

CHAPTER 2

A “hot” city goes “cold”: no threats

“The Secret Service generally regarded Dallas as a tough town ...”

— William Manchester, *The Death of a President*, p. 39

“The committee found that if the threats that the PRS was aware of had been communicated to agents responsible for the Dallas trip, additional precautions might have been taken. The Secret Service generally regarded Dallas as a tough town ...”

— House Select Committee on Assassinations *Report*, p. 234

At least *three* separate checks were made of the files of the Secret Service Protective Research Section (PRS) on potential threats to the President for the Texas tour, encompassing San Antonio, Houston, Fort Worth, Dallas, and Austin¹—*not one* threat was found for the Dallas stop! The first check, on *November 8, 1963*, was made by Agent Lawson, who was told by Agent Boring that “there wouldn’t be any information available of any consequence” until this date.² He was informed by PRS that there were no subjects of record in the Dallas area on this date.³

The second check of PRS was done by Roy Kellerman on November 10, 1963. The agent later agreed with Congressman—later, President—Gerald Ford of the Warren Commission that it was “unusual” not to have found anything in the PRS files.⁴ Abraham Bolden told the author he also believed this was highly unusual. In addition, Kellerman later stated that this particular check was done by “either Gerald Behn, Chief of the Secret Service White House Detail, *Floyd Boring, Assistant Chief*, or by one other agent whose name he could not recall [emphasis added].”⁵ For his part, Behn seems to rule himself out, telling the HSCA that “no one in PRS passed [the General Walker shooting and Ambassador Stevenson harassment information] on”, and, asked whether he himself told any agent about this, he said he did “not remember any discussion with any agent.”⁶ Behn did disclose “the great extent to which the PRS was the central focus of protective operations.”⁷

The third known check of PRS was done on the morning of November 22, 1963 by Agent Rufus Youngblood through yet another unnamed agent—again, nothing was found.⁸ This is simply impossible, as the rabid right-wing environment, the “Wanted for Treason” mug shots, and the October 24, 1963 attack on U.N. Ambassador Adlai Stevenson make abundantly clear by themselves. Stevenson, Senator J. William Fulbright and others warned JFK about Dallas;⁹ even JFK himself said, “We’re heading into nut country.”¹⁰ Author James Hepburn wrote, “... [PRS] issued no warning about Texas. The Secret Service, therefore, took no special precautions.”¹¹ (See also the earlier comments of agents Kivett, Lawson, Meredith and Newman.) The HSCA duly noted that ASAIC Kellerman was “effectively sealed off from the information that he needed to perform with maximum

protective effort."¹² That is one of the major keys to what did—and did not—happen, security-wise, in Dallas on November 22, 1963.

The author interviewed Special Agent in Charge of PRS, Robert Bouck, on September 27, 1992. Bouck was responsible for monitoring all threats to the life of the President, as well as informing his agents of those threats. Bouck knew about the November 9, 1963 Joseph Milteer threats that were monitored by the Miami Secret Service field office.¹³ The agent told the author that he knew of JFK's sordid private life at the time, as well: he would only say "some of the stories I know are true", with no accompanying details. This is significant for it is the first time that an agent from JFK's detail has publicly verified many rumors about JFK's infidelity. (A non-JFK agent, Marty Venker, spoke briefly of JFK's personal life in his book *Confessions of an Ex-Secret Service Agent* published in 1988.¹⁴) Recently, Seymour Hersh obtained further corroboration from four other agents.¹⁵

Right wing fanatic Joseph Milteer said something very profound to Willie Somerset on November 9, 1963 in Miami: "Well, if they [the Secret Service] have any suspicion they do that [cover all office buildings], of course. *But without suspicion, chances are that they won't.*"¹⁶ [Emphasis added.] The alleged lack of threats in several of the Texas stops, especially Dallas, produced the desired results: security stripping.

Interestingly, a PRS agent, "temporarily assigned to the White House Detail", rode in the follow-up car: Glen A. Bennett.¹⁷ With regard to this agent, the following is a detailed chronology, using many recently-released documents, demonstrating the Secret Service's pre-November 22 knowledge of mortal threats to President Kennedy's life, as well as the author's major discovery of a covert monitor of these threats put in place during the short days and weeks before the assassination. This chronology further strains the credulity of the notion that one man, Lee Harvey Oswald, "got lucky" during the very same time that the agency assigned to protect his alleged victim were on the look-out for *other* threats on JFK's life. From the start of November 1963:

November 1, 1963: South Vietnam's President Diem is assassinated in a CIA-backed coup.¹⁸

November 2, 1963: JFK's trip to Chicago, Illinois was canceled at the last minute due to mortal threats against his life;¹⁹ apart from subjects Thomas Arthur Vallee, Thomas Mosely, and Homer Echevarria, there was a team of four Cuban gunmen, two of whom eluded surveillance and escaped. Former agents Sam Kinney, Bill Greer, Robert Kollar, J. Lloyd Stocks, Gary McLeod, Robert J. Motto, Edward Tucker, David Grant, James Griffiths, Abraham Bolden, and Chicago SAIC Maurice Martineau told the HSCA that this trip was canceled at the last minute; the excuses were varied: JFK had a cold (the phony Cuban Missile Crisis alibi), Diem's death (refuted by Salinger), the Thomas Arthur Vallee arrest, and others. When the author asked former agent Walt Coughlin why the trip was canceled, he responded: "I have not a clue!"²⁰ For his part, Grant told the HSCA: "President Kennedy canceled his appearance, but had requested that the trip continue, despite his absence, 'as though he were still there'. Conse-

quently, the trip was carried out exactly as planned with the exception that President Kennedy did not attend. Mr. Grant was informed that the President canceled his trip because of illness.”²¹ Joseph Noonan, a Chicago office agent, told the HSCA that he “participated directly in surveillance involving Tom Mosely and Homer Echevarria ... he and [the] other agents were uneasy that the Cubans might have some ties to the CIA ... a little later they received a call from Headquarters to *drop everything on Mosely and Echevarria and send all memos, files, and their notebooks to Washington and not to discuss the case with anyone.*”²² [Emphasis added.]

Secret Service Agent Abraham Bolden wrote the author: “I arrived in Washington on November 8, 1963, and left November 11, 1963, eleven days before Kennedy was assassinated. It was during this time that I discussed the breakdown in security with Chief Rowley in person and it was also at this time that I found out that Chief Rowley had written an article for Reader’s Digest[’s] November issue stating and outlining how easy it would be to assassinate a President using a high powered rifle.”²³

November 8–9, 1963: Kennedy’s first, low profile trip to New York City.²⁴

A very important point to keep in mind: there were no PRS Special Agents—those administrative agents that monitor threats to the President—on this trip or on any previous trip in 1963.

