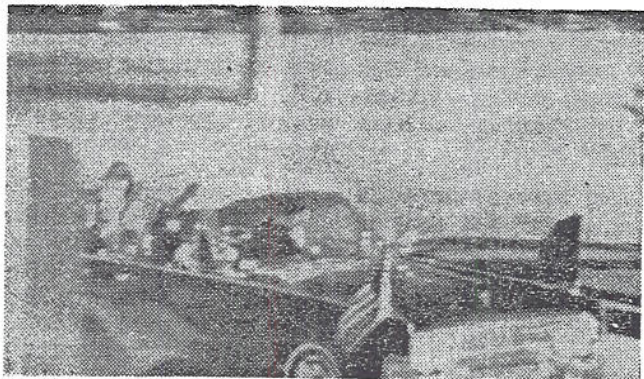


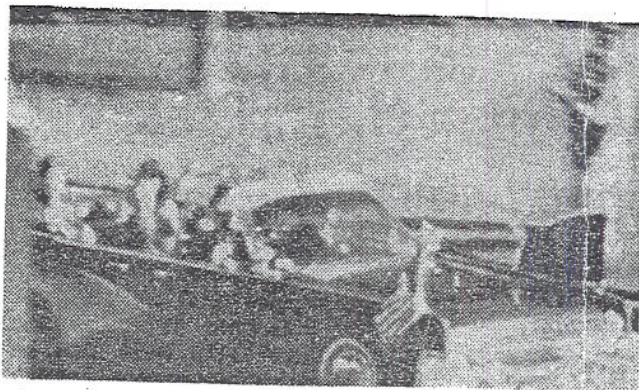
PERSPECTIVES

NOV 18 1973

Frames of history--and doubt--from the movie camera of a Dallas dressmaker



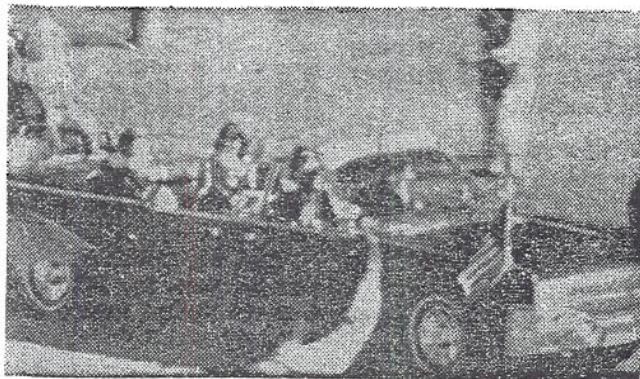
FRAME 222—The limousine emerges from behind the freeway sign. Kennedy has already been hit.



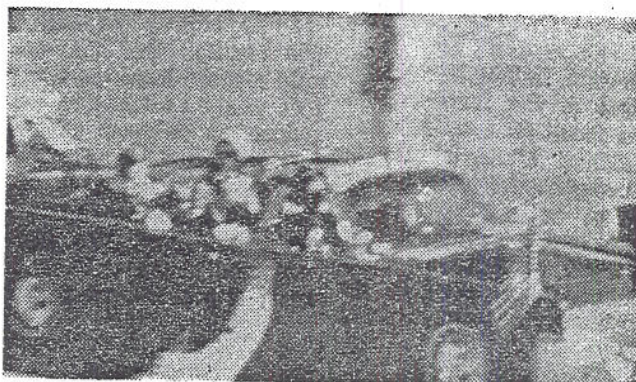
FRAME 225—As Kennedy's hand reaches for his throat in first indication he is hit.

The death of a President:

S. F. Sunday Examiner & Chronicle November 18, 1973 ☆☆☆☆ Section A Page 7



FRAME 230—Connally had turned forward, but said later he didn't think he had been hit.



FRAME 234—Last frame in series. Famous frame 333 came fractions of a second later.

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10 years of doubt

By Lee Winfréy
Knight News Service

The Warren Report is like an old car: it rattles a lot and the tires are thin, but it's still running.

Ten years after the assassination of President Kennedy, the report still stands as the authoritative account of his death. A decade of criticism has failed to overturn it.

Nevertheless, across the nation, there are people who remain convinced that the report is a tent of lies, concealing rather than revealing the truth. They do not believe that Lee Harvey Oswald "acted alone," as the report asserts, on Nov. 22, 1963, when Kennedy died in Dallas.

