

CHAPTER 10

Roll call of participants: part 1

“Did any Secret Service personnel engage in conduct at the site of the assassination that might indicate complicity in the assassination?”

— HSCA Report, p. 182

Agent **Roy H. Kellerman** (Assistant Special Agent in Charge, #3 man, substituting for Behn—and Boring—in Dallas on November 22, 1963): Kellerman testified as to his Secret Service background to the Warren Commission: “In October of 1937 I completed the training with the Michigan State Police. I was sworn in as a trooper. I remained with the Michigan State Police until December 18, 1941, when I resigned and was appointed to the U.S. Secret Service ... I was appointed an agent with the Secret Service in Detroit, Michigan, the 19th of December 1941. I was transferred to Washington, D.C., the field office, on February 9, 1942. Prior to that I had a 30-day assignment in the office of Cincinnati, Ohio, temporarily. I worked in the Washington field office from the 9th of February 1942 until the middle of March 1942, whereby I was temporarily transferred to the White House detail. This transfer became permanent, effective, I believe it was, the 17th of April or the latter part of April in 1942, still as a special agent.¹ At the White House detail we work on shifts around the clock protecting the President and his family. I was a member of one of those three shifts. Presently, these shifts change on a two-weekly basis, from eight to four, four to midnight, and midnight to eight. I remained on the White House detail until February 7, 1951, when I was transferred to Indianapolis, Indiana. Prior to that time I had received enough seniority whereby I grew up on this shift from the bottom to the top, and was in charge of one of the shifts prior to my departure to Indianapolis. This was fieldwork in Indiana. On February 1, 1955, I was transferred back to the White House detail. On my return I was comparable to like, let's say, the number two man of a shift. I was not in charge of it. From 1955, I believe a couple of years later a vacancy occurred, a top man of that shift left and I received his position. That title was Assistant to the Special Agent in Charge. You at that time governed each man on your shift. You were in charge of him. On October 1 of 1962 a vacancy was opened in the three top officials of the White House detail,² which are comprised of, let me say, the Special Agent in Charge, who has two assistants; one vacancy occurred. It was the oldest man on the White House detail; it was given to me and that is why today I have the title of Assistant Special Agent in Charge.”³

Kellerman's White House Communications Agency (WHCA) code name was “Digest”.⁴ The agent was a physical giant: author William Manchester, who interviewed Kellerman (November 17, 1964 and May 12, 1965) and a host of his colleagues, wrote: “Ordinarily he moved and spoke slowly—he was often so soft-spoken that other agents had sardonically christened him ‘Gabby’”⁵

While telling the FBI on the night of the murder that JFK said, upon being shot, “Get me to a hospital,” the agent later told the Warren Commission that JFK said “My God, I’ve been hit.”⁶ In any event, this was impossible: JFK could *not* have spoken a word after having been shot through the throat.⁷ In addition, Kellerman told the FBI that, during the shooting, “he observed President Kennedy with his left hand in back of him appearing to be reaching to a point on his right shoulder”, an action not shown on any films or photographs, nor described by any witnesses to the shooting. There can be only one of two reasons for this strange testimony: either Kellerman wanted to give an overt reason for having gone to Parkland Hospital unassisted—a “Presidential directive” (the agent testified: “My decision was to get this man to a hospital, because he needed medical treatment ...”),⁸ or the agent was attempting to show that JFK was *only* wounded, thus his “reason” for not coming to the President’s aid by vaulting into the back of the limousine, a matter the agent was harshly criticized for by the media and the public.⁹ In spite of this, somewhat predictably, some of Roy’s fellow agents felt highly of him; Larry Newman said he was “a good guy”.¹⁰ Bob Lilley said: “He was a peach. I was quite close to Roy and June Kellerman.”¹¹ With regard to Roy Kellerman, Greer said twice that he was “a very fine gentleman”.¹² Finally, Rufus Youngblood described Kellerman as “one of the ablest Secret Service men I ever had the privilege of working with.”¹³

Turning away from the stricken President and using the radio took precedence over enacting the Secret Service’s “final defense”: to shield the President with his own body when a shooting occurs.¹⁴ Kellerman told the Warren Commission: “My decision was to get this man to a hospital, because he needed medical treatment” Yet JFK was beyond help after the fatal headshot. As for any supposed obstacles in the limousine itself that may have hindered Kellerman’s protective actions, the agent scoffed at the notion during his Warren Commission testimony: “If I thought in my own mind that I was needed back there, there wouldn’t have been an obstacle strong enough to hold me,” and that these supposed obstacles “wouldn’t have made any difference ... Because my job is to protect the President, sir, regardless of the obstacles.”¹⁵

HSCA attorney Belford Lawson wondered: “Why does Kellerman testify that: (1) he looked to his right just after the first shot (firecracker pop); (2) heard JFK say he was shot; (3) told the driver to drive away, then (4) radioed to the lead car to ask to be taken to a hospital, when, in contrast, the Zapruder film shows multiple, delayed movements on his part? (2 H 74) Why did Kellerman in testimony give three different versions of the time intervals between the first sound and the subsequent flurry of shots? (2 H 73–76) Why did Kellerman say JFK spoke when Jackie reportedly said JFK said nothing and when one of the autopsy physicians said he could not have spoken after the first shot? (2 H 75; 5 H 180)”¹⁶

Former agent Darwin Horn wrote: “I had an opportunity to go through the presidential limo with Roy Kellerman while I was in Washington for the burial services. There was an imprint on the inside of the windshield, where a portion of a bullet had struck it. This imprint was directly between where Roy Kellerman and Bill Greer were seated.”¹⁷ Horn also wrote the author: “What Roy and I saw on the inside of the windshield was a mark made by a portion of a round

that had broken apart. It made a slight indentation on the windshield between Greer and Kellerman.”¹⁸

According to his widow June, Roy “accepted that there was a conspiracy”; this was based on June overhearing Roy’s telephone conversation with someone from the HSCA in approximately 1977 or 1978: “I’ll accept that” was Roy’s telephone reply to the Committee.¹⁹ As most students of the assassination know, Roy stated to the Warren Commission on March 9, 1964: “There have got to be more than three shots, gentlemen,”²⁰ and that a “flurry of shells” came into the car all together.²¹ Kellerman also testified: “There was in the early—this was on the day [November 22, 1963] in Parkland Memorial Hospital, and this information comes from Dr. George Burkley ... I asked him the condition of Governor Connally, and have they removed the bullet from him ... Dr. Burkley said that to his knowledge he still has the bullet in him ... This was after we got into the hospital after the shooting, sir, between then and 2 o’clock.”²² In this regard, Dr. Robert R. Shaw, Connally’s surgeon, spoke at a press conference: “The bullet is in the leg ... it hasn’t been removed ... it will be removed before he goes to the recovery room.”²³

Like Bill Greer, Roy is often added to the list of those witnesses who reported that the right rear of JFK’s head was blasted, indicating a shot from the front, and for good reason: the drawings of JFK’s wounds he gave to HSCA investigators on August 24, 1977 bear this out.²⁴ Finally, one of Kellerman’s two daughters told Harold Weisberg in the 1970s: “I hope the day will come when these men [Kellerman and Greer] will be able to say what they’ve told their families.”²⁵ Kellerman told author Walt Brown in 1974 that there was tremendous concern for JFK’s safety in Dallas: “When Roy Kellerman said it,” Brown wrote, “the statement was made with such conviction and intensity that no listener would doubt it. The driver, William Greer, said just about the same thing [to Brown in 1970], but without the intensity, as he almost seemed detached from the event”²⁶ Interestingly, in Mary Gallagher’s book *My Life with Jacqueline Kennedy*, in the photo section, is a picture of Agent Kellerman with the caption: “... Roy H. Killerman [sic] ...”. In light of Mrs. Kennedy’s ill feelings towards Greer, was this a deliberate typo about another ineffective agent that day in Dallas? We now know how LBJ felt about Kellerman: “This fellow Kellerman ... he was about as loyal a man as you could find. But he was about as dumb as an ox.”²⁷

Conclusion: Kellerman was a “patsy” in his role as the assistant supervisory agent on November 22, 1963.