Also on November 9, 1963, Miami, Florida: FBI informant Willie Somerset tapes his conversation with Joseph Milteer about plans to kill JFK (who was to visit Miami on November 18, 1963). This is known by the Secret Service *before* Dallas, as SAIC Bouck told the author and as Secret Service records reveal.²⁵

November 10, 1963: PRS agent Glen Bennett was “temporarily assigned to the White House Detail” on this date.²⁶ Although Bennett told the HSCA that he “was not on the Florida trip [November 18, 1963]”,²⁷ the recently released Secret Service shift reports for that trip *and* the Survey Reports²⁸ not only state that Bennett was indeed on all four stops on this trip, but that he *rode in the follow-up car* (on two different occasions) in Palm Beach and in Cape Canaveral, to boot!²⁹ Former PRS Agent Dale Wunderlich told the author: “Regarding the makeup of the advance team in Palm Beach for the opening of the Ambassador’s residence, *Glen Bennett was not part of the PRS advance team. He was serving on a temporary assignment on Presidential Protection Division (PPD)* and in fact, he was riding on the follow-up car in Dallas when the President was assassinated. Howard [K. Norton] and I were the only two on the advance from PRS.”³⁰ [Emphasis added.] Miami WHD advance agent Bert De Freese told the HSCA: “In 1963 it was rare for a PRS agent from Washington to accompany an advance agent into the field, and that no PRS agent accompanied [him] on this trip,”³¹ yet Bennett was with De Freese in Miami *and* in Houston³² on November 21, 1963. Bennett further told the HSCA on January 30, 1978 that he “was detailed from PRS to the White House Detail for the Dallas trip [November 22, 1963]. This was because there was a manpower pull for the Dallas trip,” a statement *not* backed up by the aforementioned shift reports (more on this in a moment). Furthermore, Sam Kinney told the author that Bennett was making

his *first* trip on November 22, 1963.³³ While Kinney’s statement is “corroborated” by Bennett’s story to the HSCA, it is also obviously contradicted by the abovementioned shift reports and Survey reports for the Florida trip of November 18, 1963 and, if that wasn’t enough, Bennett was also on the *second* New York trip that JFK made (November 14–15, 1963.)³⁴ (In addition, Agent Tim McIntyre also told the HSCA that he did not believe he was assigned to either the Miami *or* the Chicago trips for November 1963.³⁵ However, like Agent Bennett’s “amnesia”, as proven by the Secret Service Shift Reports released by the ARRB in the 1990s, McIntyre was actually on *both* trips. It should be noted that McIntyre, who rode in the follow-up car with Bennett, was also Bennett’s roommate in Fort Worth November 21–22, 1963.)³⁶

To recap, for the first ten days of November 1963:

November 1: Diem assassinated.

November 2: JFK’s Chicago trip canceled at the last minute due to threats.

November 8: Start of JFK’s *first* New York trip (no PRS agent on this trip, as there appears to have been *none* on any prior trip—a rarity, according to DeFreese).

November 9: Milteer threat in Miami.³⁷

November 10: Bennett temporarily assigned to WHD from PRS.

November 11, 1963: SAIC of PRS Robert Bouck was notified about JFK’s upcoming *second* trip to New York City for November 14–15, 1963: Bennett was then promptly dispatched to JFK’s presidential suite at the Carlyle Hotel, prior to Kennedy’s arrival, “to conduct a technical survey”!³⁸ This was *not* done on any prior trips in November, including the *first* New York trip, nor on any other trips known to this author; coinciding with Bennett’s temporary assignment, his denials to the HSCA, and everything above in context, there is something going on here—the timing is everything. Also, by performing these specific duties, Bennett was still wearing his PRS hat, so to speak. In addition, Bennett is listed on the Secret Service shift report of November 14, 1963 as “SA—New York City”, under the same grouping of agents—six in all—who were advance agents for JFK’s upcoming trips to Elkton, Maryland; Miami, Florida; Austin, Texas; Fort Worth, Texas; and Tampa, Florida.³⁹ Was Bennett also part of the *advance team* in his newfound WHD assignment?

November 13, 1963: Army code breaker Eugene Dinkin, who had foreknowledge of a threat and attempted to warn officials, is taken into custody by Army officials and hospitalized (a Secret Service agent even interviews him).⁴⁰

November 14–15, 1963: the aforementioned *second* New York trip: shift leader Art Godfrey, the advance agent on *both* New York trips—he actually stayed in New York between both trips—did *not* know the reason why JFK made the *first* New York trip or its purpose, although he was much aware of the second trip: “I have no idea why Pres. Kennedy went to New York City twice in Nov. 1963 ...

I did the advance for both [of] these trips. I do not remember the 8th and 9th trip but the 14th and 15th trip [the second, well-known trip] was to address [sic] a convention at the Americana Hotel after which we went to Palm Beach for the weekend."⁴¹ In addition, former agent J. Frank Yeager wrote: "I went to New York with the President, but I do not remember the trip that you are referring to [November 8–9, 1963]."⁴² When asked why President Kennedy made two New York trips in November 1963 so close together, former agent Walt Coughlin, who was on the first New York trip,⁴³ responded: "I have not a clue",⁴⁴ his identical response in regard to the canceled trip to Chicago (see above). This second New York sojourn is also the first of two November 1963 trips, right before the Texas tour, where much is made, after the fact, of so-called security lapses invoked by JFK (the other being the Tampa trip of November 18, 1963, discussed in Chapter 1).⁴⁵ Importantly, an Associated Press story from *November 15, 1963*, during this specific trip, stated: "The (Secret) Service can overrule even the President where his personal security is involved." In addition to a full coterie of WHD and New York office agents, the highly regarded New York Police helped with security; even a New York Police detective car, directly behind the Secret Service follow-up car, was used, and the press photographers were close at hand. In addition, Press Secretary Pierre Salinger was on the trip.⁴⁶ However, because President Kennedy did not want to tie up heavy rush-hour traffic in a traffic nightmare that was (and remains) New York, he asked, just this once from all accounts as a courtesy to commuters, that the motorcycle officers not perform their customary duty of clearing the highways in advance of the motorcade procession, a variation on a theme later adopted by President Jimmy Carter.⁴⁷ If anything, this would provide more of a surprise to a would-be assassin because there would be no advance warning of the oncoming procession via the motorcycles in advance of Kennedy's motorcade. In any event, the officers were *still* a part of the procession;⁴⁸ they just didn't go out *ahead* of the vehicle. Perhaps more importantly, Chief of Staff O'Donnell wrote: "[JFK's] disregard for security precautions annoyed ... the Secret Service."⁴⁹ And who were some of the members of the detail? None other than *Floyd Boring, Emory Roberts, David Grant, and Bill Greer*.⁵⁰

November 17, 1963: FBI night clerk William S. Walter in the New Orleans Office received a memo via telex warning of a plot to kill JFK: "... a militant revolutionary group may attempt to assassinate President Kennedy on his proposed trip to Dallas Texas November twenty two dash twenty three nineteen sixty three."⁵¹ Some have tried to discredit the authenticity of this telex, but *an ignored Warren Commission document discovered by the author appears to corroborate it*. Originating from the San Antonio, Texas field office and dated November 15, 1963, here is the pertinent part of the text: "... a militant group of the National States Rights Party plans to assassinate the President and other high-level officials."⁵²

"Threats on Kennedy Made Here," *Tampa Tribune*, November 23, 1963: "Tampa police and Secret Service agents scanned crowds for a man who had vowed to assassinate the President here last Monday, Chief of Police J. P. Mullins said yesterday. In issuing notice to all participating security police prior to the President's motorcade tour in Tampa, Mullins had said: 'I would like to advise all officers that threats against the President have been made from this area in the

last few days.' A memo from the White House Secret Service dated Nov. 8 reported: 'Subject made statement of a plan to assassinate the President in October 1963: Subject stated he will use a gun, and if he couldn't get closer he would find another way. Subject is described as: White, male, 20, slender in build,' etc. Mullins said the Secret Service had been advised of three persons in the area who reportedly had made threats on the President's life. One of the three was—and still is—in jail here under heavy bond. Mullins said he did not know if the other two men have followed the Presidential caravan to Dallas. Sarasota County Sheriff Ross E. Boyer also said yesterday that officers who protected Kennedy in Tampa Monday were warned about 'a young man' who had threatened to kill the President during that trip."