After a long look at the Warren Report, reassessing the evidence and interviewing the critics, the conclusion is inescapable that, although some questions remain and some of the report's findings are debatable, no acceptable alternative has been found that explains the assassination better.

The report is a vast tableau: 888 pages with 26 volumes of supporting testimony, often microscopically detailed.

But there are holes in it, questions unanswered. Some of them:

- Who was the Umbrella Man? Why has he never been identified? Was he a co-conspirator?

- Who was the unknown man that the CIA photographed in Mexico City before the assassination and misidentified as Oswald? Was he another plotter?

- Where is the brain of President Kennedy? It was not buried with him, and government agencies will not say where it is now. Several physicians who doubt the report believe the brain might show the marks of other bullets besides Oswald's.

- How could one bullet pass through the bodies of two men (Kennedy and John Connally, then the governor of Texas) and emerge looking virtually like new? Could this bullet be a piece of false evidence that was planted?

- Why should anyone be-

lieve a report that was apparently doubted even by President Johnson, the man who ordered it prepared?

• The Umbrella Man

Roughly 400 persons were in or around Dealey Plaza, a three-acre park in downtown Dallas, when Kennedy was slain there at 12:30 p.m. on a Friday. The names of more than 250 are known. Of those unknown, the Umbrella Man is the most puzzling.

The dark blue Lincoln limousine carrying Kennedy was fired on as it approached a sign saying "Stemmons Freeway — Keep Right." Standing next to the sign was a man holding an open umbrella.

The sun was shining and the sky was cloudless. Rain had stopped falling almost three hours before. In all the hundreds of photographs taken along the route of Kennedy's motorcade through Dallas, the Umbrella Man is the only person seen with an open umbrella.

In photos taken immediately after the shooting, his umbrella is closed. Several critics of the Warren Report suspect that the

opening of his umbrella by the Umbrella Man may have been a signal for gunfire.

The Umbrella Man appears to be in his late 30s or early 40s, dressed conservatively in a dark suit. He walked away after the assassination and he has never been identified.

The CIA Photo

From Sept. 29 to Oct. 2, 1963, less than two months before the assassination, Oswald was in Mexico City, vainly applying for a visa to travel to Cuba and the Soviet Union.

Four days before the assassination, the CIA received a report on Oswald's visit to the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. The report included photos, taken by a CIA surveillance camera across the street from the Cuban Embassy on Sept. 27, of a man the CIA identified as Oswald.

It is obviously not Oswald. It is an older, heavier man. After the assassination, the CIA said a confidential source inside the embassy had identified the man as Oswald.

The CIA has never

learned, or ever revealed if it has learned, the man's identity, nor has it disclosed how he was misidentified. Critics wonder if he was a secret associate of Oswald and whether they might have met and plotted while they were both in Mexico City at the same time.

Kennedy's brain

No physician has seen Kennedy's brain since shortly after the autopsy that was performed the day he died. The two sources who know where all the other assassination evidence is claim not to know where the brain is.

The National Archives in

Washington, D.C., hold virtually all the assassination evidence, including such grim artifacts as Oswald's rifle and the three bullet fragments involved in the case.

Asked about the brain, archivist Marion Johnson said, "We don't have it and I don't know where it is."

Burke Marshall, former assistant U.S. attorney general who is now deputy dean of Yale Law School, represents the Kennedy family in matters pertaining to the assassination.

Asked where the brain is, Marshall said: "I can't answer that question. I have never asked that question of the family and I do not know."

The Warren Report concludes that both bullets that hit Kennedy came from behind him, from the Texas School Book Depository where Oswald worked.

Some critics think the brain, if it were made available for examination, might show evidence of a shot from the front, from the spot in Dealey Plaza commonly called "the grassy knoll."

The Warren Commission decided that the first bullet that wounded Kennedy struck him in the back, went through his neck, then hit Connally in the back, went through Connally's body and broke his fifth right rib, went through Connally's right wrist where it broke the radius bone, and finally lodged in Connally's left thigh.

By far the most controversial piece of assassination evidence is this bullet,

called Commission Exhibit 399 and dubbed "the magic bullet" by sarcastic critics, for several reasons:

- Although it is supposed

to have passed through seven layers of skin and broken two bones, the bullet is in almost perfect condition. Test bullets, fired for comparison through the wrist of a ca-

daver and the chest of a goat, were both mashed and defaced.