Agent **Emory P. Roberts** (ATSAIC, Commander of the Secret Service follow-up car): A native of Cockeysville, Maryland, Roberts had previously served with the Maryland State Police, the Baltimore County Police, and as an investigator for the Office of Price Administration.²⁸ Secret Service agent Emory P. Roberts was also a high school colleague of author Howard Donahue of *Mortal Error* fame.²⁹ Roberts was appointed to the Secret Service in January 1944, in Baltimore, and also served in the Washington field office before joining the White House Detail during the Truman era.³⁰ Roberts was awarded the Exceptional Civilian Service

Award for outstanding service while protecting Richard M. Nixon, then President Eisenhower's Vice President, in June, 1958, in Caracas, Venezuela.³¹

Former agent Darwin Horn, who served with Roberts on the White House Detail during the Eisenhower years, wrote: "Emory Roberts was a very fine accomplished agent. He was the number three man on Bill Shields' shift behind Pat Boggs. He was a very congenial well-liked agent who was always available to assist younger agents. I do not know from what office he had come from when he rejoined the WHD in about 1955."³² Former WHD agent Charles J. Marass wrote: "Regarding Emory Roberts, he was a very competent, conscientious, dedicated, honorable person and agent. He was the Shift Leader that I was assigned to during my duty at the White House Detail. Emory was so concerned about those on his shift we affectionately referred to him as our 'Mother Hen'. Emory performed his duties in a most professional manner."³³

Roberts had been on President Kennedy's trip to Florida on November 18, 1963. As he was later to do on the fateful Texas trip, Mr. Roberts served as the commander of the agents in the follow-up car, one of two well-used 1956 Cadillac convertibles that sometimes served as the presidential limousine (an example is provided in JFK's Summer, 1963, Ireland trip³⁴). On both trips, Sam Kinney served as the driver of this car.³⁵ As one of three Shift Leaders of the White House Detail (the other two were Stewart G. Stout, Jr. and Arthur L. Godfrey, both also on the Texas trip with Roberts),³⁶ Emory was a stern and forceful agent who took and gave out orders in a serious manner while working on President Kennedy's trips. It was during the Florida trip that some interesting things involving Agent Roberts occurred which would have a direct bearing on November 22, 1963.

The President visited Palm Beach, Cape Canaveral, Miami, and Tampa on November 18, 1963. As agents Chuck Zboril and Don Lawton were riding on the rear of the limousine in Tampa, someone from the crowd threw a red "Powerhouse" candy bar at the motorcade, and the confection landed with a "thud" on the hood of the Secret Service follow-up car. Thinking it to be a lethal stick of dynamite, Agent Roberts pushed the object forcefully off the hood. Realizing what the object really was, Roberts and the other agents shared a laugh about it.³⁷ But they had had good reason to be jumpy: the atmosphere in Tampa (and Miami) was one that gave the agents cause for concern: hostility from the anti-Castro Cuban community, the Joseph Milteer threat, and an organized crime-related scare.³⁸ As he had done countless times before, Mr. Roberts had the two agents that were riding on the rear of the presidential limousine "fall back" from time to time (sometimes based on Special Agent in Charge Jerry Behn's suggestion; in this case it was the number two agent, Assistant Special Agent in Charge Floyd Boring). This was quite often a spur-of-the-moment decision based on the speed of the cars, the size and proximity of the crowd, and the potential for threat(s) at the moment (often, the two agents on the rear of JFK's limousine took their own initiative in going between the two cars, as agent Clint Hill did several times in Dallas).³⁹ This will become important later.

Jumping ahead to Dallas on November 22, 1963, (after friendly, enthusiastic, and uneventful motorcades in San Antonio, Houston, and Fort Worth on No-

vember 21–22, 1963), Agent Roberts assigned the other seven agents on his particular shift to the follow-up car: Sam Kinney, Clint Hill, Paul Landis, William “Tim” McIntyre, Glen Bennett, George Hickey, and John Ready⁴⁰—four of whom had only hours before participated in the infamous drinking incident in Fort Worth. Mr. Roberts’ shift was the worst offender of the three shifts!⁴¹ What makes this even more tragic is that Roberts had the most important shift of all: the 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. shift—the Fort Worth/Dallas part of the Texas trip. (The other two shifts—Agent Stout’s 4:00 p.m. to midnight detail, and Agent Godfrey’s midnight to 8:00 a.m. shift—were not actively protecting JFK during the Dallas motorcade. They were all waiting for JFK to complete the motorcade—Stout’s detail at the Trade Mart, Godfrey’s detail in Austin with Bob Burke and Bill Payne at both the Commodore-Perry Hotel and the LBJ Ranch.)

Cover-up number one: Agent Roberts would later write (April 28, 1964): “There was no question in my mind as to [the agents’] physical and mental capacity to function effectively in their assigned duties.”⁴² Like Chief Rowley and Inspector Kelley before both the Warren Commission and the HSCA, Agent Roberts covered up the drinking incident, despite Secret Service regulations that clearly stated that these were grounds for removal from the agency.⁴³ Sleep deprivation and alcohol consumption wreak havoc on even the best-trained reflexes. While leaving Love Field on the way to the heart of Dallas, destiny, and murder, Agent Roberts rose from his seat and, using his voice and several hand gestures, forced agent Henry J. Rybka to fall back from the rear area of JFK’s limousine, causing a perplexed Rybka to stop and raise his arms several times in disgust. Rybka would then remain at the airport during the murder, having been effectively neutralized: although Paul Landis made room for him on the right running board of the follow-up car, Agent Rybka did not budge.⁴⁴ Despite the fact that Rybka had worked the follow-up in Houston the day before⁴⁵ and was an experienced⁴⁶ protective agent,⁴⁷ he was not allowed to do his job on November 22, 1963. (Rybka has since died.) Agent Rybka, fresh from Secret Service School and the Florida trip, both in November, 1963,⁴⁸ knew what the standard procedure was, both through training and seeing with his own two eyes: to have agents on or near the rear of the presidential limousine.

Cover-up number two: Both Emory Roberts and Winston Lawson placed Agent Rybka in the follow-up car in their (initial) reports, only to “correct” the record later, after November 22, although Rybka was not even mentioned anywhere in Agent Lawson’s Preliminary Survey Report to begin with—making it seem obvious that Lawson was covering for Emory Roberts.⁴⁹ Incredibly, Emory Roberts made the same “mistake” twice: In the shift report of November 22, 1963 (*separate* from the one depicted in the Commission’s volumes),⁵⁰ Roberts placed Rybka in the “center rear seat” between Hickey and Bennett!⁵¹ Oddly, this was not the first time Rybka was “mistakenly” replaced in the follow-up car during November 1963. The shift report of November 9, 1963, written by agent David Grant, stated that Rybka drove the follow-up car in New York.⁵² The problem is that Rybka was actually left behind in Washington, D.C. at the time, as the November 8 and 9 shift reports make abundantly clear.⁵³ Bizarre indeed.