November 18, 1963: JFK's Florida trip: Miami office agent Talmadge W. Bailey told the author, in an incredible understatement, that the level of threats toward JFK in Miami was "a little bit above normal".⁵³ Former WHD agent Walt Coughlin, who assisted in the advance for the Miami trip,⁵⁴ wrote: "Miami had a lot of Cuban threats but that is about all I recall. We did remove some waiters (Cuban I believe) from the hotel. I went from Miami to San Antonio. Recall Miami being 'hairy' but that is about all. As far as questions, you have more info than I!!!!"⁵⁵ Gerald Blaine, the advance agent for the Tampa trip, told the author on June 10, 2005 that there were "more characters in Tampa [than in Dallas]. We were really concerned about that. We did a lot of work on that." (Blaine added that he was riding in the lead car with the chief of Police for the Tampa leg of the Florida trip.) WHD advance agent Lubert "Bert" DeFreese admitted to the HSCA that "a threat did surface in connection with the Miami trip ... there was an active threat against the President which the Secret Service was aware in November 1963 in the period immediately prior to JFK's trip to Miami made by a *group of people*."⁵⁶ [Emphasis added.] In addition to this threat information, and separate from the November 9 Milteer threat, a CO-2 PRS file, released to the HSCA on May 3, 1978 and available only recently, reveals yet another threat subject: John Warrington.⁵⁷ Kinney told the author "we had a scare" down there—an unspecified "organized crime" threat related to this same trip.⁵⁸ In fact, there were an incredible *six pages*' worth of threat subjects and information, including the subjects Orlando Bosch, Pedro Diaz Lanz, Enrique Llaca, Jr., and others.⁵⁹ In addition, *the CIA's Ted Shackley and William Finch helped the Secret Service on this trip!*⁶⁰ This is also the trip where, despite numerous films, photos, and interviews to the contrary, JFK allegedly ordered the agents off the rear of his limo, cited as causing peril in Dallas on November 22, 1963 from such diverse people as William Manchester and Clinton Secret Service Director Lewis Merletti (see Chapter 1). It is no small wonder, then, why JFK said to Dave Powers, upon his return from the Florida trip: "Thank God nobody wanted to kill me today!"⁶¹ Kennedy further told Powers that an assassination "would be tried by someone with a high-power rifle and a telescopic sight during a downtown parade when there would be so much noise and confetti that nobody would even be able to point and say, 'It came from that window.'"⁶² JFK also told Jackie on November 22, 1963 in Fort Worth: "You know, last night would have been a hell of a night to assassinate a President. I mean it. There was the rain, and the night, and we were all getting jostled. Suppose a man had a pistol in a briefcase. Then he could have dropped the gun and the briefcase, and

melted away in the crowd ... Jackie, if someone wanted to shoot me from a window with a rifle, nobody can stop it. So why worry about it?”⁶³ The odd, preternatural obsession JFK had with death that developed right before Dallas was likely due to his knowledge, directly or indirectly, with the threats on his life. As Secret Service Officer John Norris said: “We knew there were people who wanted him dead ... and those of us regularly assigned to the White House detail had a pretty good idea that somebody had been stalking [JFK] for a long time. I think Kennedy also knew some kind of attempt might be coming. I was assigned to Johnson at the time, but I went so far as to tell one of the guys who worked with Kennedy to warn him he could be in danger. The guy said JFK just kind of shrugged it off and said, ‘If they get me, they get me.’”⁶⁴ As Presidential aides O’Donnell and Powers wrote: “President Kennedy was well aware of the hostility toward him and his administration in Dallas.”⁶⁵

November 21–22, 1963: Texas trip (U.N. Ambassador Adlai Stevenson and Senator William Fulbright warned JFK not to go to Dallas).⁶⁶

November 21, 1963: DNC advance man Marty Underwood gets “all sorts of rumors”, eighteen hours before the assassination, that Kennedy was to be killed in Dallas. Marty even conveys this to JFK, who tells him, “Marty, you worry about me too much.”⁶⁷ Indeed, JFK told San Antonio Congressman Henry Gonzalez, “Henry, the Secret Service told me they took care of everything. There’s nothing to worry about.”⁶⁸ Advance agent Winston Lawson wrote in his report: “Agent Bennett was *reminded* that he would work [the] Presidential follow-up car on the movement [emphasis added].”⁶⁹

November 22, 1963: While SA Bennett rides in the Secret Service follow-up car, scanning the people lining the streets, President Kennedy is brutally cut down right in front of him.

After the assassination: Bennett’s observations—via his allegedly contemporaneous handwritten notes from November 22, 1963⁷⁰—were used by Chief Rowley to buttress the notion that Kennedy was struck in the back from the *rear*, in spite of the films and photos that appear to depict Bennett looking away from JFK. Perhaps HSCA attorney Belford Lawson summed up the situation best: “How could SS Agent Glen Bennett have been able to see JFK, who was 38 feet away and partially concealed by several persons, yet be able to state clearly that the first shot hit JFK four inches down from [the] right shoulder? Why didn’t the distance and commotion prevent such an observation? Why [wasn’t] Bennett called to testify?”⁷¹ However, as important as this is, this is almost ancillary to the major point made herein:

Was PRS Agent Glen Bennett monitoring mortal threats to JFK’s life, made in the month of November, and was this covered up afterwards? Is this the reason for the conflicting accounts—and the timing—of Bennett’s participation in the second New York trip, the Florida trip, and the Texas trip?

Did Bennett ride in the follow-up car and participate on these trips for this purpose?

Unfortunately, former agent Winston Lawson informed the author that Bennett is now deceased, so no answers will be forthcoming from the principal person in this mystery.⁷²

Bennett also told the HSCA: "He stated that he does not recall any talk or information on alleged threats in Miami or Chicago. He doesn't recall any names of persons to be checked out relative to the Dallas trip, filtering back to PRS." Incredible.

Former PRS agent Frank G. Stoner told the author on January 17, 2004 that he didn't know why Bennett, a PRS man, would have been on the New York, Florida, and Texas trips. Stoner, genuinely puzzled about the matter, thought perhaps Bennett was an "intelligence liaison" in his capacity of serving on these trips in the follow-up car. Officially speaking, Bennett was not. Stoner did not elaborate his feelings further when pressed on this issue in writing; in fact, he avoided it all together on three different occasions (see below).⁷³

For his part, former WHD agent J. Walter Coughlin, who assisted fellow agent Dennis R. Halterman on the advance for the San Antonio part of the Texas trip (November 21, 1963), wrote the author: "I can only add the following—I *was not in Dallas so my knowledge is hearsay from good friends who were there*. Glen Bennett was on all these trips [second New York, Florida, and Texas] not as a member of PRS but as a temporary shift agent in that so many of us (shift agents) were out on advance. This I do know to be a fact and read nothing more into it." (Interestingly, Coughlin is now head of "J. Walter Coughlin & Associates", a security firm based in Dallas.)⁷⁴ If this was the case, why did Bennett perform PRS functions on the New York trip (what SAIC Bouck referred to as a "technical survey")? These comments by Coughlin sound like Bennett's "manpower pull" comment to the HSCA that was in reference specifically to the *Dallas* leg of the Texas trip. However, was there also a "manpower pull" for the other trips Bennett was on (and the vast majority of the agents who went on these trips *did* return to Washington, D.C. after performing their duties, ready for further action on future trips)?⁷⁵ If there was a genuine shortage of men, why not just follow common procedure and add an agent from the Washington Field Office (WFO), for example⁷⁶ (which was the case when WFO agent Roger C. Warner came along to Dallas for his very first Presidential protective mission)? Why were Bennett's services needed in the ultra-important follow-up car, of all things? And, to top it off, Bennett just happened to be one of the agents involved in the infamous drinking incident the night before Dallas: Bennett was at both the Fort Worth Press Club and the "Cellar" (more on this event later on). It would seem that Bennett did not take his newfound "duty" very seriously.

