

JFK ASSASSINATION CULT LEADER IS NO. 1 SUSPECT

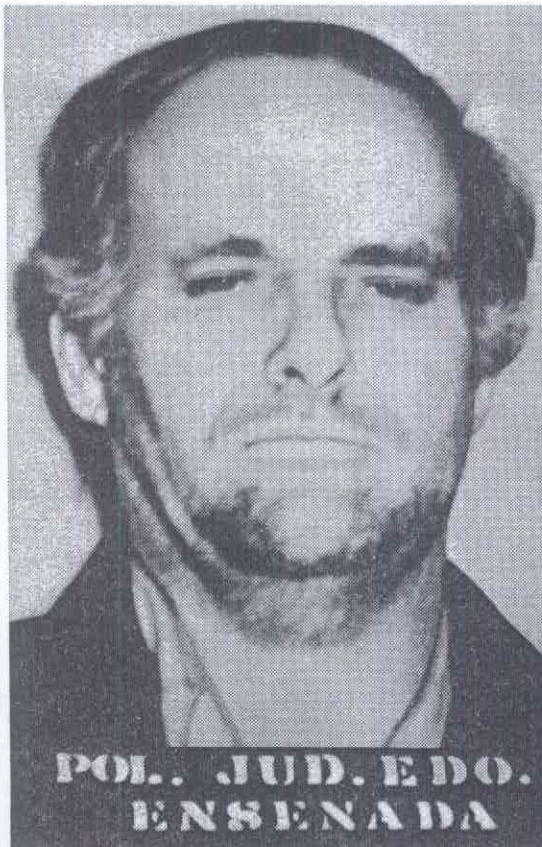
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EXCLUSIVE STORIES AND PHOTOS

Convicted killer Ervil LeBaron is the top suspect in the JFK assassination. LeBaron — shown in Mexican police mug shots taken after his arrest for cult murders — has been

tied to the Kennedy case by once-secret FBI and Secret Service documents. Former Dallas Police Chief Jesse Curry says flatly: "LeBaron is the major suspect." (P. 36.)



Cult Leader Is No. 1 Suspect in JFK Assassination

The Number One suspect in the JFK assassination is a murderous cult leader known as the "Avenging Angel."

His name is Ervil LeBaron — and he heads a cruel killing cult that has painted the Southwest red with blood.

LeBaron's major involvement in the JFK murder has emerged fast on the heels of the House Select-Committee on Assassinations' stunning conclusion that John Kennedy "was probably assassinated as a result of a conspiracy" — a finding which came after many years of official denial.

ENQUIRER EXCLUSIVE

In a once-secret FBI document — obtained by the ENQUIRER through the Freedom of Information Act — FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover admitted that LeBaron's sect "is believed to have been responsible for President Kennedy's death."

That shocking document, and other papers once kept under lock and key by the FBI and Secret Service, link the brutal cult leader straight to the assassination.

LeBaron, 53, is now on the run from both the FBI, which wants him on another murder charge, and the Secret Service, which wants to question him about death threats to President Carter.

"LeBaron is the major suspect (in JFK's assassination). He should be tracked down and questioned," declared former Dallas Police Chief Jesse Curry, who was present when Kennedy was shot.

"I was never convinced that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone. The committee's findings confirm what I have always felt — that a second gunman was involved."

U.S. Rep. H. Joel Deckard (R.-Ind.), who has researched the assassination for more than 10 years, agreed: "LeBaron must be considered the prime suspect. He should be arrested and questioned."

The fanatic also is suspected of masterminding the attempted assassination of publisher Larry Flynt last year — allegedly to keep him from revealing new information on the JFK murder, an ENQUIRER investigation reveals. Flynt is now so scared that he won't talk about the case.

The power-crazed LeBaron and his followers are not only believed responsible for JFK's assassination — they also have threatened the lives of other Presidents since Kennedy, and are believed to have committed a string of murders since JFK's death.

"Ervil wants to take over the world — and anyone who gets in his way will be eliminated," the fugitive cult leader's brother, Alma LeBaron, told The ENQUIRER in an exclusive interview.