- Despite passing through all this skin and bone—plus

two suit coats and two shirts, Kennedy's tie and Connally's sleeve and pants leg — the bullet when found did not have any blood, tis-

sue or threads on it. It was clean.

- Unlike the other two bullet fragments involved in

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the case, Exhibit 399 was not found in the limousine. It was found on a stretcher at Parkland Memorial Hospital, supposedly after falling out of Connally's thigh. Some critics suspect it was a piece of false evidence planted there, possibly by Oswald's assassin, Jack Ruby.

Johnson's doubts

In last July's Atlantic Monthly, Leo Janos, a former member of President Johnson's staff, quoted Johnson as having said, "I never believed that Oswald acted alone, although I can accept that he pulled the trigger."

Janos said Johnson believed that Kennedy was killed in retaliation for an unsuccessful CIA assassination plot against Fidel Castro.

Johnson's doubts were shared by at least one member of the Warren Commission, the late Sen. Richard B. Russell of Georgia. In 1970, Russell said of Oswald, "I think that someone else worked with him."

Since the Warren Report was issued on Sept. 24, 1964, after a 10-month investigation that cost \$1.8 million, there have been two and possibly three stages in public attitude toward it.

Initially there was skepticism and doubt, fed by the publication of a series of critical books.

But in 1969, when a New Orleans jury acquitted Clay Shaw on charges brought by District Attorney Jim Garrison that Shaw conspired with Oswald to murder Kennedy, charges almost universally judged as ludicrous, there was a strong public revulsion against all Warren report critics in general.

Now in 1973, the tenth anniversary of the assassination, a third stage seems to be coming up. No one, however, is exactly sure of its shape.

The Watergate scandal has manifestly demonstrated that the Federal government is quite capable of lying, destroying evidence and obstructing justice.

There is another side to the Watergate question, however. If the Watergate plotters failed so conspicuously to cover up a petty burglary, how can anyone believe that some cabal of plotters against Kennedy could have gotten away with murdering a President in full public view?

While the case is receiving more attention now than at any time since the Shaw trial, this tenth anniversary probably represents the peak of public interest.

Time is steadily taking away important figures in the case. If anything more was involved than simply Oswald's lone action, soon graves may hold the secret.

Here are the cases of five figures from whom further testimony is no longer available:

- Two days after the assassination, Dallas nightclub owner Jack Ruby shot and killed Oswald in the basement of the Dallas police station. On Jan. 3, 1967, Ruby, 55, died of cancer.

- Abraham Zapruder took the most famous amateur movie ever made. 22 seconds of silent color film which shows Kennedy being shot. He sold it to Life Magazine for \$150,000 and, except at the Clay Shaw trial, it has never been publicly shown. Zapruder, who owned a dress shop in a building across the street from the Texas School Book Depository, died of cancer at 66 in Dallas on Aug. 30, 1970.

- After the assassination, Oswald caught a cab ride home in a taxi driven by William W. Whaley. On Dec. 18, 1965, Whaley was killed in a two-car accident on the Trinity River bridge in Dallas.

- Earlene Roberts was the housekeeper at the rooming house at 1026 N. Beckley St. in Dallas where Oswald lived. In an incident

never entirely explained, she testified that after Oswald reached home via Whaley's cab, a Dallas police car pulled up in front of the house, honked its horn several times as though in signal, and slowly drove away. On Jan. 10, 1966, Mrs. Roberts died, apparently of a heart attack. She was 60.

- Thirteen days before the assassination, a Dallas auto salesman named Albert Guy Bogard gave a demonstration ride to a prospective customer who gave his name as Lee Oswald and said he expected to have money enough to buy a car soon. The Warren Commission subsequently concluded that this was not Lee Harvey Oswald. On Feb. 14, 1966, Bogard committed suicide in a cemetery in Hallsville, La., by running a hose into his car from the exhaust pipe. He was 41.

- Still alive and well, however, is the most important witness whose testimony was contradicted by the Warren Report: the former governor of Texas, John Connally.

The cornerstone of the Warren Report is "the single-bullet theory," the argu-

ment that one single bullet, Exhibit 399, drilled through the bodies of both Kennedy and Connally.

Neither Connally nor his wife Nellie, who were sitting in front of Kennedy and his wife Jackie in the car, believe in the single-bullet theory.

