen} ~~dozen~~ ¹⁰⁻²⁻¹⁵⁻¹¹ this morning. Four of them mentioned having seen the show, three on the Baltimore station. and although the circulation of the lousy local paper is excellent, only one person mentioned seeing the story on the front page, four columns wide.

Please send me also what you have on the Shaw/West appearance before the gathering of the legal investigators. West sent me their advance press release only. I wrote and asked for copies of their prepared remarks and of any tape they have of those proceedings and I've had no reply of any kind. I want this for archival purposes only.

Thanks again for your call. It made me feel better when I was quite upset.

best,

Sammy

Weisberg casts doubt on new JFK plot claim

Plot by
By NANCY LUSE
News-Post Staff

A Texas man's claim that his father shot John F. Kennedy in 1963 was disputed by a Frederick man who has written six books about the presidential assassination.

Considered one of the country's leading authorities on the Kennedy killing, Harold Weisberg, 77, of Old Receiver Road, said Tuesday, "there's not a word of it that's true."

The latest theory surfaced during a news conference Monday by unemployed oilfield worker Ricky Don White of Midland, Texas.

He said his father, Roscoe White, who died in 1971, acted on orders from the CIA to shoot Kennedy. According to The Associated Press, both the CIA and FBI on Tuesday dismissed the allegations as "ludicrous" and "not credible."

Acknowledging that it was unusual to be backing up the government, considering that most of the extensive files in his basement were the result of his battles with Washington, Mr. Weisberg was more upset by Mr. White's claims.

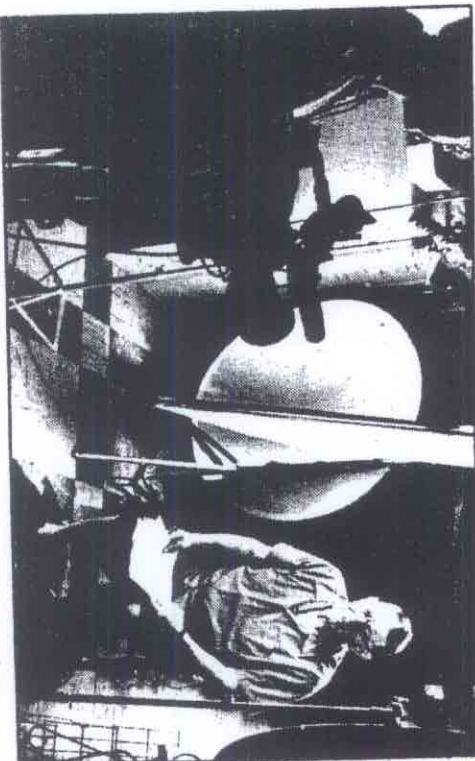
"The guy just wants to make some money," he said. "It just confuses the public more" and protests "first, the government, who didn't do its job, and secondly, those who were responsible" for the assassination.

The Associated Press reported that Mr. White said during his news conference that he hoped his story would result in a book and movie contract.

Mr. White's contentions are that Lee Harvey Oswald — who the Warren Commission concluded acted alone — didn't fire any of the shots in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963. Instead, he believes his father, at the time working for the Dallas police, was one of three men taking part in the plot. He also thinks his father killed Dallas police officer J.D. Tippitt who the Warren Commission said was killed by Mr. Oswald.

While Mr. Weisberg believes "beyond question" that the assassination was a conspiracy, he doesn't think Mr. White's story holds water.

"One thing common in all these exploitations is that they're made



Staff photo by Sam Yu

Harold Weisberg is interviewed in his basement Tuesday for a segment of the television show "Inside Edition."

by people who are ignorant," Mr. Weisberg said.

Citing as an example Mr. White's contention that Mr. Oswald had been picked up by his co-conspirators after the shooting, Mr. Weisberg said, "It was a physical impossibility... Oswald was seen on a bus, in a cab" by witnesses who would have nothing to gain by lying.

He also said that Mr. White's allegations that his father took part in several other CIA killings didn't

even conform to the worst spy novel.

Mr. Weisberg, who has never met Mr. White, had the chance Tuesday afternoon to refute the man's contentions during a television segment of Inside Edition. With Mr. Weisberg in Frederick and Mr. White in Texas, the two were connected via satellite.

He suggested on the show that Mr. White was "ripping off the minds of the people" and later said he "has a reputation for seeking commercial" gain.