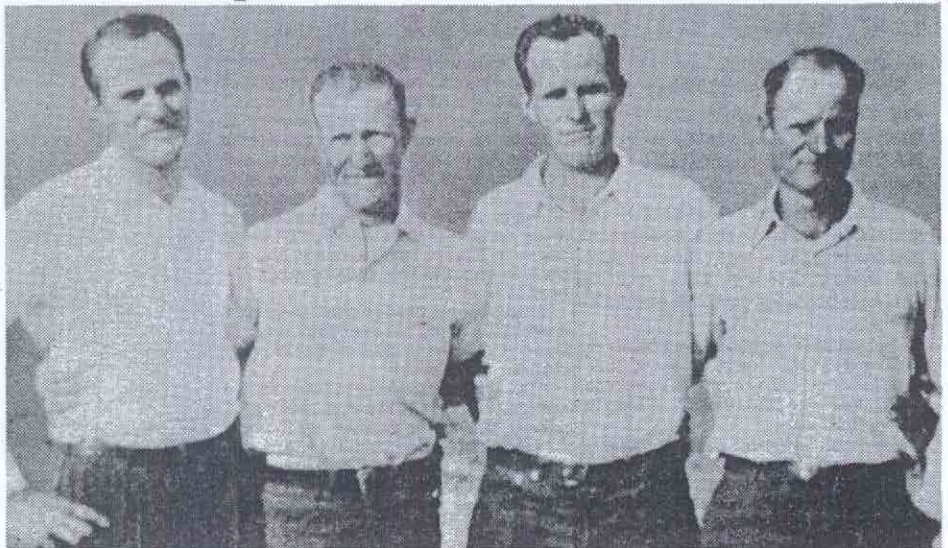
"He's been killing people for years. He'll keep telling his followers to go out and kill people as long as he can keep doing it."

"Ervil has his followers convinced he's going to rule the earth, that he's a great prophet, and that he's doing the will of God. But he has become a servant of Satan."

Added an investigator: "The Presidency is a natural target for Ervil since he feels he should rightfully occupy that office."

The bizarre link between LeBaron and the JFK assassination surfaced simultaneously on two fronts: during a probe into the attempted assassination of Hustler magazine publisher Larry Flynt, and in a close scrutiny by The ENQUIRER of once-secret federal documents.

Flynt, who had become deeply embroiled in the search for JFK's real killers, told The ENQUIRER he was just about to release new evidence when he was gunned down on a Georgia street



FUGITIVE Ervil LeBaron (second from right), with three of his brothers — Verlan, Floren and, at right, Joel, whom Ervil was convicted of murdering.



BROTHER Alma LeBaron warns Ervil is on a killing spree.

on March 6, 1978. He was left paralyzed from the waist down.

Freelance writer Seri Mitchell, who's preparing a book about LeBaron, told The ENQUIRER: "FBI agents were here asking me what I knew about Ervil. They told me he's a prime suspect in the shooting of Larry Flynt."

And Robert Ingram, commander of the Organized Crime and Fugitive

Squad for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, told The ENQUIRER:

"The theory that he (Flynt) was shot because of what he had discovered on the Kennedy assassination is a valid one. I certainly wouldn't rule it out."

Contacted by The ENQUIRER, Flynt refused to discuss LeBaron. "I still fear for my life because of the facts I uncovered on Kennedy's assassination," he said.

While the FBI won't publicly admit it's seeking LeBaron in connection with Flynt's shooting, it says he's wanted for "unlawful flight to avoid prosecution" in connection with the murder of a rival cult leader.

A team of ENQUIRER reporters unearthed further evidence of the link between LeBaron and JFK's slaying while sifting through thousands of once-classified FBI and Secret Service documents in Washington.

One FBI message from the Salt Lake City office, marked "Urgent," was sent to FBI headquarters in Dallas on Nov. 26, 1963 — four days after Kennedy's

death. It reported that stock clerk Bob Cone of Salt Lake City had tipped of agents about a murder plot being hatched by the Church of the Firstborn of the Fullness of Times — whose members called one of their leaders, Ervil LeBaron, the "Avenging Angel."

Cone told agents that his close friend, cult follower Ralph Higbee, "since July 1963, has made statements to Cone indicating members (of) this church have been plotting assassination of top government officials in order that (the) church can take over government . . . Headquarters (of the cult) are in El Paso, Tex., and leaders are brothers named Joel and Ervil LeBaron . . ."

Next day a second FBI memo reported: "Cone believes this group was responsible for President Kennedy's death . . ."