Said Connally, in a famous article in Life Magazine on Nov. 25, 1966:

"They talk about the 'one-bullet' or 'two-bullet theory' but as far as I'm concerned there is no theory. There is my absolute knowledge, and Nellie's too, that one bullet caused the President's first wound, and than an entirely separate shot struck me."

Connally was unavailable for an interview in connection with this story. But he said in that same Life article, "It's a certainty. I'll never change my mind."

Not a single eyewitness in Dealey Plaza testified that one bullet struck both the President and the governor. Despite their views and those of the Connallys, however, the Warren Commission went ahead with the single-bullet theory as the keystone of its case.

For in the words of Nor-

Highlights of the Warren Report

The seven-man Warren Commission delivered its report on Sept. 24, 1964, 10 months after it was appointed, with the central finding that the assassination of President Kennedy was the work of one man.

Excerpts highlighting this finding:

"The shots which killed President Kennedy and wounded Governor Connally were fired by Lee Harvey Oswald... The commission has found no evidence that either Lee Harvey Oswald or Jack Ruby was part of any conspiracy, domestic or foreign, to assassinate President Kennedy..."

"On the basis of the evidence before the commission it concludes that Oswald acted alone. Therefore, to determine the motives for the assassination... one must look to the assassin himself..."

"Many factors were undoubtedly involved in Oswald's motivation and the commission does not believe that it can ascribe to him any one motive or group of motives. It is apparent, however, that Oswald was moved by an overriding hostility to his environment.

"He does not appear to have been able to establish meaningful relationships with other people. He was perpetually discontented with the world around him.

man Redlich, an assistant counsel who wrote more of the Warren Report than anyone else, "To say that they were hit by separate bullets is synonymous with saying that there were two assassins."

sins."

Explaining why is a little complicated.

To begin with, no one can be absolutely certain how many shots were fired that

day. No one had a tape recorder and no movie cameras were using sound film. There is no audio record of the assassination.

Although witnesses gave varying counts of the number of shots they heard—some say four or five—the Warren Commission finally decided that Oswald fired three shots, in part because three shells were found in the sixth-floor corner of the Texas School Book Depository from which it is believed he fired.

The initial FBI report said the first and last shots hit Kennedy and the middle one struck Connally. The Warren Commission finally decided, however, that one shot hit both Kennedy and Connally, one missed, and a third, the fatal shot, hit Kennedy in the skull.

Another complication, besides the lack of an audio record, is that the Zapruder film, the best available visual record of the assassination, does not show the moment when Kennedy was first hit.

It shows the final shot. In frame 313, probably the most famous single frame of film in motion picture history, the President's head explodes.

But earlier, when first hit,

Kennedy is blocked off from Zapruder's view by a road sign, which has since been removed, saying, "Stemmons Freeway — Keep Right."

When Kennedy reappears from behind the sign in Frame 225 of the Zapruder film, he has already been hit, his right hand rising toward his wounded neck.

He is behind the sign for only one second. But since Oswald's bullets travelled 2165 feet per second, the instant Kennedy was hit by the first shot cannot be pinned down with the certainty of the later head shot in Frame 313.

Repeated tests show that

Oswald's bolt-action, mail-order \$21.45 rifle could not be fired any faster than once every 2.3 seconds.

Time measurement of the Zapruder film show beyond doubt, however, that there are less than 2.3 seconds between the earliest instant Kennedy could have been hit and the latest Connally could have been struck.

Kennedy is obviously all right in Frame 206, the last one in which he is visible before passing the sign. Connally is obviously wounded by Frame 236, in which his mouth flies open in pain.

Since Zapruder's film rolled through his camera at the rate of 18 frames per second, there is less than two seconds between these frames.

Therefore, either Oswald hit them both with one shot, with Connally showing a more delayed reaction than Kennedy, or there was another gun involved and both men were hit by separate shots.

The creator of the single-bullet theory was Arlen Specter, an assistant counsel to the Warren Com-

mission, now Philadelphia's district attorney.

Specter still believes that the single-bullet theory is valid.

Alone of all the speculations in the case, the single-bullet theory fits with the physical evidence in the case — the three bullet fragments found:

Exhibit 399, an almost-whole bullet weighing 158.6 grains, and two small mangled pieces, one weighing 44.6 grains and the other 21. (An unfired bullet from Oswald's rifle weighed 160 to 161 grains, or slightly more than one-third of an ounce.)