Furthermore, the author must have touched a nerve in Coughlin: Winston Lawson wrote the author: "I understand from my friend Walt Coughlin that you wondered why Glen Bennett from PRS was on the trip [note: the author did not tell Coughlin, who lives in Texas, about the author's contact with Lawson, who lives in Virginia, regarding this or any other question]. Nothing sinister about it and had nothing to do with threats or intelligence. There were so many trips, MD and FL, just prior to TX and so many stops in TX that the small WH Detail was decimated supplying advance people. A number of temporarily assigned agents

were on all 3 shifts in TX ... I believe Walt had been on an advance before he went to his stop in TX.”⁷⁷ [Emphasis added.] Still, why was Bennett performing PRS functions in New York if he was merely just another agent?

The author decided to make further inquiries with former agent Coughlin in this matter. The author asked: “In light of the fact that Bennett, temporarily assigned to the White House Detail on November 10, 1963, was on all the stops on JFK’s trips [November 11–22, 1963] to New York, Florida [four], and Texas up to Dallas [four; not including Austin], and the fact that he was performing ‘technical surveys’ on the trip to New York, doesn’t his presence concede the seeming fact that he was performing some sort of intelligence function? [Note: this information on Bennett *only* came about because the author ordered the documents from the National Archives; this is far from common knowledge, to put it mildly].” In response, Coughlin wrote: “Nothing sinister—in 1963 we had about 300 agents and we were not that clever to be sinister. He was there as a temp.”⁷⁸

For his part, former agent Larry Newman dismissed the author’s notion of Bennett’s true role, yet said: “*What they were starting to do was assign a PI [Protective Intelligence/PRS] guy to help the advance guy.*”⁷⁹ However, this practice was officially adopted only until after November 22, 1963 in response to the assassination, unless Newman was also aware of the true roles of Bennett, Norton, and Wunderlich on the trips in November 1963 mentioned above. That said, Newman added that Bennett, who he knew “worked somewhat in on Protective Intelligence”, was part of a team and his presence on the New York, Florida, and Texas trips was in relation to “no specific thing”. (It is also important to note that Newman left the WHD in October 1963.)⁸⁰ Likewise, fellow former agent Jerry D. Kivett said that PRS—later renamed Protective Intelligence—members “traveled with us some time” and that this was a manpower issue having “nothing to do with—that I know of—special threat levels”. However, Kivett added the caveat that the PRS travels were made only “until after” the assassination, as mentioned above. More importantly, when the author asked Kivett if Bennett may have been on the New York, Florida, and Texas trips to monitor threats, the former agent said: “*That’s very much a possibility* [emphasis added].”⁸¹ Fellow Texas trip agent Gerald S. Blaine, who had also been on the Florida trip with Bennett, told the author: “I don’t know what he had [sic].” When asked if Bennett could have been (as PRS agent Stoner claimed) an “intelligence liaison”, Blaine said: “I guess. I don’t really remember. It’s hard to say. I don’t know what he was doing. They [PRS agents] operate independently.”⁸² During a later interview conducted on June 10, 2005, Blaine admitted it was “kind of strange” for Bennett to be riding in the follow-up car on the Dallas trip. Former agent Vincent P. Mroz, when asked if Bennett was on these trips to monitor threats, told the author: “*Right, uh-huh. It’s their job to sort out that information. They go there to work [it] out.*” [Emphasis added.] Mroz also said that this was “not abnormal”.⁸³ Another Texas trip agent, Samuel E. Sulliman, also on the second New York trip and the Florida trip with Bennett, told the author: “I remember him [Bennett]. He was sort of a quiet guy. *I don’t know what he was there for.*” [Emphasis added.] Likewise, Darwin Horn wrote the author: “I recall Glen Bennett. I don’t know what he was doing in Dallas.”⁸⁴

Perhaps the biggest surprise of all came from the reaction of former agent Gerald W. O'Rourke, another Texas trip veteran who also was on the second New York trip and a part of the Florida trip. The former agent, who came out on the 40th anniversary of the JFK assassination to reveal his conviction that a conspiracy took the life of President Kennedy,⁸⁵ was friendly, cordial, and quite informative in response to the author's first letter of inquiry, answering every question in detail. In fact, O'Rourke ended his letter by stating: "If you have other questions please feel free to contact me. Jerry."⁸⁶ Taking the hint, the author promptly wrote another letter to O'Rourke but did not receive a reply. The author's second letter asked for information about Bennett's role on the New York, Florida, and Texas trips. When the author phoned O'Rourke on February 11, 2004, obviously all was not well on the other end: when asked about Bennett, the former agent said forcefully: "*I don't want to do it. I don't want to do it. I'm afraid for my agency.*" O'Rourke then abruptly ended the conversation. As *The Rocky Mountain News* reported on November 20, 2003: "O'Rourke spent a year in the Secret Service intelligence division [where Bennett worked], which offered him glimpses into the investigation of Kennedy's death. Those glimpses, and the accounts of other [unnamed] agents, have convinced O'Rourke that Oswald didn't act alone." (Bennett was *still* a member of the USSS, in the *Intelligence Division*, during the HSCA era. In fact, *he* initiated a letter to G. Robert Blakey, the General Counsel of the HSCA, regarding the then-current whereabouts of several former agents.)

In any event, as previously mentioned, the newly-released Secret Service shift reports for the month of November 1963 do not substantiate the claim that PRS agent Bennett, of all people, was needed due to an alleged shortage of men or a "manpower pull."⁸⁷ The day he was added to the WHD—November 10, 1963—was acknowledged in a shift report with the designation "RDO", or "regular day off", a common abbreviation throughout the November 1963 reports denoting the normal days a particular agent was not on assignment. For example, Clint Hill was off Friday, November 1, 1963 and Friday, November 8, 1963. So, while the agents from JFK's first trip to New York (November 8–9, 1963) were back in Washington the morning of the 9th (except for advance agent Godfrey, who, as previously noted, stayed in New York for the second trip's advance), Bennett was off duty when he achieved this new (WHD) status on the 10th.⁸⁸ That said, Bennett was also given a *day off* the very next day, Veteran's Day, November 11, 1963, along with fellow agents Bacherman, O'Rourke, Metzinger,⁸⁹ and McCarthy, all of whom were added to the WHD within the same 24-hour time span.⁹⁰ (It should be noted that William R. Straughn,⁹¹ a WHD agent from at least November 1, 1963—probably much earlier—until November 9, 1963, was on Godfrey's shift and was replaced by one of these men.⁹² Also, an agent not mentioned in the released November 1963 shift reports—Jerry Dolan—"did not accompany [JFK] as he had expected. Instead he went on leave to Omaha, Neb., to be with his wife, Josephine, for the birth of their third son."⁹³) On this date, President Kennedy visited Arlington National Cemetery with a coterie of agents, including Roy Nunn,⁹⁴ an experienced WHD agent who had been on JFK's trip to Nashville on May 18, 1963. Nunn was also added (back) to the WHD on this date (Radford Jones, another experienced WHD agent who had been on the Kennedy Compound Detail, was added the next day.) So, of the seven agents

(some of whom were merely *replacements*, not new agents, per se), only Bennett came from PRS.⁹⁵ President Kennedy's next trip would not be until November 14, 1963 when he would visit Elkton, Maryland for the dedication of the Maryland–Delaware Turnpike (a non-motorcade, ribbon-cutting affair),⁹⁶ then to New York once again (November 14–15, 1963).