Veteran FBI agent William Geiermann, who headed the Salt Lake City investigation in 1963, recalled in an ENQUIRER interview that Cone "seemed rather agitated" when recounting what he'd learned of the feared cult's plans.

"Cone told me that from July 1963, Higbee had been telling him that the LeBaron church had been plotting the assassination of top government officials," said Geiermann.

"Cone was concerned because this church, even then, was wild and radical."

Another FBI document said Secret Service agent Robert Grube, then in charge of the Salt Lake City office, has been instructed to make a "full investigation" into the cult. But when The ENQUIRER contacted Grube, he said he couldn't recall making such an investigation.

On Jan. 27, 1964, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover fired off a memo to the agent in charge of the Salt Lake City office, directing him to obtain the results of the Secret Service's investigation. Hoover said that LeBaron's cult "is believed to have been responsible for President Kennedy's death."

Incredibly, at the very time that top secret document was sent, the FBI and Hoover were publicly insisting there was no conspiracy and that only Oswald was involved in JFK's assassination.

According to people who were close to

(Continued on next page)

The FBI Wants You to Help Find This Man

Ervil LeBaron now is being sought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on a charge of murdering a rival cult leader — and the FBI is asking that you, our readers, help find him.

Said an FBI spokesman: "Any ENQUIRER reader having information which might assist in locating Ervil LeBaron is requested to notify immediately the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C. 20535 — or the special agent in charge of the nearest FBI field office."

The spokesman warned that LeBaron "should be considered armed and dangerous," and that "extreme caution" should be used in dealing with him.



ERVIL LeBARON: Early photo of the man sought by the FBI.

'FBI Documents Show Ervil LeBaron Considered Prime Suspect in JFK Slaying'

(Continued from preceding page)

LeBaron in 1963, he hated Kennedy. He considered the Catholic President "a beast coming out of the sea" and feared "there would be a Roman Catholic government" if JFK stayed in power.

The newly released federal documents cast a shocking new light on the JFK case, declared attorney and assassination investigator Mark Lane, author of the best-selling "Rush to Judgement."

"These documents clearly show that

the FBI believes LeBaron was involved in the JFK shooting," said Lane. "They clearly show that, despite the official line that there was no conspiracy, the FBI was investigating a conspiracy — and that Ervil LeBaron was a prime suspect."

Where is LeBaron now? Authorities believe he's in Mexico, but makes frequent forays into the United States. Some day soon, when he crosses the border, they hope to nab the "Avenging Angel" — and find out, once and for all, who really killed JFK.

Who Is Ervil LeBaron?

Ervil LeBaron is a cult leader so vicious and cruel that he was convicted of murdering his own brother — and had his own daughter strangled, according to cult insiders.

He was once co-leader of the Church of the Firstborn of the Fullness of Times, an offshoot of the Mormon Church. But in 1970 the Church of the Firstborn kicked him out, and he formed his own sect, the Church of the Lamb of God.

Beginning in 1972 this gun-toting messiah — a giant at nearly six feet six and 225 pounds — routinely ordered his followers to commit murder, according to his ex-lieutenant, Lloyd Sullivan.

"We were to do it (whatever LeBaron ordered) or we would receive ... hot lead and cold steel or a one-way ticket to hell," Sullivan testified in a cult-related murder case last April.

LeBaron called his murders the "Law of the 38," according to Sullivan, who died of a heart attack one month after testifying. Nobody knows how many people he and his armed clan have slaughtered, but they're suspects in at least 20 murders.

In 1972 LeBaron was arrested for the murder of his brother Joel, who'd been beaten and shot to death at his Mexico home. LeBaron spent a year in jail while awaiting trial, then was convicted of murder and sentenced to 12 years in prison. "But he bribed his way out," said Utah journalist Dale Van Atta, a recognized expert on the cult.

In 1974, a band of LeBaron followers raided the Mexican town of Los Molinos — firebombing 25 homes, wounding 13 people and killing two men. LeBaron was convicted of masterminding the raid, but served only nine months in prison — apparently again buying his freedom.

In 1977, rival cult leader Dr. Rulon Allred was gunned down in his Salt Lake City office by two women. Ten Lambs of God, including LeBaron himself, have

been charged in the murder ... but LeBaron is still on the run.