Here is the way Specter

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The Warren Report: Its

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fits the three fragments into his theory:

Exhibit 399 went through Kennedy's neck and Connally's chest and wrist and stopped in his thigh. The other two fragments are shattered pieces of the bullet that smashed Kennedy's skull. The other shot missed and was lost somewhere outside the limousine.

The courses of the wounds through Kennedy's neck and Connally's chest are both on downward paths, so the bullet or bullets that caused them had to stop in the car. If another bullet was involved, where is it? Where did it go?

As one of the Warren Reports critics, Richard H. Popkin, has conceded, "For those who do not accept the Commission's one-bullet hypothesis, there is a genuine problem of explaining where the bullets went."

Specter doesn't have that problem. His hypothesis covers them all. In the absence

of a more convincing counter-argument his theory has stood the test of a decade.

23 Nov
Next Friday at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., the principal assassination researchers and scholars will assemble to discuss the killings of Kennedy and his brother Robert, the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King and the wounding of Alabama Gov. George Wallace.

The driving force behind the convention is the Committee to Investigate Assassinations, a Washington-based organization founded in 1968 by critics of the Warren Report.

Its executive director and principal source of financial support is Bernard (Bud) Fensterwald Jr., the defense attorney for both convicted Watergate burglar James W. McCord and convicted King assassin James Earl Ray. Most of the research is handled by Robert P. Smith, a walking encyclopedia of assassination facts.

To date, Fensterwald has put \$12,000 of his own money into an effort to disprove the Warren Report.

"Oswald is not the lone assassin, if he's the assassin at all," Fensterwald said in a interview in his Washington office. "My real honest feeling is that he was a patsy. I'm convinced a good part of the answer lies in (Oswald's pre-assassination trip to Mexico."

In Wounded Knee, S.D., where he is currently an attorney for the American Indian Movement, Mark Lane is putting his trust in a new movie called "Executive Action."

Lane was co-author of the novel on which the film is based. "There's a better chance this film will reopen a serious factual examination (of the assassination) than anything that's happened in the last 10 years, he said in an interview at Wounded Knee.

The movie depicts three

rifleman killing Kennedy. This is more conservative than Lane's own opinion, which features four or five gunmen including one firing a pistol out of a sewer.

Interviewed at his suburban Philadelphia home, on the campus of Haverford College, Josiah Thompson said he suspects that some of the assassination evidence was falsified.

"I'm convinced that some of the pieces of the puzzle we've been given just don't belong to the puzzle," he said. "I think Exhibit 399 is the red herring in this."

Thompson thinks four shots from three guns killed Kennedy. "I think Oswald was involved some way, perhaps peripherally, with the intelligence community, and the commission simply decided to look the other way," he said.

At his neat red brick home in Belleville, Mich., where no visitor is allowed to smoke a cigarette, Dr. E. Forrest Chapman, a patholo-

critics gather

gist harbors far-reaching suspicions.

He sarcastically speaks of Exhibit 399 as "that bullet that did everything but serve tea."

He believes that Watergate helps the critics' case because "people are waking up to the idea that criminals are running the government." A life member of the John Birch Society, Chapman believes that Kennedy was killed "because he was turning right, making a strong turn toward Americanism."

In Pittsburgh, Dr. Cyril H. Wecht, another pathologist, is not surprised that no one will disclose the whereabouts of Kennedy's brain, which he wants to examine. "Of course the brain is miss-

ing," he said, "because the brain would tell us whether one shot or two shots struck the president's head."

Wecht believes a second assassin was involved, probably also firing at Kennedy from behind. Asked how a conspiracy could be concealed for so long, he replied: "Who knows why nobody has spilled the beans? Maybe the spillers of beans aren't around anymore."

In suburban Dallas, Penn Jones Jr., the peppery editor and publisher of the weekly Midlothian Mirror, continues to keep patient count of the people involved in and around the assassination have since died, some naturally, some violently.

Jones believes that Kennedy's assassination represent-

ed a military takeover of the federal government. "I hope I'm crazy," he said in an interview, "Because if I'm not, we're in big trouble."

Americans have always hated presidential assassins. John Wilkes Booth, killer of Abraham Lincoln, was fatally shot in a burning barn.

Spectators paid as much as \$300 each to watch the hanging of Charles J. Guiteau, the killer of James A. Garfield.