As the cars approached the Main and Houston Street intersection, Clint Hill fell back to the follow-up car. Agent Hill was the only agent to ride on the rear of

the limousine in Dallas and he was not even assigned to JFK (as a last-minute addition to the trip, Agent Hill was, like Paul Landis, part of Jackie's detail, and came at the First Lady's personal request). John Ready, the agent assigned to President Kennedy's side of the limousine and riding on the right front running board of the follow-up car, never approached JFK's side of the limousine. Why not? Emory Roberts lamely explained: "SA Ready would have done the same thing (as Agent Hill did) if the motorcycle was not at the President's corner of car."⁵⁴ Strange, but this posed no problem at all for Agent Don Lawton on November 18, 1963, in Tampa⁵⁵ (but unfortunately, like Rybka, Lawton was left at Love Field and was not in the motorcade detail).⁵⁶ In any event, there was always cooperation between the motorcycles and the agents; they maneuvered around each other countless times, including in Dallas on November 22, 1963.

Cover-up number three: The infamous April 22, 1964 reports from Agents Behn, Boring, Ready, Hill, and Emory Roberts, alleging, after-the-fact, that President Kennedy had ordered agents off the rear of the limousine on November 18, 1963 in Tampa, and in other cities.⁵⁷ As previously discussed in detail, the Secret Service blamed JFK for the removal of the agents on or near the rear of his limousine and this is simply untrue. Although Agent Roberts admitted recognizing "Oswald's" first shot as a rifle blast,⁵⁸ as the Altgens photo confirms, he made a mysterious transmission via radio microphone that is not accounted for in his reports or in the official record.⁵⁹ Instead of offering a shout of alarm, alert, or orders to his agents to do something that their own initiative lacked for some reason, i.e., protective action, he did nothing to help the wounded President. Allen Dulles of the Warren Commission asked: "Who would cover straight ahead?" Chief Rowley responded: "The man in the front seat [unnamed: Roberts] has that responsibility."⁶⁰ None of the follow-up car agents, via their individual scanning duties, which had them actually looking *away* from JFK and at different points of the crowd, had the responsibility of watching *only* the presidential vehicle. That job belonged to Roberts alone, and it appears obvious that the other agents of the follow-up car relied heavily on Roberts to sound some sort of alarm in the event of trouble in JFK's car. Roberts' recall of Agent Ready is well documented,⁶¹ although we still have:

Cover-up number four: The alleged speed of the limousine and the alleged distance between the two cars (9–11 mph and five feet in reality, not the 20–25 mph and 20–25 feet stated in both Roberts' and Agent Ready's reports) was used as the pretext for the recall of Ready.⁶² Taking everything cited to this point into account, there is still another factor that has escaped virtually everyone, and this "factor" came about quite accidentally. In Groden and Livingstone's *High Treason*,⁶³ it was noted: "Emory Roberts ordered the agents not to move," which this author took to be an unintended overstatement at the time. So, the author decided to read the passage to Sam Kinney for commentary. Surprisingly, Sam told the author, "Exactly right, and I'm involved in that, too!" Before the author could digest this troubling information, Sam attempted to defend Roberts' actions by stating that the angle of the follow-up car he was driving wasn't conducive to any of the other agents taking action (as Hill did), an excuse the author does not find valid. Kinney told a similar story to the HSCA on February 26, 1978: "Mr. Kinney's analysis of Roberts' order was that if Roberts had permitted Ready to go, and 'if Ready had done what Hill did, I've got

one of them,' i.e. because of the impossibility of swerving away at an angle wide enough to avoid both of them." However, the Nix film (as well as the Zapruder film) demonstrates that, during the shooting, the follow-up car had slowed down, lagging somewhat behind the presidential limousine. Therefore, Kinney's car—and JFK's car, for that matter—wasn't quite close enough or moving fast enough to create the hazard Kinney eludes to. Ironically, if the required five-foot distance between the vehicles had been maintained (as it had been up to right before the shooting), not to mention a faster rate of speed, Kinney would be on firmer ground. In addition, Agent Tim McIntyre told the HSCA on January 31, 1978 that the follow-up car was "slightly to the left rear of the limousine", so, if anything, Hill was in more danger than Ready when he took off to protect Mrs. Kennedy.

So, besides the Love Field recall of Agent Rybka and Dealey Plaza recall of Ready, Roberts *also* immobilized the other agents at a critical juncture in the shooting, causing a non-JFK agent (Clint Hill) to react too late to do anything but cover the corpse of the President.⁶⁴ HSCA attorney Belford Lawson also was troubled by Roberts' conduct: he wrote in a once-secret memorandum: "Why [wasn't] Emory Roberts ... called to testify?"⁶⁵

Presidential aides Ken O'Donnell and Dave Powers best summed up the situation when they wrote: "Roberts, one of President Kennedy's agents ... had decided to switch to Johnson as soon as Kennedy was shot."⁶⁶ In addition, four other authors have noted Agent Roberts' "switch of allegiance", including Chief Curry.⁶⁷ Once at Parkland Hospital, SA Roberts totally usurped his superior, number-three agent Roy Kellerman. Emory ordered Kellerman's agents around and confided in Rufus Youngblood, the soon-to-be SAIC, replacing the absent Behn.⁶⁸ What William Manchester reports as having occurred at Parkland makes one both sick and repulsed: "... Powers and O'Donnell bounded toward the Lincoln. Powers heard Emory Roberts shouting at him to stop but disregarded him; a second might save Kennedy's life [Dave, too bad you weren't on the running board of the follow-up car] ... Emory Roberts brushed past O'Donnell, determined to make sure that Kennedy was dead. 'Get up,' he said to Jacqueline Kennedy. There was no reply. She was crooning faintly. From his side Roberts could see the President's face, so he lifted her elbow for a close look. He dropped it. To Kellerman, his superior, he said tersely, 'You stay with Kennedy. I'm going to Johnson.'"⁶⁹

It is a shame that Emory Roberts cannot enlighten us on his conduct: having never been questioned by the Warren Commission or the FBI, he died on October 8, 1973 at his Brookeville, Maryland home, after an apparent heart attack. Roberts was 58 at the time.⁷⁰ Only author William Manchester spoke to him (on December 4, 1964 and April 26, 1965, respectively).⁷¹ Incredibly, Roberts was the President's receptionist during the Johnson administration while still a member of the Secret Service, receiving a Special Service Award from the Treasury Department for improving communications and services to the public in 1968;⁷² a year later, during the start of the Nixon administration in 1969, Roberts was promoted to the coveted position of Inspector at Secret Service headquarters, responsible for overseeing a number of protective procedures and policies. Roberts retired from the Secret Service in February 1973.⁷³

In keeping with the above comments, the author has traced the critical decision to have LBJ and Kennedy's coffin aboard Air Force One (instead of Air Force Two) back to the primary source: Emory Roberts.⁷⁴ "Official" history has it that Kenny O'Donnell specifically told Lyndon Johnson to take the presidential plane—Air Force One—rather than Air Force Two because it allegedly had better communication equipment. This is what LBJ alleged in his Warren Commission affidavit.⁷⁵ However, O'Donnell denied this, telling author William Manchester: "The President and I had no conversation regarding Air Force One. If we had known he was going on Air Force One, we would have taken Air Force Two. One plane was like the other."⁷⁶ In fact, when Arlen Specter of the Warren Commission asked O'Donnell, "Was there any discussion about his [LBJ] taking the presidential plane, AF-1, as opposed to AF-2?", O'Donnell responded: "There was not."⁷⁷ In this regard, O'Donnell later wrote in his book *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye* that a Warren Commission attorney—the aforementioned Arlen Specter—asked him to "change his testimony so that it would agree with the President's": an offer O'Donnell refused.⁷⁸ With this in mind, author Jim Bishop reported: "Emory Roberts suggested that Johnson leave at once for Air Force One ... *Roberts asked Kenny O'Donnell and he said: 'Yes.'* Johnson refused to move. Roberts returned to O'Donnell and asked again: *'Is it all right for Mr. Johnson to board Air Force One now?'* *'Yes,' O'Donnell said, 'Yes.'*"⁷⁹ [Emphasis added.] This author believes O'Donnell when he says he had no part in LBJ going to Air Force One over Air Force Two. This was a Secret Service (Emory Roberts) decision.