LeBaron also had his own daughter Rebecca murdered because she was threatening to leave the cult and tell all she knew, said his brother Alma.

"I heard that after Ervil had it done, he wept," Alma told *The ENQUIRER*.

LeBaron has at least 10 wives — some say 13 — and over 40 children. He and his followers lead strange nomadic lives, moving around Mexico and a half-dozen Southwestern states, leaving cold bodies in their wake.

"LeBaron has a charismatic, powerful personality which he uses to control his followers," said Van Atta, who has written about the cult for many years.

The cult gets its money from a Denver appliance store it owns, from welfare and Social Security fraud, and by extorting money from poor Mexicans, according to Van Atta.

Van Atta estimates LeBaron has around 40 hard-core disciples who will do anything he asks, and another 150 over whom he has less control.

Some of Ervil LeBaron's followers think he's a savior "while others think he's possessed by a demon," said writer Serj Mitchell, who is writing a book on him. And he's so vicious, she adds, that his own mother calls him "Evil."



UNDER ARREST: His hands behind his back, Ervil LeBaron is escorted by police at Chihuahua Airport, Mexico, in 1976.



LEE HARVEY OSWALD: It is now officially thought that he did not act alone.

You Read the Truth Here 15 Years Ago

ENQUIRER readers have known for 15 years what the House Select Committee on Assassination has just found out: Lee Harvey Oswald probably didn't act alone when he killed President John F. Kennedy.

Barely six months after that infamous day — Nov. 22, 1963 — *The ENQUIRER* challenged the "lone gunman" theory and told you in no uncertain terms that "there is more to the story behind the assassination than has been disclosed."

And ever since then we have relentlessly investigated every clue, every thread of information, to provide you with proof of a second gunman.

As long ago as May 7, 1967, we told you the Warren Commission was wrong and we backed it up with exclusive evidence showing that "there must have been two gunmen." In all, our exhaustive investigations have produced no less than 70 articles based on fresh evidence of a conspiracy.

So it comes as no shock to *ENQUIRER* readers that the House Select Committee on Assassinations has recently concluded what you have known all along: There probably was a second gunman involved in JFK's slaying. The committee's announcement on December 31 that Kennedy "was probably assassinated as a result of a conspiracy" was based on new acoustic evidence of gunfire from two locations during the moments of the slaying.

"The Warren Commission failed to investigate adequately the possibility of a conspiracy to assassinate the President," the committee declared.

We made that charge — only stronger — on May 17, 1964!

We published evidence that the Warren Commission was covering up key facts about a conspiracy and even withholding documents.

On January 28 of the next year, we revealed for the first time "Suppressed JFK Murder Evidence" that Oswald had not acted alone and detailed further evidence of a cover-up.

Year after year we have continued to probe and only last winter — while the House Select Committee on Assassinations was still leaning toward the theory that there was no conspiracy — *The ENQUIRER* sifted through 40,000 pages of FBI documents and found: "Shocking new evidence that JFK assassin Lee Harvey Oswald did not act alone ..."



PUBLISHER Larry Flynt after being shot — allegedly to keep him from revealing new information on the JFK slaying.

\$1 MILLION REWARD

The *ENQUIRER* is offering a reward of ONE MILLION DOLLARS for evidence concerning the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The entire sum will be paid to the first person who provides *The ENQUIRER* directly with information resulting in the arrest and ultimate conviction of one or more people for conspiring in the murder of the President on Nov. 22, 1963.

Fifteen years have passed since that awful day in Dallas.

The House Select Committee on Assassinations has investigated the events of the killing for the past two years and recently concluded John F. Kennedy "was probably assassinated as a result of a conspiracy."

The congressional probe found evidence that casts serious doubt on the Warren Commission's finding that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone.

Almost from the start, many people believed there was a conspiracy. The House committee has gone a long way toward proving them right but many questions remain.

The *ENQUIRER* believes Americans are entitled to know the full story about the circumstances surrounding the assassination of their President — an event that still haunts the minds of millions.

To aid in uncovering the truth, *The ENQUIRER* offers its \$1 million reward. This reward will be paid only if the evidence given us results in a conviction, and the conviction is not overturned by a higher court.

If you have any information proving that President Kennedy was the victim of a conspiracy, send it to us. Address your letter to:

NATIONAL *ENQUIRER*, Lantana, Fla. 33464. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number.