

EA153 (850)

CAR. II

21 NOV. 1965

(ADVANCE FOR USE IN AMS OF SUNDAY, NOV. 21)

(20 NOV. 1965)

TWO YEARS LATER

(041 PES

1062 PES)

BY ARTHUR EVERETT

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

(ADVANCE)...NEW YORK, NOV. 20 (AP)-THE BIG PRESIDENTIAL AIRLINER WAS AIRBORNE BETWEEN FORTH WORTH AND DALLAS. THE TIME WAS SHORTLY BEFORE 11 A.M. ABOARD WITH PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY WAS HIS WIFE, JACQUELINE, AND THE USUAL RETINUE THAT SURROUNDS THE NATION'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

MRS. KENNEDY CARRIED A BOUQUET OF RED ROSES, A MEMENTO OF AN OVERNIGHT STOP AT FORT WORTH.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY HAD ARISEN EARLY THAT FRIDAY MORNING IN FORT WORTH'S TEXAS HOTEL. HE WAS MIDWAY IN A QUICK TOUR OF THE STATE. BEHIND HIM LAY SAN ANTONIO AND HOUSTON. AHEAD WAS DALLAS, THEN AN AFTERNOON FLIGHT TO THE STATE CAPITAL IN AUSTIN, AND A FRIDAY OVERNIGHT STOP AT THE JOHNSON CITY RANCH OF VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON.

BACK IN HYANNIS PORT, MASS., THE KENNEDY CHILDREN AWAITED THE RETURN OF THEIR PARENTS. JOHN F. KENNEDY JR., WAS TO CELEBRATE HIS THIRD BIRTHDAY ON MONDAY. DAUGHTER CAROLINE WAS TO BE SIX ON THE FOLLOWING WEDNESDAY.

TEXAS WAS NOT KENNEDY TERRITORY, NOT REALLY. TRUE, HE HAD CARRIED THE LONE STAR STATE IN 1960 BY 1,167,932 VOTES TO 1,121,699 FOR REPUBLICAN RICHARD M. NIXON. BUT NOW THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN TEXAS WAS SPLIT.

IT WAS GENERALLY ASSUMED THAT THIS TRIP WAS A FENCE-MENDING MISSION, A PRELUDE, IF NOT AN OPENING TO KENNEDY'S 1964 CAMPAIGN FOR REELECTION.

SOME OF HIS ADVISERS HAD CAUTIONED AGAINST THE VISIT. THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN TEXAS, THEY FELT, WAS NOT AUSPICIOUS.

A154

HOWEVER, AS HIS BIG PLANE DRONED ALONG ON THE SHORT HOP FROM FORT WORTH, THE PRESIDENT COULD SAVOR A FEELING OF ACCOMPLISHMENT. BAREHEADED, WITHOUT A COAT, SHAKING HANDS THAT MORNING IN THE

RAIN WITH A WARM AND FRIENDLY OUTDOOR AUDIENCE IN FORT WORTH, KENNEDY HAD BEEN MOVED TO REMARK:

"ALL THIS MAKES ME VERY GLAD TO BE HERE."

THE SKIES HAD CLEARED AS THE JETLINER SET DOWN AT LOVE FIELD IN DALLAS AT 11:37 A.M. THAT FRIDAY MORNING AND A NOVEMBER SUN BATHED THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY AS THEY DISEMBARKED, MRS. KENNEDY CLUTCHING HER ROSES.

FLOWN IN ADVANCE FROM WASHINGTON WAS THE PRESIDENT'S FAMILIAR WHITE HOUSE LIMOUSINE, A DARK-BLUE BUBBLE-TOPPED CONVERTIBLE. THE BUBBLE TOP WAS REMOVED FOR THE DALLAS MOTORCADE, BECAUSE THE WEATHER HAD TURNED BLAND.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AS HE STEPPED INTO THE CAR WITH HIS WIFE, CARRIED A SOFT FELT HAT. HE ALSO CARRIED THE SPEECH HE WAS TO DELIVER TO 2,500 LUNCHEON GUESTS AT THE DALLAS TRADE MART.

THE THEME OF THE SPEECH WAS A FAMILIAR ONE. AS HE HAD SO OFTEN BEFORE, KENNEDY ENVISIONED A NATION ON THE MOVE, FACING A TIME FOR COURAGE AND A TIME OF CHALLENGE. HIS ADDRESS WAS TO END WITH A QUOTATION FROM THE BIBLE'S PSALM 124:

"EXCEPT THE LORD KEEP THE CITY, THE WATCHMAN WAKETH BUT IN VAIN."

KENNEDY'S MOTORCADE MOVED ALONG A ROUNDABOUT 11-MILE ROUTE, BETWEEN THOUSANDS MASSES IN THE DALLAS BUSINESS DISTRICT. THE CROWD CHEERED THE PRESIDENT AND THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF RANCOR.