Finally, back to the subject of allegiance, Manchester wrote: "The Secret Service ... was riven by disunion. The agents were as leaderless and perplexed as the rest of the Presidential party [on November 22, 1963]. A few (Kellerman, Hill) remained near Kennedy. Others (Youngblood, Roberts, Johns) went with Johnson. *Most were following personal loyalties.*"⁸⁰ [Emphasis added.]

Roberts' White House Communications Agency (WHCA) code name was "Dusty".⁸¹

Even former agent Abraham Bolden was shocked at Roberts' conduct.⁸²

Conclusion: Emory Roberts is a major suspect in *both* the security test and the murder itself.

Agent **John D. "Jack" Ready** (rode in Secret Service follow-up car): In addition to his previously mentioned report regarding JFK's alleged "desires" to have agents removed from the rear of the limousine, Ready submitted another report (one of two) dealing with the assassination itself. He wrote: "There appeared to be no spectators on the right side of the road (Elm Street)." Gee, all those people lining the street on Ready's side of Elm must have been photographic anomalies, for they appear in the Zapruder film! Also, as noted above, both Roberts and Ready claimed that the limousine was traveling at a rate of speed of 20–25 mph, and that there was approximately 20–25 feet separating their follow-up car from the presidential limousine. However, films, photos, Clint Hill's Warren Commission testimony, and Paul Landis's report confirms that there was actually only a five-foot distance between the cars when the shooting commenced,

and that the limousine was slowing down from a starting speed of only around 11.2 mph. In fact, in Ready's first report, he stated that the follow-up car slowed. In Ready's next report, he "corrected" the record to read that the *limousine* slowed (actually, *both* vehicles slowed once the shooting began). The author believes that all of this was done to try to cover up both Roberts' and Ready's inaction on November 22, 1963. Ready was one of the many agents (and spectators, for that matter) who thought the first shot was a firecracker, in sharp contrast to Shift Leader Roberts, Youngblood, and a select few others. Agent Ready was also involved in the infamous drinking incident.

Ready was assigned to the Secret Service in the spring of 1961: the agent went to the WHD, with temporary assignments at Hyannis Port and Palm Beach. Ready was in the WHD from 1961–8. From 1968–78, Ready worked out of the San Diego office, and had served on the V.P. Agnew Detail, the Dr. Kissinger Detail, and, curiously, the Watergate and White House tapes Detail. During the HSCA era, Ready was the ASAIC of the USSS Liaison Division (Win Lawson was the SAIC). By 1978, Agent Ready was ASAIC of the Nixon Protective Division.⁸³ Interestingly, for the 1993 blockbuster film *In The Line of Fire*, the famous Altgens photo of the shooting on Elm Street was used: the producers edited out Ready's head in the photo and superimposed Clint Eastwood's in its place! Agent Kinney told the author that, regarding Ready, "I have not seen him since [Dallas]. He lived up in the Washington area. I don't know what he's doing. He never attends our conferences."⁸⁴

The author phoned Ready on June 13, 2005 (the former agent had previously ignored a letter from the author in 2004). As mentioned in Chapter 1, Ready said: "Not on the phone. I don't know you from Adam. Can you see my point?"

Conclusion: Agent John Ready was neutralized by Shift Leader Roberts on November 22, 1963 ... and Agent Ready was *the* agent principally responsible for JFK's safety from the follow-up car: he had responsibility for JFK's side of the limousine.

Agent **Clinton J. "Clint" Hill** (First Lady Detail, rode in Secret Service follow-up car): Clint Hill gave this biographical outline to the Warren Commission as follows: "I went to secondary educational high school in Washburn, North Dakota, and then went on to Concordia College, Moorehead, Minnesota.⁸⁵ I was a history and education major, with a minor in physical education [graduating in 1954] ... I went into the Army in 1954; remained in the Army until 1957 [Hill did not reveal the fact that he was, like Winston Lawson, a counter-intelligence agent].⁸⁶ Then I couldn't determine what I wanted to do, whether to go to law school or not, and I took a couple of odd jobs. I worked for a finance company at one time. Then I went to work for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad as a special agent in the spring of 1958, and entered the Secret Service in September 1958 ... I entered the Secret Service in Denver, and during that period I did both investigative and protection work. I was assigned to Mrs. Doud, the mother-in-law of President Eisenhower. I attended the Treasury Law Enforcement School during my first year, and was sent to the White House for a 30-day temporary assignment at the White House in June 1959. In November of 1959, November 1, I was transferred to the White House on a permanent basis as a

special agent assigned to the White House detail. I have been at the White House since that time ... I was responsible for the protection of Mrs. Kennedy ... I tried to remain as close to her at all times as possible, and in this particular trip that meant being with the President because all of their doings on this trip were together rather than separate. I would go over her schedule to make sure she knows what she is expected to do; discuss it with her; remain in her general area all the time; protect her from any danger.”⁸⁷ Hill took early retirement in September 1975 from the Secret Service at only the age of 43, having been both the SAIC of the WHD⁸⁸ and the Assistant Director of the Secret Service.⁸⁹

Despite riding on an automobile that was only a scant five feet away from JFK's slow-moving car (less than 12 mph) at the *start* of the shooting, Hill could only arrive in time to “protect” Mrs. Kennedy, the person to which he was *assigned* to protect.⁹⁰ Mrs. Kennedy thought highly of Hill, regarding him as the brightest agent on the White House Detail and “one of us”.⁹¹ In fact, “Hill had not been scheduled to make the Dallas trip, but came only after Mrs. Kennedy made a personal request.”⁹² Although Hill was the only agent to overtly respond to the shooting of JFK, and in spite of the award he received for this action,⁹³ the agent had much survivor's guilt. Mike Wallace asked Hill in 1975: “Is there anything that the Secret Service, or Clint Hill, could have done to keep that [the assassination] from happening?” After a long pause, Hill answered: “Clint Hill, yes.” Wallace: “‘Clint Hill, yes?’ What do you mean?” Hill, speaking somewhat in the third-person, responded: “If he had reacted about, oh, five-tenths of a second faster, maybe a second faster, I wouldn't be here today.” Wallace: “You mean you would have taken the shot?” Hill: “The third shot, yes, sir.” Wallace: “And that would have been alright with you?” Hill: “That would have been fine with me.” Wallace: “... you surely don't have any sense of guilt about that?” Hill: “Yes, I certainly do. I have a great deal of guilt. It was my fault ... if I had reacted just a little bit quicker, I could have, I guess ... [sigh] ... and I'll live with that to my grave.”⁹⁴ Hill added: “[The doctors said] I have a severe neurological problem ... they recommended psychiatric help ... they trace it all back to 1963.”

The year 1993 saw a renaissance for Agent Hill: as previously mentioned, the movie *In the Line of Fire* was released, which was a somewhat veiled ‘tribute’ to Hill (and, in the movie, he gets to redeem himself for his failings on November 22, 1963).⁹⁵ In addition, Clint Hill did an “update” of sorts for the 30th anniversary special for *60 Minutes* during November 1993.⁹⁶ Like his appearance on the 1995 documentary *Inside the Secret Service*,⁹⁷ Hill mentioned that he struggled with guilt for almost thirty years. It was here that Hill picked up the story, the same one he revealed in November 1993 to *60 Minutes*: he and his wife went to Dealey Plaza in 1990 (straight from a nearby annual Secret Service reunion, according to Agent Sam Kinney). He walked it for about two hours, studying every angle and every possibility. Hill let everything run through his mind. He then came to the conclusion that he did the best that he could, and that he didn't have a chance. Well, regardless of Hill's newfound feelings on the matter, the real question is: what about agent John Ready's actions, responsibilities, and feelings? He was unnamed—he was the one responsible for JFK, *not* Hill, who was assigned to Jackie. The song remains the same.

