

WXPPost JUN 17 1973
**Writer Tells
LBJ View of
JFK Slaying**

NEW YORK, June 16 (UPI)—The late President Lyndon Johnson believed that President Kennedy was slain in retaliation for a thwarted assassination attempt by a CIA-backed team in Havana, according to a former Johnson aide.

In an article being published Sunday in the Atlantic Monthly, Leo Janos, now a Time magazine correspondent, said that Mr. Johnson told him in a conversation at the LBJ ranch a few months before he died, "I never believed Oswald acted alone, although I can accept that he pulled the trigger."

Janos quoted Mr. Johnson as saying that when he took office after the assassination he found "we had been operating a damned Murder Inc. in the Caribbean."

Janos did not quote the late President as to the specifics of the alleged CIA assassination plot in Havana, nor the target of such a plot.

Janos added, however, "A year before Kennedy's death a CIA-backed assassination team had been picked up in Havana."

Mr. Johnson speculated that Dallas had been a retaliation for this thwarted attempt, although he couldn't prove it," Janos said.

He said Mr. Johnson told him, "After the Warren Commission reported in, I asked (then Attorney General) Ramsey Clark to quietly look into the whole thing. Only two weeks later he reported back that he couldn't find anything new."

Janos said, "Disgust tinged Johnson's voice as the conversation came to an end. 'I thought I had appointed Tom Clark's son—I was wrong.'"