Bennett next appears on the November 12, 1963 and November 13, 1963 shift reports as part of the 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. shift that "reported for duty at [the] White House."⁹⁷ According to these same reports, President Kennedy stayed in the mansion this day, so Bennett evidently stood post in a doorway this day.⁹⁸ Then, as we know, Bennett is a Special Agent on JFK's trips to New York, Florida, and Texas. And, of the seven recent WHD additions, only the lone PRS agent, Bennett, is dispatched to all three major trips, and *all the major stops on these tours*, from November 14–22, 1963.⁹⁹ Again, the question is: why? The covert monitoring of a mortal threat (or threats) to President Kennedy's life remains the most compelling reason. And, if his wasn't enough, as also discovered by the author via a recently-released Secret Service shift report, yet another PRS agent, Howard K. Norton, was covertly on the Texas trip, this time in Austin!¹⁰⁰

According to former PRS Agent Dale Wunderlich: "Howard K. Norton was the first 'Security Technician' that was hired by the USSS. He was retired from the Air Force where I believe that he was a Sergeant Major in OSI. He was never a Special Agent but was extremely knowledgeable in the field of electronics and electronic countermeasures. In fact, I was told by a friend of his that he was one of the technicians that discovered the resonance cavity that the Russians planted in the U.S. seal that was given to the U.S. Ambassador to Moscow, Russia. Regarding the makeup of the advance team in Palm Beach for the opening of the Ambassador's residence ... Howard and I were the only two on the advance from PRS. Howard was primarily responsible for oversight of the technical sweeps, which I assisted him with, and I was also involved in doing backgrounds on employees, CO-2 cases and contractors that were doing some repairs to the kitchen floor at the Ambassador's residence. CO-2 cases were individuals who were of record with the Protective Research Division of the USSS."¹⁰¹ Only from ATSAIC Godfrey's Secret Service Shift Report, not released until the late 1990s via the ARRB, do we even know that Norton was on the Texas trip (in Austin)—his name is unknown until we get to the afternoon of November 23, 1963 when, along with fellow PRS employee James Fox, he photographs the bloody limousine. Even the Austin Survey Report, released around the same time period in the 1990s, does not mention Norton's name. Finally, it should be kept in mind that the Florida Survey Report that *does* mention Norton was also not released until the late 1990s.

Incredibly, former agent J. Frank Yeager, a member of the WHD who assisted in the advance of the Austin leg of the Texas tour, wrote: "I do not remember Norton ... I do not remember Bennett."¹⁰² Former agent Joe Paoletta, a WHD agent on the New York and Florida trips, wrote: "I am sorry but I do not know why Agent Bennett was on the New York, Florida, or Texas trips in November 1963, nor do I remember Agent Howard Norton."¹⁰³ When asked if he remembered Norton or Bennett, former agent Robert Snow wrote the author: "Why don't you contact the Secret Service, Office of Public Affairs at [number deleted for pri-

vacy]—they have all that information.”¹⁰⁴ Another former agent on JFK’s Austin trip, Gerald Blaine, also twice claimed to not remember Norton.¹⁰⁵ If that weren’t enough, another Texas trip veteran, Walt Coughlin, wrote: “I do not recall Norton.”¹⁰⁶ When pressed on this matter further, Coughlin responded: “I believe I have answered all your emails!”¹⁰⁷ (Coughlin later relented and resumed responding to the author’s inquiries.)¹⁰⁸

Yet, four of these men—Yeager, Paoella, Blaine, and Coughlin—were also on the Florida trip with both Bennett and Norton! When asked if he could provide a thumbnail sketch of what he knew about Norton, former agent Darwin Horn wrote the author: “I do not recall.”¹⁰⁹ Former V.P. LBJ agent Jerry Kivett, yet another Texas trip veteran, wrote: “I do not recall a PRS Agent named Howard K. Norton. However, that does not mean he did not exist. Nor do I recall him being in Dallas [sic], but again that doesn’t mean that he was not there.”¹¹⁰ The author tried yet again with former PRS agent Frank Stoner, asking him: “Do you remember a PRS agent named Howard K. Norton? He was on President Kennedy’s trips to Florida and Texas (Austin)?” I also asked Stoner: “Do you remember working with PRS agent Glen Bennett (he was on the New York, Florida, and Texas trips)?” (Stoner did remember Bennett from the author’s previous three inquiries on the matter.) Stoner responded: “No I did not know any of the agents you named.”¹¹¹ Former Agent Jerry O’Rourke *did* later respond to the question of his familiarity (or lack thereof) with Norton in this fashion: “No, I do not recall anyone by the name. He could have been in PRS (Protective Res[ea]rch Division), now called Intelligence Division and I wouldn’t have known him at the time as I was on the White House Division, now called President[i]al Protective Division. Much later, I served, for a short time, at PRS and I don’t recall him. Today, the retired agents association are [sic] very active and had he retired or served for at least one year, the requirements to belong to the retired agents, I would have heard of him and/or he would be listed on our web site. Is it possible he could have been a political advance man? I do not have a copy of the Warren Commission Report which would have listed him and his activities. Sorry that I could not have been more help!” Former agents Tim McIntyre, Bob Burke (the lead advance agent for the Austin trip), John Giuffre, John Joe Howlett, Bill Livingood and Floyd Boring would not respond to (written) inquiries from the author regarding Norton and/or Bennett. The author wrote to Secret Service Public Affairs Assistant Director George M. Rogers on July 5, 2005 asking for tenure dates for Howard K. Norton (Mr. Rogers previously helped the author on other inquiries). In the same message, the author matter-of-factly mentioned Norton’s presence on the Austin leg of the Texas trip. Rogers’ surprising reply, dated July 15, 2005: “Dear Mr. Palamara: A search was conducted in response to your electronic message received on July 5, 2005, requesting tenure dates for former Secret Service employee Howard K. Norton ... *We were unable to locate any reference that provided information regarding the length of time [Norton] spent with the Secret Service.*” [Emphasis added.] (It should also be noted that Rogers did not comment on or dispute the issue of Norton’s participation on the ill-fated Texas tour.)

As for Winston Lawson, when the author sent the former agent a five-page, detailed account of all the aforementioned evidence of Bennett’s role in President Kennedy’s November trips, a substantive answer was not forthcoming. Instead,

Lawson wrote: "As for Glen Bennett (now deceased)—I don't remember what stops he was on but probably all of them while assigned temporarily to [the] White House Detail in that time frame. I know one thing though—there could have been no cover up, sinister motive or anything remotely untoward connected with him. He was one of the most dedicated, hard workers and nicest people I've ever known!"¹¹² Fair enough, but could Bennett have been an unwitting tool of someone in higher authority? Again, we must keep in mind that Bennett lied to the HSCA concerning his presence on the Florida trip, and nothing was volunteered from the agent regarding his participation on the New York stop, performing PRS functions, of all things. The final answer to these mysteries may have been buried with Bennett; only time will tell.