Many people have empathy for Hill, including many of his colleagues. Agent Lawson wrote to the author: “The thing I am confident of is that, although there were no more shots, Clint saved Mrs. Kennedy’s life by vaulting up on the back of the car using the steps and hand holds and keeping her from falling off. I’m still amazed at how quickly he got up there, didn’t fall and get run over by the heavy Cadillac follow-up car and, more amazingly, how he managed to hang on during that frantic high speed race to Parkland Hospital.”⁹⁸ However, through photo analysis of the Zapruder film and the Altgens photo, the author has discovered that Agent Hill was *looking* directly at JFK upon the moment of the *first* shot: his guilt is well-founded, for he let several crucial seconds (at least five) go by before belatedly coming to the President’s “aid”.⁹⁹ As author James Hepburn wrote: “Clint Hill, who was later decorated, was the first to move, and it took him seven or eight seconds to react. In eight seconds, the average sprinter can cover 80 yards.”¹⁰⁰ In addition, photo analysis reveals that Hill did not even push Mrs. Kennedy back into the limousine—she crawled back into the back-seat on her own. Also, like Agent Ready, Hill was involved in the drinking incident the night before.

However, in Hill’s defense, at least he *tried* to do something, Roberts and Boring notwithstanding, and on more than one occasion: (1) his four brief appearances on the back of JFK’s limousine, on Jackie’s side, albeit well before the motorcade reached Dealey Plaza; and (2) his attempt to help Jackie and, by extension, JFK, by running to the limousine on Elm Street. Also, Hill later wrote shortly after the assassination: “As I lay over the top of the back seat I noticed a portion of the President’s head on the right rear side was missing and he was bleeding profusely. Part of his brain was gone. I saw a part of his skull with hair on it lying in the seat ... [during the autopsy] I observed a wound about six inches down from the neckline on the back just to the right of the spinal column. I observed another wound on the right rear portion of the skull.”¹⁰¹ In addition, Hill later testified to the Warren Commission’s Arlen Specter on March 9, 1964: “The right rear portion of his head was missing. It was lying in the rear seat of the car. His brain was exposed. There was blood and bits of brain all over the entire rear portion of the car ... one large gaping wound in the right rear portion of the head ... [later, during the autopsy] I saw an opening in the back, about six inches below the neckline to the right-hand side of the spinal column.”¹⁰² From Hill’s description of the wounds, it would appear that a shot from the front killed JFK (entrance wounds make small holes while exit wounds make larger holes) *and* that a wound too low to come from Oswald’s rifle hit the President in the back, not the neck.

That said, Hill later said on national television: “There were only 3 shots—one gun, three shots.” Interviewer: “Are you satisfied that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone?” Hill: “Completely.”¹⁰³

Hill’s White House Communications Agency (WHCA) code name was “Dazzle”.¹⁰⁴

Clint Hill is the brother-in-law of fellow former agent David Grant.¹⁰⁵ Both gentlemen also live in Northern Virginia. On June 2, 2005, the author mailed a lengthy, 22-page letter to Hill (Certified, Return Receipt Requested with a S.A.S.E. to boot) summarizing the entirety of Chapter 1 in great detail. On

June 13, 2005, after not receiving a reply, the author phoned Mr. Hill, who was quite apparently angry: he first pretended not to know about the lengthy letter he had to sign for (of which the author received his signed receipt): "About what?" Hill exclaimed in response to the author's inquiry. Then, forcefully, Hill added: "I'm just not interested in talking to you." Hill did not say much more during his March 22, 2006 appearance on CNN's *Larry King Live*. Virtually the only noteworthy thing Hill said on the broadcast was the following: "I don't think President Johnson was too happy I was there. In fact, I know he wasn't. But some of the agents that knew him, worked with him, convinced him that I was a pro and that I was going to do a good job. I ended up being the agent in charge of presidential protection in '67 when Johnson was still in office and I was—when Nixon came in they moved me over to the Vice President, SAIC job. Then they moved me to Headquarters and I became an Assistant Director for all protection. That's the job I retired from."

Conclusion: Like Kellerman, Hill was a "patsy", set-up via the security test of November 22, 1963.

Agent **William "Tim" McIntyre** (rode in Secret Service follow-up car): During the course of a March 25, 1978 HSCA interview, fellow Agent Ernest Aragon painted an unflattering picture of the Secret Service in general, McIntyre in particular. The interview summary states: "Aragon was more than mildly critical of the performance of the Secret Service in the area of Presidential Protection. He said that most agents, including some of the White House Detail, were less than proficient in their approach to this subject. 'I did not consider the protection of the President a statutory obligation; I considered it a personal one,' he said. Alone, of all the agents interviewed thus far by the writer [James Kelly, HSCA investigator and former Secret Service agent], former SA Aragon seemed to feel that the Secret Service was not always doing its best to protect the President. He recalled how on the November 18th, 1963 visit he went to the Americana Hotel where President Kennedy was giving a speech. In the lobby he saw SA McIntyre standing alone. He went to pass the time of day with him and McIntyre allegedly said: 'What am I supposed to do? I don't know what to do.' Aragon¹⁰⁶ said he was in the process of explaining his functions to him when SA Coughlin came up. He suggested to Coughlin that he instruct him on his duties." (Coughlin wrote the author on April 28, 2005: "Don't remember. Could have happened!") And McIntyre was one of the agents *protecting* JFK on the follow-up car in Dallas? Not surprisingly, the ARRB reported during their September 18, 1996 interview with Floyd Boring: "When shown the HSCA interview summary of its interview with Miami field office SA Ernest Aragon (specifically, Aragon's allegations of Secret Service security lapses), he said he would not agree with that statement, and expressed the opinion that SA Aragon may not have known what he was talking about."

In that regard, McIntyre, positioned behind SA Hill on the driver's side running board, took the time to share a hearty laugh with Hill just a few blocks before the assassination, causing both men to look away from their posts. Although some may consider this a minor infraction, this indicates the level of vigilance of the agency that day in general, McIntyre (and Hill) in particular.¹⁰⁷