After the electrocution of Leon F. Czolgosz, the killer of William McKinley, all of Czolgosz' clothes and personal effects were burned and a carboy of sulfuric acid was poured into his coffin.

But no one is likely to bother Oswald's bones.

At Rose Hill Cemetery in Fort Worth, his plain pine coffin was lowered into a vault lined with asphalt and reinforced with steel bars. The vault weighs more than a ton.

Where are they now?

Examiner News Service

It has been 10 years of extraordinary change since the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Here is a look at what has happened to many of the players in the tragedy of November 22, 1963, including the President's closest and most trusted advisers — the knights of his Camelot.

Marina Oswald Porter, the widow of the man accused of John Kennedy's murder in Dallas, is now 32 years old and has been married since 1964 to Kenneth Jess Porter, an agent for a sewing machine company. They live in a new house east of Dallas in hilly farmland where Marina's two children by Oswald — June 12, and Rachel, 10 — and her son by Porter, Mark, 7 are bused nine miles to public school.

For 10 years, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, now 67, has dedicated herself to providing that her son Lee Harvey was innocent of the murder of President Kennedy. She lives today in Ft. Worth, as she did on Nov. 22, 1963. Mrs. Oswald is said to have one of the most extensive assassination libraries in the country. "I'd rather do this than eat," she has said. "This is history. This is my life — to counteract errors."

One of the more remarkable public demonstrations after the assassination was the outpouring of cash contributions to the widow of J.D. Tippit, the policeman shot while trying to question Oswald on a Dallas street. Within a year \$656,391 had been received, declared



MARGUERITE OSWALD
Lee 'not guilty'



DR. PERRY
'I was naive'



MARINA PORTER
She's remarried

tax-free by Congress and placed in trust for the widow and her three children. In 1967 Mrs. Tippit married Harry Dean Thomas, a divorced city police detective with four children. They live in Dallas. Now 45, Mrs. Thomas receives a monthly living allowance from the bank that handles the trust.

Dr. Malcolm Perry, the surgeon who tried to save John F. Kennedy at Parkland Hospital, now wishes he could reclaim a few words he spoke shortly after Kennedy died. Perry told news-

men that the wound in front of the President's neck "appeared to be an entrance wound," a statement that created much suspicion when the wound was officially described as the exit hole for a bullet fired from the rear — by Oswald. Perry says he wishes he had waited for the hospital to make a statement. "I was naive," he says. "I could only report what I saw. I just tried to answer as honestly as I could."

Of the characters in the drama of November 22, 1963, J. Gordon Shanklin remains as FBI agent-in-charge in Dallas. Forrest V. Sorrels, agent-in-charge of the Dallas Secret Service office, retired three years ago; Police Capt. Will Fritz, chief interrogator of Oswald, is retired; William Greer, driver of the Kennedy car on Nov. 22, received disability retirement from the Secret Service in 1966 because of an ulcer condition. Patrolman M. N. McDonald, who grappled with Oswald in the Texas Theatre and, with help of others arrested him, was promoted to detective and is still with the department. Abraham Zapruder, the Dallas manufacturer who made the dramatic home movies of the assassination, died in August 1970, after a lingering illness. William Wayne Whaley, who drove the taxicab carrying Oswald from downtown to his rooming house after the assassination, was killed in a traffic accident in 1965. Earlene

Roberts, Oswald's landlady, died of a heart attack in 1966.

Larry O'Brien, Kennedy's legislative liaison man and, since the early days in Massachusetts, his most trusted political confidant, is still a major figure in the Democratic Party. He lives in Washington where he is working on a book and involved in the numerous lawsuits tied to Watergate. He reminded a recent visitor that he was with John Kennedy in Dallas and with Robert in Los Angeles when he was assassinated in 1968. Since then there have been minor catastrophes: the Chicago convention of 1968; a failed business venture and the "unreal" campaign with George McGovern. Speaking of John Kennedy, he says: "I considered him the most outstanding man I ever met. I guess the one word for him is courage. No, I think guts is a better word."

Arthur Schlesinger, the Kennedy administration's link to academia, is now the Albert Schweitzer professor of humanities at the City University of New York. He says he is offended by the growing literature about Kennedy administration failures. "Nothing is more predictable than a decline in the reputation of an American President a decade or so after his death."