An important note: "The [HSCA] did obtain evidence that military intelligence personnel may have identified themselves as Secret Service or that they might have been misidentified as such. [Colonel] Robert E. Jones ... told the committee that from 8 to 12 military intelligence personnel in plainclothes were assigned to Dallas to provide supplemental security for the President's visit. He indicated that these agents had identification credentials and, if questioned, would most likely have stated that they were on detail to the Secret Service. The committee sought to identify these agents so that they could be questioned. The Department of Defense, however, reported that a search of its files showed 'no records ... indicating any Department of Defense Protective Services in Dallas.' The committee was unable to resolve the contradiction."¹¹³ Jones testified under oath to the HSCA: "Our people were under the control and supervision of Secret Service. We never assumed responsibility for the President's protection ... We provided a small force—I do not recall how many, but I would estimate between 8 and 12—during the President's visit to San Antonio, Texas, and then the following day, on his visit to Dallas, the regions also provided additional people to assist, that is additional people from Region 2 ... [*James W. Powell*] was a Captain and also wore civilian clothes and was assigned to Region 2 of the 112 MI Group ... Yes he was [on duty the day of the assassination]"¹¹⁴ This is the same Robert E. Jones who contacted the FBI offices in San Antonio and Dallas and gave those offices detailed information concerning Oswald and A. J. Hidell, Oswald's alleged alias, from the Army Intelligence files. The HSCA rightly felt this information suggested the existence of a military intelligence file on Oswald and raised the possibility that he had intelligence associations of some kind. Jones was directly responsible for counterintelligence operations, background investigations, domestic intelligence, and any special operations in a five-state area.¹¹⁵ When the Oswald military intelligence file was requested by the HSCA, the Department of Defense relayed that they "destroyed the file as part of a general program aimed at eliminating all of its files pertaining to nonmilitary personnel."¹¹⁶ For his part, James Powell told the ARRB on April 12, 1996 that "... I asked for time off, a leave of absence from my regular duties so I could see the motorcade, so I could go out to the airport and see the president. And I was hoping to get a few pictures ... [regarding later events in Dealey Plaza, during the assassination]. When someone pointed up at the building and said they'd heard shots coming from up there, I wheeled around with my camera and took a picture of the building at that moment."¹¹⁷ Like PRS Agent Glen Bennett

above, not to mention Mr. Norton, *was Powell also covertly monitoring a threat or threats to the President in progress?*

¹ 17 H 574: Regarding a bomb threat in El Paso, Texas on June 5, 1963: JFK, Connally, and LBJ were present (although LBJ was not in the motorcade) to start the planning of the upcoming Texas trip for *November 21–23, 1963!* Behn was on the trip (with Greer, Kellerman and ATSAIC Godfrey, among others), military officers lined the street and faced the crowd, the motorcycle formations were plenty and normal, agents walked near the rear of JFK’s car, and the press was close to JFK’s limousine [Stoughton photo in author’s collection; *Age of Kennedy* documentary 1966, rebroadcast on the A&E Network 1989]. *Also:* The *Nashville Banner* from January 23, 1992 carried a report that a mortal threat to President Kennedy’s life was hushed up by the Secret Service when JFK visited Nashville, Tennessee, on May 18, 1963. The information came from Rep. Bob Clement, the son of former Governor Frank Clement, JFK’s host during his 1963 visit to the state (both Clements met JFK on this trip [included is a photo from the trip depicting both the elder Clement and his son]). At Overton High School, a man approached the president with a gun underneath a sack—he was grabbed by the Secret Service and the incident itself was kept quiet in order to keep from encouraging similar scares. Bob Clement said: “Back in those days, privacy was easier to accomplish.” The paper interviewed the widow of Paul Doster, the former SAIC of the Nashville office; although Paul did not mention the incident to her, she said: “But, you’ve got to remember, he was pretty secretive, even to me.” Interestingly, Miami SAIC John Marshall told the HSCA on February 22, 1978 that a stick of dynamite was discovered on the motorcade route by the Miami Police Department after JFK’s Orange Bowl speech to the Bay of Pigs brigade in 1962. [RIF#180–10074–10393.]

² 4 H 321–2, 342; 17 H 618; see also HSCA Report, p. 233.

³ 4 H 321; 17 H 618; December 3, 1963 Memorandum, SAIC Bouck of PRS to Chief Rowley: “No cards were found in the file that would indicate the presence of any known seriously dangerous PRS subjects as residing in the Dallas area, nor in any other area in Texas where stops were scheduled, except for Houston.” [CD3] Bouck also said that the PRS files contained no mention of Oswald or Ruby, either. See also 11 HSCA 523 and RIF#180–10093–10320: May 31, 1977 Memorandum from HSCA’s Belford Lawson to fellow HSCA members Gary Cornwell and Ken Klein (revised August 15, 1977).

⁴ 2 H 107–8, 109–110; 11 HSCA 523; see also 17 H 530; 18 H 705; RIF#180–10093–10320: May 31, 1977 Memorandum from HSCA’s Belford Lawson to fellow HSCA members Gary Cornwell and Ken Klein (revised August 15, 1977).

⁵ 11 HSCA 523.

⁶ 11 HSCA 525.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Manchester, pp. 108–9; Bishop, p. 46; see also RIF#180–10093–10320: May 31, 1977 Memorandum from HSCA’s Belford Lawson to fellow HSCA members Gary Cornwell & Ken Klein (revised August 15, 1977).

⁹ Former agent and Chief of the White House Signal Corps Col. George J. McNally wrote on p. 216 of his book *A Million Miles of Presidents* that there were “many warnings of danger and an antagonistic attitude to be expected in Texas ...”.

¹⁰ Manchester, p. 121.

¹¹ From the recently-released *Farewell America*—written in 1967, taken off the market in 1968—Chapter 14 entitled “Secret Service”, p. 299 (Herve Lamarre, the publisher of the original edition of *Farewell America*, admitted that the author of record, James Hepburn, was fictitious and that the true sources included Andre Ducret of the Surete, the man responsible for French President De Gaulle’s safety; Interpol; and,

- among others in French intelligence, Philippe Vasjoly, the chief French petroleum agent in the United States.)
- ¹² 11 HSCA 524.
- ¹³ HSCA Report, p. 233. See also *The Killing of a President*, pp. 153–5, and *The Men Who Killed Kennedy*.
- ¹⁴ George Rush, *Confessions of an Ex-Secret Service Agent* (New York: Pocket Books, a division of Simon & Schuster Inc., 1988), p. 26.
- ¹⁵ *Newsweek*, October 6, 1997, p. 38, "The Dark Side of Camelot" by Seymour Hersh (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1997).
- ¹⁶ *The Men Who Killed Kennedy*, 1991, A&E Network.
- ¹⁷ 18 H 783; Manchester, p. 109; Bennett is pictured on page 28 of Richard Trask's *That Day in Dallas* (Danvers, MA: Yeoman Press, 1998), directly behind Agent Lawson and in front of Agent Kellerman. See also *Looking Back And Seeing The Future: The United States Secret Service 1865–1990* by the AFAUSSS (Dallas: Taylor Publishing Company, 1991), p. 81.
- ¹⁸ Brad O'Leary & L. E. Seymour, *Triangle of Death* (Nashville, Tennessee: WND Books, 2003).
- ¹⁹ This is explored in detail in Chapter 17.
- ²⁰ Email to author dated February 25, 2004.
- ²¹ See Chapter 17.
- ²² April 13, 1978 HSCA interview with Noonan; RIF#180–10104–10331; 180–10087–10191; 180–10099–10491; 180–10078–10493; 180–10082–10453; 1541–0001–10174: Secret Service shift report.
- ²³ Letter to author dated October 30, 1993.
- ²⁴ Interviews with the advance agent, ATSAIC/Shift Leader Art Godfrey, 1996 and 1997; see also RIF#154–10001–10134 and 154–10001–10133: Secret Service shift reports.
- ²⁵ CD 1347, p. 119. See also HSCA Report, pp. 232–3, as well as 3 HSCA 363–5 (referencing JFK Exhibit F–420: November 12, 1963 Secret Service report, Miami SA Robert J. Jamison to Miami SAIC John A. Marshall re: Milteer; the report also states: "This matter has been classified as "Confidential" by SAIC Bouck."). 3 HSCA 447–450: JFK Exhibit F–450 (transcript of conversation between Willie Somerset and Joseph Milteer). See also RIF#180–10093–10320: May 31, 1977 Memorandum from HSCA's Belford Lawson to fellow HSCA members Gary Cornwell and Ken Klein (revised August 15, 1977) and RIF#180–10074–10393: February 2, 1978 HSCA interview with Miami SAIC John Marshall—Marshall and fellow Miami office agent Robert Jamison knew about the Joseph Milteer threat information *before* Dallas.
- ²⁶ 18 H 783.
- ²⁷ RIF#180–10082–10452: January 30, 1978 HSCA interview of Bennett.
- ²⁸ Regarding Palm Beach, Cape Canaveral, and Tampa: RIF#1541–0001–10064; 1541–0001–10067; 1541–0001–10078; 1541–0001–10081; 1541–0002–10421; 1541–0002–10422.
- ²⁹ RIF#1541–0001–10078; 1541–0001–10064; 1541–0001–10078.
- ³⁰ Email to the author dated October 9, 1999.
- ³¹ RIF#180–10083–10419: February 2, 1978 HSCA interview of deFreese.
- ³² Sources: RIF#1541–0001–10104; 1541–0001–10064; 1541–0001–10042; 1541–0001–10044 (Daily Shift report, V.P. Detail, November 21, 1963); 1541–0001–10031; 180–10083–10419; 180–10078–10493; 16 H 950–1; 17 H 618; author's October 9, 1992 interview with DNC advance man Marty Underwood; DNC Advance man Jerry Bruno's notes, JFK Library.
- ³³ Author's interview with Kinney, March 4, 1994.
- ³⁴ RIF#154–10002–10419.
- ³⁵ January 31, 1978 HSCA interview with McIntyre.
- ³⁶ 18 H 682.