More troubling are the revelations McIntyre and three of his Secret Service colleagues shared with author Seymour Hersh in 1997¹⁰⁸—and, soon after, on ABC television¹⁰⁹—concerning JFK's private life (and, indirectly, Emory Roberts) ... but not for the reason the reader might think: a disturbing and alarming mind-set was demonstrated by these men concerning the President they were sworn to protect. As McIntyre put it: "His shift supervisor, the highly respected *Emory Roberts*, took him aside and warned ... that 'you're going to see a lot of shit around here. Stuff with the President. Just forget about it. Keep it to yourself. Don't even talk to your wife.' ... Roberts was nervous about it. Emory would say, McIntyre recalled with a laugh, 'How in the hell do you know what's going on? He could be hurt in there. What if one bites him' in a sensitive area? *Roberts 'talked about it a lot'*, McIntyre said. 'Bites' ... *In McIntyre's view, a public scandal about Kennedy's incessant womanizing was inevitable. 'It would have had to come out in the next year or so. In the campaign, maybe.'* McIntyre said he and some of his colleagues ... *felt abused by their service on behalf of President Kennedy* ... McIntyre said he eventually realized that he had compromised his law enforcement beliefs to the point where he wondered whether it was 'time to get out of there. I was disappointed by what I saw.'" [Emphasis added.] McIntyre repeated the Roberts story on ABC (without naming Emory), with this comment included: "Prostitution—that's illegal. A procurement is illegal. And if you have a procurer with prostitutes paraded in front of you, then, as a sworn law enforcement officer, you're asking yourself, 'Well, what do they think of us?'" McIntyre felt this way after having only spent a *very* brief time with JFK before the assassination: he joined the WHD in the fall of 1963¹¹⁰ (fellow former agent Gerald Blaine confirmed to the author on June 10, 2005 that McIntyre was indeed "brand new" and lacked experience)! In addition, these feelings of anger and impotence—especially by Roberts and McIntyre—loom large in the context of the actions and inactions of the Secret Service on November 22, 1963. Soon after the airing of the aforementioned television program, Clinton Secret Service Director Lewis C. Merletti wrote a letter to 3,200 current and 500 former agents reminding them not to talk about "any aspect of the personal lives of our protectees". He further reminded the agents to recall their commission book oath, "to be worthy of trust and confidence". Merletti said this "confidence ... should continue forever".¹¹¹ After all, this is the Secret Service's motto: Worthy of Trust and Confidence.¹¹² In fact, the Former Secret Service Agents' Association censured all four of the agents who spoke to Hersh for speaking about President Kennedy's private life.¹¹³ For his part, fellow former agent J. Frank Yeager, also a Texas trip veteran, wrote: "I cannot speak for McIntyre. I personally don't believe that the President's personal life should be public information."¹¹⁴ Former agent Walt Coughlin weighed in on the situation: "It was their rite [sic] to say it but I wish they had not. I would never say anything bad (of a personal nature) against a protectee. We are there by law, not as a guest!"¹¹⁵ Coughlin later wrote the author: "[Tony] Sherman and [Larry] Newman got crossways with AFAUSSS for 'talking about personal incidents' of JFK[.] Also Joe Paoella and Tim MacIntyre."¹¹⁶

An unnamed agent of the era spoke to author Philip Melanson on January 9, 2002 and stated that, while he conceded that President Kennedy was a womanizer, "it was not on the sordid scale of the four agents' claims ... The retired

agent also contests the Hersh agents' claims that Kennedy tarnished the office, and offers: 'Kennedy had the most respect for the office of any President I have seen' ... the agent is questioning the accuracy, scale, and the sheer venom, in his opinion, of the four accounts ... He adds angrily, 'I've never heard any agent talk about a President that way.'¹¹⁷ Needless to say, this author agrees with this former agent's account to Melanson. So, if these stories have been exaggerated (and even if they haven't), *why* all the ire? If McIntyre and, by extension, Roberts felt this way before Dallas, and there's every reason to believe they in fact did, the implications for their subsequent actions—or lack thereof—are frightening. At least the other three agents—*Joseph Paoella, Tony Sherman, and Larry Newman*—were not on Kennedy's detail on the Texas trip, although that's certainly no excuse for their ill feelings. As Agent Marty Venker wrote: "God-damn, I was protecting these guys. Once you got your feeling involved, it made it that much harder to step in front of a bullet. You might think, at the last minute, 'How do I feel about this guy?' I'd just as soon not know what he stood for."¹¹⁸ Agent Dennis McCarthy reflected: "They [Secret Service] are around politicians, often some of the most powerful ones in the world, much of the time and frequently see these men and women at their worst as well as at their best."¹¹⁹ Agent Ron Williams wrote: "[Regarding President Bill Clinton] The primary reason I retired was because I had become disenchanted with the egotistical arrogance of the Clinton staff and because I saw character flaws in Clinton that I had not seen in the five past presidents I had protected since 1970. His attention to image and style but lack of substance and character was evident in private. He was the ultimate con man ... I find myself amazed that a majority of the American people still are buying this con man ... My intuition in 1992 was right. Bill Clinton lacks substance and character. I just wish the American people felt values, substance, and character were important."¹²⁰

How similar were these other agents' feelings about JFK to those of their colleague McIntyre (and presumably, by extension, Roberts)? Very: Tony Sherman, who spent two years at the White House with JFK: "I wanted out ... I didn't want a part of it ... I got mad ... I got angry at any President who doesn't treat the White House like I think he should ..."¹²¹ Sherman added: "Seventy to eighty percent of the agents thought it was nuts ... Some of us were brought up the right way. Our mothers and fathers didn't do it. We lived in another world. Suddenly, I'm Joe Agent here. I'm looking at the President of the United States and telling myself, 'This is the White House and we protect the White House.'¹²² On the ABC special, Sherman related a tale of JFK and prostitutes that occurred during the President's trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, in June of 1963 (incidentally, two clips are shown of this trip, depicting agents running with the limousine on all four corners of the limousine during the motorcade, motorcycles beside JFK, and SAIC Behn on the trip, among other things). Sherman said: "The Honolulu episode made me angry. It did make me angry ... I'm not a holier-than-thou guy ... but he shouldn't be doing this in public." The agent also added that this debauchery "continued constantly" and was "a regular thing." Larry Newman: "*It [JFK's behavior] caused a lot of morale problems with the Secret Service ... you felt impotent and you couldn't do your job. It was frustrating*"¹²³ [Emphasis added.] On the ABC special, Newman mentioned JFK's sexual trysts with White House secretaries who were known by the nicknames

of “Fiddle” and “Faddle”. The agent also said that this facet of JFK made you not want to associate with the man in any way. Joseph Paoella: “[He] acknowledged that the Secret Service’s socializing intensified each year of the Kennedy administration, to a point where, by late 1963, *a few members of the presidential detail were regularly remaining in bars until the early morning hours* [emphasis added].”¹²⁴ This is corroborated by what Abraham Bolden told the author, and it also is best exemplified by the drinking incident of November 21–22, 1963. Agent Tony Sherman also told author Edward Klein: “His womanizing was so routine and common ... that we slipped into the nefarious duty of protecting Kennedy from his wife by alerting him is she was returning to the White House unexpectedly ... Some agents felt that if the President could get away with this kind of stuff, so could they ... Drinking, partying, and sex became part of traveling with the President.”¹²⁵ Agent Larry Newman wasn’t finished, either: he spoke at even greater length to author Barbara Leaming about JFK’s womanizing several years later.¹²⁶ (Author Palamara did contact Newman, Sherman, Paoella, and McIntyre but did not discuss JFK’s womanizing at any length.) Incredulously, Floyd Boring stated: “I can’t recall—and I was there the entire time during the president’s administration and prior to the president’s administration—and I know I can never recall at any time the president meeting with any girl. Everything I’ve ever seen the man do was with a moral attitude ... Never seen the girl [Judith Campbell Exner]. Never heard her name until I read it in the paper ... wouldn’t know her [Mary Pinchot Meyer] ... I never at any time had ever seen the President with Frank Sinatra ... at no time was Frank Sinatra at the President’s house [!].”¹²⁷ Regarding Agent Boring, former agent Larry Newman told the author, “He’s been a proponent that JFK wasn’t a womanizer.”¹²⁸ Former ASAIC of the Los Angeles office Darwin David Horn, Sr. wrote the author: “Never saw Marilyn Monroe ... ever.”¹²⁹ (Horn later wrote: “Never saw Marilyn Monroe with him but wouldn’t tell you if I had.”)¹³⁰ Horn also wrote: “Never saw JFK and Sinatra together.”¹³¹ Finally, former Chief James Rowley stated to the JFK Library in 1976: “I never saw or heard anything [regarding allegations of women and JFK] ... I had never heard or saw anything that would indicate any truth to it, because certainly any agent on the detail that saw anything like that naturally would report it [!]. But I hadn’t received ... [ellipsis in text] ... This was all a surprise to me when I read these so-called stories.”¹³²

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 1963.¹³³ However, like Agent Bennett’s “amnesia” noted earlier and as proven by the Secret Service Shift Reports released by the ARRB in the 1990s, McIntyre was on *both* trips! Again, like Bennett, the author naturally wonders: is there a *reason* for this “amnesia”? Were several mortal threats to the President’s life being covertly monitored, and was there also a covert security test taking place in those few short days and weeks—and even moments—before the fatal shots rang out in Dealey Plaza on November 22, 1963? Did Bennett, McIntyre, and others seek to disassociate themselves from these trips due to this knowledge?