EA155

"YOU CAN'T SAY DALLAS ISN'T FRIENDLY TODAY," REMARKED MRS. JOHN CONNALLY, RIDING IN THE PRESIDENTIAL LIMOUSINE WITH HER HUSBAND, THE GOVERNOR OF TEXAS.

~~KENNEDY STARTET~~

(MORE)

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EA157

ADVANCE FOR USE IN AMS OF SUNDAY NOV 21

(ADVANCE) NEW YORK--FIRST ADD "TWO YEARS LATER" (A153)

X X X OF TEXAS.

KENNEDY STARTED TO REPLY.

AT THAT INSTANT, 12:30 P.M., THREE SHARP EXPLOSIVE CRACKS WERE HEARD. SOME IN THE MOTORCADE TOOK THEM TO BE FIRECRACKERS.

BUT IN THE PRESIDENTIAL CAR, KENNEDY FELL FACE DOWN IN THE BACK SEAT WITH ASSASSIN LEE HARVEY OSWALD'S BULLETS IN HIS NECK AND THE BACK OF HIS HEAD.

"OH NO!" GASPED MRS. KENNEDY, CRADLING HER HUSBAND WHILE HIS LIFE'S BLOOD STAINED HER PINK SKIRT. THE PRESIDENT'S FELT HAT LAY ON THE FLOOR OF THE CAR. BETWEEN THE SEATS WERE WEDGED THREE TWISTED AND CRUSHED ROSES FROM MRS. KENNEDY'S BOUQUET.

THE MOTORCADE MADE A CAREENING DASH TO PARKLAND HOSPITAL, BUT AT 1 P.M. THAT FRIDAY AFTERNOON PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, AGED 46, WAS OFFICIALLY PRONOUNCED DEAD.

"WE NEVER HAD ANY HOPE OF SAVING HIS LIFE," SAID ONE OF THE DOCTORS.

THE DATE WAS NOV. 22, 1963. THE 35TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAD BECOME THE FIRST WHITE HOUSE MARTYR IN 63 YEARS.

HISTORY WAS IRREVOCABLY ALTERED IN DALLAS JUST TWO YEARS AGO THIS COMING MONDAY.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON SPEEDILY WAS SWORN IN AS THE NEW PRESIDENT, IN A TRANSITION AS ORDERLY AS THE EVENTS PRECEDING IT HAD BEEN CHAOTIC.

TODAY, THE BODY OF THE FALLEN PRESIDENT LIES IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY. NEXT MONTH CONSTRUCTION IS TO BEGIN ON THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, A \$46.5 MILLION MEMORIAL ON THE BANKS OF THE POTOMAC RIVER NEAR THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL.

KENNEDY'S ASSASSIN, OSWALD, WAS HIMSELF SHOT TO DEATH NOV. 24, 1963, BY JACK RUBY, NOW IN THE DALLAS COUNTY JAIL APPEALING A DEATH SENTENCE DECREED IN MARCH, 1964, BY A JURY.

EA158

OSWALD'S WIDOW, MARINA, HAS REMARRIED. HER HUSBAND IS KENNETH PORTER, AN ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN, AND THEY LIVE WITH THE TWO SMALL OSWALD DAUGHTERS IN NORTHEAST DALLAS.

"I THINK ABOUT IT A LOT," MRS. OSWALD SAID THE OTHER DAY. "I TRY TO FORGET. IT IS LIKE A NIGHTMARE. SOMETIMES I HAVE NIGHTMARES."

IN FORT WORTH, WHENCE KENNEDY BEGAN HIS LAST JOURNEY, OSWALD'S GRAY-HAIRED MOTHER, MARGUERITE, STILL TALKS OF CLEARING HER SON'S NAME.

BUT THE WARREN COMMISSION, AFTER AN EXHAUSTIVE INVESTIGATION, NAMED OSWALD AS KENNEDY'S ASSASSIN, AND ITS VERDICT IS THE SOLE OFFICIAL FINDING ON THE TRAGEDY.

MRS. KENNEDY LIVES QUIETLY IN NEW YORK. SHE OCCASIONALLY IS SEEN IN PUBLIC, MOST RECENTLY THIS WEEK WHEN SHE VISITED PRINCESS MARGARET OF GREAT BRITAIN, UPON THE LATTER'S ARRIVAL IN MANHATTAN.

JOHN KENNEDY JR., WILL BE FIVE YEARS OLD ON THANKSGIVING, AND CAROLINE'S EIGHTH BIRTHDAY FALLS ON NOV. 27. BOTH ARE IN SCHOOL--JOHN AT KINDERGARTEN CLASSES NEAR HIS PENTHOUSE APARTMENT ON FIFTH AVENUE, CAROLINE AT THE CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART NOT FAR AWAY.

"WE TREAT HER LIKE ANYONE ELSE," SAID A SPOKESMAN AT CAROLINE'S SCHOOL. "WE TREAT HER LIKE ANYONE ELSE," SAID A SPOKESMAN AT CAROLINE'S SCHOOL.

(END ADVANCE FOR AMS OF SUNDAY, NOV. 21--MOVED NOV. 19)

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