³⁷ As for the allegations of a canceled Miami motorcade, agent Bert deFreese told the HSCA on February 2, 1978 that he did "not recall a plan for a motorcade other than to go from the heliport to the motel", which was what happened (and is documented in the Miami Final Survey Report). For his part, James T. Burke, Assistant Director (Protective Intelligence) in 1978, wrote: "There is no evidence in Service files to indicate a presidential motorcade was planned for the Miami visit. The survey reports indicate helicopter travel was planned from Miami International Airport to Bal Harbor and a motorcade was to be utilized only in case of inclement weather. The Secret Service advance agents for this visit [deFreese and Coughlin] both recall that helicopter travel was planned from the beginning of their survey on 11-11-63. There is no basis for the insinuation that helicopter travel was planned as a result of the Milteer threat." [RIF#121-10002-10063 and 121-10002-10064.] But, once again, there *was* a motorcade from the heliport to the motel. Also, this official statement does not address the other voluminous threats *apart* from Milteer.

³⁸ RIF#154-10002-10419: *second* New York City trip November 14-15, 1963.

³⁹ USSS RIF#1541-0001-10092.

⁴⁰ WCD 943; see also Dick Russell's *The Man Who Knew Too Much* (New York: Carroll & Graf, 1992) and Noel Twyman's *Bloody Treason* (Rancho Santa Fe, CA: Laurel Publishing, 1997), pp. 522-531, 533, 543, 738, 810, 834.

⁴¹ Letter to author dated November 24, 1997.

⁴² Letter to author dated January 24, 2004. Thanks to the shift reports for November 9, 1963, we *do* know that JFK stayed at the Carlyle Hotel during his first New York trip and visited the Steven Smith residence. We *also* know that the following agents and White House aides were on this first New York trip: the aforementioned ATSAIC Arthur L. Godfrey, plus Gerald S. Blaine (possibly to assist in the advance), Andrew E. Berger (who did assist in the advance), Charles T. Zboril, ATSAIC Stewart G. Stout, Jr., Richard E. Johnsen, Ronald M. Pontius, Edward Morey, Robert L. Kollar, David B. Grant, Kenneth Giannoules, Joseph Paoella, J. Walter Coughlin, ASAIC Roy H. Kellerman, ATSAIC Emory P. Roberts, William Payne, William Duncan, Robert Burke, Donald J. Lawton, William R. Greer, John J. "Muggsy" O'Leary, Morgan L. Gies, Samuel A. Kinney, and Aide Dave Powers (plus SAIC Whitaker of the New York Office; SA Henry J. Rybka is listed in Grant's report as being on this trip, while Gies' report indicates otherwise) [USSS RIF#1541-0001-10175, 1541-0001-10163, 1541-0001-10161, 1541-0001-10156, 1541-0001-10155, 1541-0001-10149, 1541-0001-10148, 1541-0001-10142, 1541-0001-10141, 1541-0001-10135, 1541-0001-10134, 1541-0001-10133, 1541-0001-10132, 1541-0001-10128, 1541-0001-10127, 1541-0001-10126, 1541-0001-10125, 1541-0001-10113, re: Godfrey / *second* New York trip]. There are no surviving Secret Service Survey Reports for this first New York trip.

⁴³ USSS RIF#1541-0001-10134 and 1541-0001-10127 (Secret Service Shift Reports, November 8-9, 1963).

⁴⁴ Email to author dated February 25, 2004.

⁴⁵ Kenneth P. O'Donnell, David F. Powers, and Joseph McCarthy, *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye* (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1972), pp. 19, 448-9. [Note: All references to this book are from the Pocket Book paperback edition published in 1973.]

⁴⁶ RIF#1541-0002-10419: Secret Service Survey Report, *second* New York City trip November 14-15, 1963, AFL-CIO Convention.

⁴⁷ *Protecting the President*, pp. 171-2; *Confessions of an Ex-Secret Service Agent*, pp. 114-5.

⁴⁸ *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye*, p. 449.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 448.

⁵⁰ RIF#1541-0002-10419: *second* New York City trip November 14-15, 1963, AFL-CIO Convention.