Having arrived at the WHD in the fall of 1963 from a two-man office in Spokane, Washington, McIntyre was an Inspector during his HSCA interview.¹³⁴

The author contacted McIntyre on June 13, 2005 (McIntyre had previously been contacted via mail but did not respond back). Asked about the Tampa trip of November 18, 1963, the former agent said: "I was there on the follow-up car." Regarding the question of agents being on the back of the car, McIntyre said: "I believe so—Zboril was on the back," which he was. (He also mentioned Don Lawton and Emory Roberts as being on the trip, which they were.) Regarding the matter at hand, McIntyre stated: "I can't remember if they were told to be off the car."

Conclusion: Agent McIntyre, a very green WHD agent with disturbing feelings for JFK, was ineffective on November 22, 1963.

Agent **Samuel A. "Sam" Kinney** (White House Garage Detail, driver of the Secret Service follow-up car): From the HSCA's February 26, 1978 interview summary, we learn the following regarding Kinney's background: "SA Kinney, who was the Secret Service's driver of the Presidential follow-up car at the time of the assassination, first entered the field of law enforcement in 1950, when he was appointed to the Metropolitan Police Department (Washington, D.C.). He was assigned to the White House Police Force in 1958, and was then appointed to the Secret Service in 1960. He has spent his entire career with the Secret Service, from which he is now retired, in the field of Presidential protection."¹³⁵

Interviewed three times between 1992 and 1994, Kinney was a rich source of information. The agent admitted: "We [the Secret Service] didn't do our job," adding that he thinks about the assassination "every night" and has even "dreamed about it". Surprisingly, Kinney felt compelled by the work of the critics in this case: "I have several different theories that have crossed my mind."¹³⁶ Strangely, Kinney claimed that none of the agents have ever discussed the assassination together, although he added: "We have discussed it at some of our conferences."¹³⁷ In regard to Agent Hill, Kinney told the author that, although Hill suffered greatly after the tragedy, his fellow former agents "got him straightened out". Although Kinney revealed that Hill had a heart attack and was close to needing help from mental facilities, he stopped drinking and smoking and has put himself back on track. In regard to the notion that JFK ever ordered the agents to do anything, Sam said: "That is absolutely, positively false ... no, no, no, he had nothing to do with that [ordering agents off the rear of the limo] ... No, never—the agents say, 'OK men, fall back on your posts.' ... President Kennedy was one of the easiest presidents to ever protect; Harry S. Truman was a jewel just like John F. Kennedy was ... 99% of the agents would agree ... [JFK] was one of the best presidents ever to control—he trusted every one of us ... I loved the guy. I loved the Kennedy family, I really did."¹³⁸ In regard to the infamous quote from William Manchester, whereupon Kennedy allegedly made the remark "Keep those Ivy League charlatans off the back of the car,"¹³⁹ Kinney said: "That is false. I talked to William Manchester; he called me on the book [sic] ... for the record of history that is false—Kennedy never ordered us to do anything. I am aware of what is being said but that is false."¹⁴⁰ Finally, just to nail down this issue, the author asked Sam if an exception was made on November 22, 1963, to which Sam replied: "Not this particular time, no. Not in this case." When asked why there weren't agents on the back of the car in Dealey Plaza, Sam said: "We had just come down Main [Street] where the vol-

ume of the crowd was. *Emory Roberts says 'OK guys, fall back,'* to get on the running board ... we had been running for three miles ... we were ready to hit the open highway." [Emphasis added.] Yet, Ready *never* got onto the back of the car and *none* of the agents walked, jogged, or ran next to the rear of the limousine, either. Only when the car stopped briefly twice in the outskirts of town did the agents come near JFK's side of the car and only Agent Hill, taking his own initiative, hopped onto the back of the car for four brief moments in time in the city proper (and on Jackie's side only). Kinney further stated that agents were posted onto the rear of the President's car only when "crowds were on both sides or if there's a potential run out from the crowd." Although not as pronounced as earlier in the motorcade, both of these situations existed in Dealey Plaza. All it takes is for one person to be an assassin, as the Secret Service has found out on numerous occasions. As we know, this isn't the first time that Kinney defended the strange actions and inactions of Emory Roberts. Sam also told the author that JFK had nothing to do with the limiting of motorcycles during motorcades, and that Ken O'Donnell did not interfere with the agents: "Nobody ordered anyone around." Thankfully, Sam told the author he did *not* speak to Gerald Posner, author of the controversial Oswald-did-it book, *Case Closed*.

As for the critical and controversial removal of the bubbletop on November 22, 1963, as noted earlier, Kinney was adamant to the author: "I am the sole responsibility of that ... Yes, I was." Asked if Kennedy ordered it off, Sam said: "That is not true." In regard to SAIC of the Dallas office, Forrest V. Sorrels, who was alleged to have removed the top in a book written by Jim Lehrer,¹⁴¹ Sam was equally adamant: "I knew him [Sorrels] very well—he had nothing to do with it." As far as any regrets over his decision, Sam said: "That's one of my thirty-year concerns—whether I made the right decision or not." Kinney went on to say that the "only thing the bubbletop may have prevented—it may have distorted Oswald's sight [sic] or possibly a ricochet ... it might deflect a bullet." Sam said he took the top off because "we were down there on a political move", meaning a presidential movement that was *political* in nature, as opposed to one that was merely for the public, a matter in some dispute (i.e. between the Connally camp and the O'Donnell faction).

Sam said Kennedy "... would have survived the first one, probably. The second shot, he was leaning over and he had his back brace on. The second shot hit Connally right in the back. I remember talking to Connally and I've talked to him since then—I said, 'Governor, I'm the one who called you a son-of-a-bitch.' He said, 'I wondered who that was but I knew I had to be taken out of there before you got the President out.'¹⁴² Very gracious guy, the Governor; nice people ... he ended up our boss [when Connally became the Secretary of the Treasury during the Nixon administration]." Sam stated, "I saw all three shots hit," without acknowledging the (known) missed shot(s); even Governor Connally and Dave Powers did not acknowledge a missed shot.¹⁴³ In regard to JFK's head wound, the author inquired: "Was the back of Kennedy's head really gone?" To which Kinney responded: "Yeah ... He had no brain left—it was blown out. Clint Hill and I unloaded him out of the car. There was nothing left ... [it was] the whole back of the head as far as I am concerned. I saw it [the shot] hit and I saw his hair come out ... I had brain matter all over my windshield and left arm, that's how close we were to it ... it was the right rear part of his head"¹⁴⁴ ...

because that's the part I saw blow out. I saw hair come out, the piece blow out, then the skin went back in—an explosion in and out.”¹⁴⁵ Elaborating further, Sam said, after telling him that that's where the Parkland doctors saw the wound, “I would say that, too ... it involved half his head.” Asked to explain the 1500 gram brain at the autopsy (the upper limit of a normal, undamaged brain!), Sam seemed perplexed, saying: “There was brain matter all over the place. Mr. Connally even said he was covered with it.”

