

# From Washington On-10 Assassin

Those who decry violence as a new development in the presidential scene because of the assassination of candidate Robert Kennedy just haven't read their history. Ten Presidents have been the victims of murderous assaults.

The pattern of attempted assassination started with George Washington. Involved in a conspiracy to kill the first President were William Tryon, David Matthews and Thomas Hickey.

Hickey was Washington's bodyguard. On June 28th, 1776, the plot having been aborted at the moment of assault, Hickey was hanged.

President Jackson was the second intended victim. On January 30, 1835 he was attending funeral services for Congressman Warren Davis of South Carolina in the rotunda of the capitol. Suddenly, a mentally unbalanced house-painter named Richard Lawrence fired two pistols at him from a distance of six feet. Both weapons missed fire. The President beat the man unconscious with his cane. Later, the assailant was committed to a mental hospital.

Abraham Lincoln was the subject of two plots to kill him. The assassin in the first instance planned to kill him on his way to his inauguration. The murder was to take place on February 11, 1861 at the Calvert Street Depot in Baltimore as Lincoln passed through on his way to Washington.

Allan Pinkerton, a detective assigned to guard the President-elect, discovered the plot and grabbed the would-be killer. Four years later an actor named Booth succeeded.

In November of 1879 President Rutherford B. Hayes and his family were sitting at dinner in the White House when a rifle bullet crashed through a window, traversed the room and buried itself in the bulk of a book on a library shelf. An immediate search of the grounds was made, plus more thorough investigation afterward. The sniper was never found.

aimed a .38 Smith & Wesson revolver at him at point-blank range and fired, hitting his victim in the upper chest. He was sore because Roosevelt was seeking a third

term. Teddy recovered. Schrank went to the state asylum.

On February 15, 1933 a bricklayer named Giuseppe Zangara made a determined

attempt to kill President Franklin D. Roosevelt, mostly because he — Zangara — suffered from splitting headaches that were best relieved by violence.

## ation Assaults

Roosevelt escaped injury but five other persons were hurt. One, Mayor Anton J. Cermak, died. Zangara went to a lunatic asylum.

At 2:15 p.m. of a quiet Fall

afternoon in 1950 Oscar Collazo and Griselio Torresola forced their way into Blair House, in which President Harry Truman was living while the White House under-

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went repairs. Their plan was to blast Truman to death and thus — according to their misguided reasoning — pave the way for Puerto Rican independence. Truman napped through it all but White

House guard Leslie Coffelt was killed and two others wounded. Torresola was slain on the spot and Collazo sent to prison for life.

In 1963, President John F. Kennedy was slain.

Two years later and 199 days after he became President, James A. Garfield was shot in the waiting room of the Baltimore & Potomac Railway Depot. The date was July 2, 1881.

The assailant was Charles Julius Guiteau, a wild-eyed eccentric who was mad because Garfield wouldn't appoint him U.S. consul in Paris. The President died of his wounds two months later, mostly because of inadequate medical attention. Guiteau was hanged.

A man with even less reason for murdering his President, killed William McKinley, one of America's most benign Chief Executives. Leon Czolgosz pistoled McKinley to death on September 6, 1901 because "this is a bad world" and "capitalism must go." Gibbering mindlessly, Czolgosz was strapped into the electric chair 45 days later.

Like his precursor, Robert F. Kennedy, Theodore Roosevelt was campaigning for election in Milwaukee on October 14, 1912. As he was leaving the grand ballroom of the Gilpatrick Hotel a drunken saloonkeeper named John Nepomuk Schrank

## 'We Have To Go On'

Chicago Daily News

WASHINGTON — "Sorrow is a form of self-pity ... we have to go on." Robert Kennedy told a reporter a few minutes after his brother's assassination.

"To go on," meant—in Bobby's mind—to fulfill a vague obligation to young Americans that had been inspired and encouraged by President John F. Kennedy.

It meant trying to be a symbol in public life of the "striving for excellence," which his brother had stirred.