Ken O'Donnell was one of several Kennedy political aides who failed with the voters. He tried for the Mas-

sachusetts governorship twice and neither time survived the primaries. Since then he has been in a curious limbo; for a time he was a campaign adviser to Humphrey. He wrote a book, "Johnny We Hardly Knew Ye," with Dave Powers. His health has failed; he collapsed this summer and was hospitalized for a time.

Pierre Salinger, Kennedy's press secretary, stayed on at the White House until 1964 and became, by appointment, a senator from California. When he ran for the job he lost to George Murphy. Salinger, \$100,000 in debt, tried the business world and failed — as a discotheque owner and then as the founder of an overseas investment fund. Now his calling card reads "Grand Reporter" for the Paris magazine L'Express.

Kennedy speech-writer Ted Sorenson is another who tried to win office on his own, running for the seat in New York vacated by the assassinated Robert Kennedy. He ran third in the primary. Now he has a thriving law practice—and no particular political ambitions.

Of all the knights of Camelot, perhaps the most fitting ers a frequent companion and confidante, who was perhaps closest to Kennedy During the White House years than any other man. Now he is the curator of the as yet unfinished Kennedy Library in Waltham, Mass.

SF Examiner That day in Dallas: City recalls

NOV 18 1973

By Dick Alexander

San Franciscans are recalling this week the numbness and shock they felt 10 years ago when they learned that President John F. Kennedy had been shot in Dallas, Tex.

"It was like someone taking off my right arm."

"It hit me in the solar plexus."

"A stark and unbelievable thing happening in America."

These were some of the responses when The Examiner asked: Where were you 10 years ago this Thursday? How did you learn of Kennedy's assassination? What was your reaction?

Most said they received the news with disbelief.

The impact didn't hit Al-
Jan McVeigh until three days later.

McVeigh, owner of the

M&M Tavern at Fifth and Howard streets, said he received with "complete disbelief" the news imparted by the driver of a newspaper truck.

"But it was something people don't make up," he added. "On my way home three days later, I pulled my car off the freeway and cried to myself."

Claude Cooper was told on a street car while going to the shine stand he has operated at Powell and O'Farrell streets the past 25 years.

"I was very shocked. You couldn't believe it. It was like someone taking off my right arm. When I got off at Market and Powell, everyone was talking about it."

Supervisor Dianne Feinstein said she and her husband, Dr. Bertram Feinstein, were in a hotel in Hong Kong when a reporter told them the news had come over a wire service.

"Cut out the jokes," the wire service bureau messaged back. "But, within 10 minutes it was evident it was true," said Mrs. Feinstein, now president-elect of the Board of Supervisors.

"I remember our trying to call home," she added. "It's an unbelievably startling thing when you're away from home and you want immediately to go back to your country. We cut short our trip and were able to get reservations back."

"At the time, it was running through our minds that this was a stark and unbelievable thing happening America."

Don Monson, an insurance broker with Everett W. Stark and Company, said he was in his office in Daly City when his wife phoned and said she heard the President had been shot.

"It hit me in the solar plexus," said Monson. "I

didn't believe it. We turned the radio on in the office and it was very confused. In the next few minutes the story started developing. I wasn't good for much that day. But I thought how lucky we were to have a Vice President (Lyndon B. Johnson) who knew the ropes back there."

Muriel Cahn, a real estate salesperson, said she was shopping downtown when a cousin told her. "I couldn't believe it. Very shortly after, I heard it from other people and on the radio."

Joseph L. Alioto was in his law office on Sutter Street when Oscar Zebal, export manager for the California Rice Growers, "came running in and yelled out that Kennedy had been shot."

"I didn't believe it," said Alioto, now the Mayor. "But we ran down to his office, where Oscar had a radio. People congregated in his office."

"I canceled our appointments and went through the rest of the day with incredible disbelief."

The Rev. James J. Dempsey of the University of San Francisco faculty, was preparing to go to a theater conference at Loyola University in Los Angeles when a switchboard operator called his room in the faculty house.

"I was stunned. I felt an emptiness more than anything," said Father Dempsey.

"Most people here, when they heard the news, headed for the chapel. Few attended the conference in L.A."

Aine Buster, hotel sales secretary at 50 Eighth Street, was in Falmouth (Mass.) High School when she heard of the shooting. She cried, "because I really liked him. My dad also cried, because the stock market fell."