If that wasn't enough, Sam said, in regard to the *Today* show interview of November 22, 1993,¹⁴⁶ “I told them, ‘I'm going to tell you some things that haven't been in books yet’: I brought a piece of the President's skull back in my suit pocket. Now, all these books are wondering about this hole, this unbelievable missing part—I got the answer to that but nobody's called me ... I went over that automobile coming home ... I found it on the plane [C-130] in the car and I put a phone patch in to Admiral Burkley¹⁴⁷ who was a very good friend of mine—he was one hell of a man; I've got his picture hanging on my wall along with the President's and I thought just as much of him as I did them.” Returning to the skull fragment, Kinney added that it looked “... like a piece of a flowerpot, clean as a pin ... like piece of a clay pot—there wasn't blood or hair or anything on it ... I don't know what else it could have been but the back of his head ... mine was a big piece ... I told him [Burkley], ‘I may have something that is crucial to the autopsy.’ ... I gave it [the fragment] to one of his aides [Tommy Mills].” Interestingly, Sam was aware of the separate “Harper” fragment found November 23, 1963,¹⁴⁸ as was fellow agent Clint Hill.¹⁴⁹

With regard to Sam's skull fragment account, the author contacted several members of the 76th Air Transport Squadron—who have never been contacted before by any private researchers, the Warren Commission, or the HSCA—for confirmation. The author wrote to Vincent J. Gullo, Jr.: “Sam told me that (a) he found the piece of the right rear of President Kennedy's skull on the C-130 while en route back to AAFB after the tragedy, and (b) that one of you guys got sick from seeing the rear of the limousine with all the blood and gore ... do you remember any of these specific events?” Gullo responded in this fashion in his August 27, 1998 reply: “... *I am totally familiar with the facts as you outline them* ... [T]his was a bench mark in my life and I have shared my thoughts on this incident with few individuals—mostly federal agents. I am sure you can understand my reluctance to entertain your questions given the sensitivity of the matter even to this date.”¹⁵⁰ [Emphasis added.] Gullo did not respond to a follow-up letter. The author could not locate the pilot, Capt. Roland H. Thomason, nor David J. Conn, Stephen A. Bening, or Frank E. Roberson. The remaining two, that the author *did* locate—Hershal R. Woosley and Wayne E. Schake—would not respond to the author's letters.

“I believe there was a conspiracy,” Kinney told me: “This thing was so well set up—whoever did the shooting—he picked that area where he knew there wouldn't be any men by the car [!].” Sam told the author that PRS agent Glenn A. Bennett was allegedly making his “first trip”: “I knew him very well. In fact, I knew him before he was even an agent. He's from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as a matter of fact ... nice guy.” Kinney also added that Assistant Press Secretary Mac Kilduff was (like ASAIC Roy H. Kellerman) a third-stringer, and

he was making his “first trip—first official debut” without Assistant Press Secretary (number two man) Andy Hatcher or Press Secretary Pierre Salinger. In regard to SAIC Gerald A. “Jerry” Behn’s absence from the Texas trip, leaving ASAIC (number two) Floyd M. Boring to be the agent in charge of the Texas trip, Sam said: “Jerry Behn doesn’t know anything because he wasn’t there.” Sam added: “I have never been back there. I have been to Dallas, but I’ve never been back to Dealey Square [sic].” This would have been for either the 1985 or the 1991 Association of Former Agents of the U.S. Secret Service (AFAUSSS) conference. “I’ve had no less than twenty offers to write a book but I won’t do it,” Sam told the author. “This is the old school of Floyd Boring, Jerry Behn, and Clint Hill—all us old-timers won’t sell out for any kind of money.” Indeed, even the four agents who spoke to Seymour Hersh did not receive a penny for their troubles.

Interestingly, Kinney told the author that Emory Roberts became the “... appointment secretary to President Johnson¹⁵¹ ... I was the off-records Secretary ... Emory and I worked together during the Johnson Administration at the White House ... I was in the protection end all of my career, then all of a sudden I’m appointment secretary.¹⁵² I don’t need that. I don’t want it. I couldn’t take it. I don’t like desk jobs.” (Coincidentally, a Mrs. Juanita Roberts was LBJ’s Chief Private Secretary.)¹⁵³ In regard to Roberts’ fellow ATSAIC/shift leader Stu Stout, Kinney told the author that he died of a heart attack not long after the assassination, a statement confirmed by fellow agents Boring and Scouten, yet confounded by agent Lawson (see below). Kinney added: “He [Stout] was Mamie Eisenhower’s first man.”

Sam would not give the author a straight answer as to why the motorcade could not have traveled straight down Main Street to Industrial Boulevard. Note: The author also attempted to get Kinney to go on the record in writing, but was too late: his widow Hazel informed the author that Sam passed away July 21, 1997 while they were traveling through Iowa.¹⁵⁴

Agent Kinney performed his function as well as could be expected on November 22, 1963. Sam was truly one of the “good guys”. Former agent Walt Coughlin wrote the author: “Sam Kinney was a hoot—one of my favorites.”¹⁵⁵

Conclusion: Agent Kinney performed his function as well as could be expected on November 22, 1963. Sam was truly one of the “good guys”.

Agent **Glen A. Bennett** (PRS, rode in Secret Service follow-up car [*see Chapter 2 regarding threats*]): From the HSCA’s January 30, 1978 interview summary we learn the following details about Bennett’s background in the Secret Service: “Glen Bennett stated that he joined the Secret Service on October 5, 1959. He trained at the Treasury School and Secret Service school. The training period was seven weeks. About two of the weeks were devoted to Presidential Protection; other training included counterfeiting and forgery. The protection segment would have been interspersed with the other training. Training included History of Assassinations; manuals as reading materials. They got more or less ‘on the job training’, working in and around the White House. Bennett’s first assignment was Cleveland, Ohio, where his SAIC was Michael Burger. His second as-

signment was Washington, D.C. in the Protective Research Section. Robert Bouck was the Chief of PRS. Bennett stated that there were five agents in PRS at that time. He stated that they would receive intelligence and had liaison with FBI, CIA, ATF, the military, U.S. Customs and local police departments. They would have an index file on 3 × 5 cards broken down into geographical areas. East—1, Mid-West—2, S.W.—3, and West—4. The advance men would be the moving force on all trips. They would handle original pre-trip survey and reports, both pre-trip and post-trip ... He said that the FBI worked with PRS on the investigation into the assassination.”¹⁵⁶

From Bennett's alleged contemporaneous handwritten notes from November 22, 1963: "... I heard a noise that immediately reminded me of a firecracker. Immediately, upon hearing the supposed firecracker, [I] looked at the Boss's [JFK's] car. At this exact time I saw a shot that hit the Boss about *four inches down from the right shoulder*; a second shoot [sic] followed immediately and hit the right rear high [sic] of the Boss's head.”¹⁵⁷ [Emphasis added.] From Bennett's typed report dated November 23, 1963: "... I heard what sounded like a firecracker. I immediately looked from the right/crowd/physical area and looked towards the President who was seated in the right rear seat of his limousine [sic] open convertible. *At the moment I looked at the back of the President* I heard another firecracker noise and saw the shot hit the President *about four inches down from the right shoulder*. A second shot followed immediately and hit the right rear high [sic] of the President's head ... We peered towards the rear and particularly the right side of the area.”¹⁵⁸ [Emphasis added.] Finally, from Bennett's HSCA interview: "He remembers hearing what he hoped was a firecracker. He then heard another noise and saw what appeared to be *a nick in the back of President Kennedy's coat below the shoulder*. *He thought the President had been hit in the back*. Glen Bennett stated that he believes the first and second shots were close together and then a longer pause before the third shot ... Bennett stated that he does not recall any agents reacting before the third shot ... Bennett stated that he believes he saw the nick in the President's coat after the second shot.”¹⁵⁹ [Emphasis added.]

So, what's the problem? Although the autopsy photo, the death certificate signed by Dr. Burkley, FBI Exhibit 60 (JFK's shirt), FBI Exhibit 59 (JFK's jacket), the autopsy face sheet (which was "verified" by Dr. