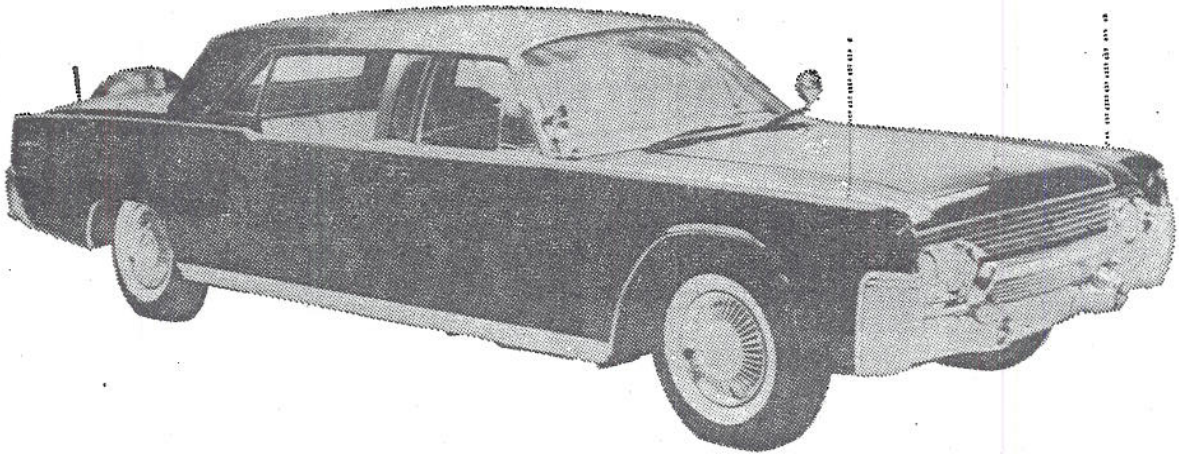


CARON II

JAN 31 1973



AP Wirephoto

President Kennedy was assassinated in this limousine in 1963

Death Car Is Retired

Washington

The limousine in which President John F. Kennedy was assassinated will be retired from government service, probably to a museum, the Secret Service says.

The 1961 black Lincoln Continental will be returned soon to the Ford Motor Co., which leases the armored presidential "security limousines," according to Jack Warner of the Secret Service.

At least one firm has expressed an interest in selling

the historic vehicle, but a Ford spokesman said the auto "would not be promoted by anybody."

The Edison Institute, which operates the Henry Ford Museum in Greenfield Village, Mich., has the first option on the auto, the Ford spokesman said.

If the museum turns down the vehicle, which is doubtful, the auto probably will be destroyed, he added.

Russell Kruse of Kruse Classic Auction Co. of Auburn, Ind., the firm that recently sold Adolf Hitler's

staff car for \$153,000, said the Kennedy auto could bring up to a quarter-million dollars on the auction block.

The limousine was 90 per cent rebuilt in 1964 following the assassination in Dallas in 1963, a Secret Service spokesman said.

President Lyndon B. Johnson received a new car in 1968 and President Nixon received his new one last year. The one in which Kennedy was killed, however, has been used occasionally since its renovation.

Associated Press