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- ⁵¹ Michael Benson, *Encyclopedia of the JFK Assassination* (New York: Checkmark Books, 2002), pp. 276–7; Oliver Stone and Zachary Sklar, *JFK: The Book of the Film* (New York: Applause Books, 1992), p. 133.
- ⁵² 17 H 566.
- ⁵³ Author's interview with Bailey, February 7, 2004.
- ⁵⁴ USSS RIF#1541-0001-10113, 1541-0001-10105, 1541-0001-10100, 1541-0001-10093, 1541-0001-10082, 1541-0001-10079, 1541-0001-10068, 1541-0001-10065 (Secret Service Shift Reports, November 11–18, 1963).
- ⁵⁵ Email to author dated February 25, 2004.
- ⁵⁶ See note 37.
- ⁵⁷ RIF#180-10118-10041, 180-10118-10033.
- ⁵⁸ Author's interview with Kinney, April 15, 1994.
- ⁵⁹ RIF#1541-10002-10422: Miami, Florida November 18, 1963.
- ⁶⁰ Ibid.
- ⁶¹ Ralph Martin, *A Hero For Our Time* (New York: Fawcett Crest, 1988), p. 503.
- ⁶² Ibid.
- ⁶³ Ibid., p. 515. See also 7 H 456 (Ken O'Donnell's testimony); Manchester, p. 121, Youngblood, p. 151; the HSCA Report, pp. 233–4; *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye*, p. 19.
- ⁶⁴ *JFK: Breaking the Silence*, p. 114. Norris echoed the same facts to this author on March 4, 1994.
- ⁶⁵ *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye*, p. 19.
- ⁶⁶ Manchester, pp. 38–39. Former agent and Chief of the White House Signal Corps Col. George J. McNally wrote on p. 216 of his book *A Million Miles of Presidents* that there were "many warnings of danger and an antagonistic attitude to be expected in Texas ...".
- ⁶⁷ Author's interview with Underwood, October 9, 1992.
- ⁶⁸ *High Treason*, p. 127.
- ⁶⁹ 17 H 631.
- ⁷⁰ 24 H 541-2: Rowley to Rankin, May 14, 1964 re Bennett's alleged November 22, 1963 handwritten notes.
- ⁷¹ RIF#180-10093-10320: May 31, 1977 Memorandum from HSCA's Belford Lawson to fellow HSCA members Gary Cornwell and Ken Klein (revised August 15, 1977).
- ⁷² Letter to author from Lawson dated January 31, 2004. Bennett died April 4, 1994 in Bradenton, Florida at the age of 65.
- ⁷³ Email to author dated January 19, 2004 in response to my questions. This was the second email in which Stoner avoided any elaboration on this issue, in addition to the author's original letter to the former agent.
- ⁷⁴ Letter to author dated January 15, 2004.
- ⁷⁵ With regard to the Houston trip of November 21, 1963, Bennett was on this trip but, like fellow agents Roberts, Lawton, and McIntyre, his specific duties are not known from the paper record or from testimony. Perhaps he had duties at the Coliseum for Congressman Albert Thomas's dinner.
- ⁷⁶ An example of which can be found in one of the shift reports for November 15, 1963: "SA [Kent D.] Jordan was on temporary assignment from WFO to WHD for this duty." USSS RIF#1541-0001-10084.
- ⁷⁷ Letter to author dated January 20, 2004. Lawson reiterated the same information regarding the three shifts in his letter to the author dated January 31, 2004.
- ⁷⁸ Email to author dated February 22, 2004.
- ⁷⁹ Author's interview with Newman, February 7, 2004.
- ⁸⁰ Author's interview with Newman, February 7, 2004.
- ⁸¹ Author's interview with Kivett, February 7, 2004.
- ⁸² Author's interview with Blaine, February 7, 2004.
- ⁸³ Author's interview with Mroz, February 7, 2004.
- ⁸⁴ Email to author dated February 22, 2004.

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- ⁸⁵ See Chapter 13.
- ⁸⁶ Letter to author dated January 15, 2004, in response to the author's letter dated January 7, 2004.
- ⁸⁷ USSS RIF#1541-0001-10029 through 1541-0001-10190, covering all shifts of the WHD from November 1-23, 1963 inclusive.
- ⁸⁸ USSS RIF#1541-0001-10120.
- ⁸⁹ Former agent Walt Coughlin wrote: "Dick Metzinger worked a while w/us on the V.P. Detail. I recall he was a temp (maybe permanent) from Baltimore F.O. and resigned early in his career." [Email to author dated February 22, 2004.]
- ⁹⁰ USSS RIF#1541-0001-10113 and 1541-0001-10112. Metzinger and McCarthy return to an unnamed field office, probably Baltimore and/or Washington, on November 23, 1963: USSS RIF#1541-0001-10190. For his part, Bennett was on duty at the Secret Service office in the White House on November 23, 1963: USSS RIF#1541-0001-10189.
- ⁹¹ Former agent Walt Coughlin wrote the author: "Do not recall Straughan [sic] being on the Detail (maybe a temp) but I recall he spent most of his career in Chicago F.O." [Email to author dated February 22, 2004.]
- ⁹² USSS RIF#1541-0001-10182, 1541-0001-10127, 1541-0001-10121.
- ⁹³ *St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch*, Sunday, November 20, 1988.
- ⁹⁴ Former agent Walt Coughlin wrote: "Roy (Gene) Nunn lives here in Dallas. Left the SS about '75 and believe he works for FEMA." [Email to author dated February 22, 2004.]
- ⁹⁵ Nunn: USSS RIF#1541-0001-10111; Jones: USSS RIF#1541-0001-10104 and letter to author dated January 16, 2004. The breakdown is as follows: Bennett and Bacherman added to ATSAIC Roberts' shift on November 10, 1963; Metzinger and McCarthy (November 10, 1963) then O'Rourke (November 11, 1963), added to ATSAIC Godfrey's shift; and Nunn (November 11, 1963) and Jones (November 12, 1963) added to ATSAIC Stout's detail.
- ⁹⁶ USSS RIF#1541-0001-1009.
- ⁹⁷ USSS RIF#1541-0001-10104 and 1541-0001-10099.
- ⁹⁸ November 13, 1963 was also the day the Black Watch Guard performed on the South Grounds of the White House.
- ⁹⁹ Bacherman, McCarthy, and Nunn are at Atoka from November 15, 1963 until November 21, 1963. They were replaced by Zboril, Kollar, and Coughlin on November 22, 1963 into November 23, 1963: USSS RIF# 1541-0001-10083, 1541-0001-10073, 1541-0001-10069, 1541-0001-10059, 1541-0001-10052, 1541-0001-10045, 1541-0001-10038, 1541-0001-10035, 1541-0001-10029. Bacherman and Nunn were listed as "DO" ("Day Off") for November 22, 1963, while Metzinger and McCarthy were listed as "RDO" ("Regular Day Off"). Both would return to a field office, either the Washington or Baltimore office, on November 23, 1963, while Bacherman and Nunn would remain with the WHD on November 23, 1963: USSS RIF#1541-0001-10190, 1541-0001-10189, 1541-0001-10188. Jones was listed as SA: USSS RIF#1541-0001-10030, 1541-0001-10031, 1541-0001-10033. Metzinger and Jones both go to New York (November 14-15, 1963) and Florida, but Metzinger, venturing no further than Ambassador Kennedy's residence, departs in the early morning hours of November 18, 1963 for Washington, D.C. (USSS RIF#1541-0001-10065). For his part, O'Rourke went to New York (November 14-15, 1963), and Palm Beach, Florida, departing with Metzinger and a few others at the same time, thus missing Cape Canaveral, Miami, and Tampa, the major stops on the Florida tour where JFK interacted with thousands of citizens during motorcades in these cities. And, while O'Rourke was on the Texas tour, he was *not* on the Houston, San Antonio, or Dallas legs of the trip, in effect missing major stops on two of the three trips from November 14-23, 1963.

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- ¹⁰⁰ USSS RIF#1541-0001-10033: ATSAIC Godfrey's handwritten shift report for November 22, 1963.
- ¹⁰¹ Email to author dated October 9, 1999.
- ¹⁰² Letter to author dated January 24, 2004.
- ¹⁰³ Letter to author dated March 24, 2004.
- ¹⁰⁴ Email to author dated March 12, 2004.
- ¹⁰⁵ Author's interviews with Blaine, February 7, 2004 and June 10, 2005.
- ¹⁰⁶ Email to author dated February 22, 2004.
- ¹⁰⁷ Email to author dated February 25, 2004.
- ¹⁰⁸ Email to author dated February 26, 2004.
- ¹⁰⁹ Email to author dated February 23, 2004.
- ¹¹⁰ Letter to author dated February 18, 2004.
- ¹¹¹ Email to author dated February 26, 2004.
- ¹¹² Letter to author dated January 31, 2004; Lawson did not respond to the author's written inquiry regarding Norton.
- ¹¹³ HSCA Report, p. 184.
- ¹¹⁴ Executive session testimony of Col. Robert E. Jones, April 20, 1978, HSCA.
- ¹¹⁵ HSCA Report, pp. 221-2.
- ¹¹⁶ HSCA Report, p. 223; letter from Department of Defense to HSCA, June 22, 1978, p. 6.
- ¹¹⁷ We can rule out Powell as the "agent" of unknown repute in the plaza: among other reasons, he had a *camera*, something not noted by any other witness re the "agent" encounter(s).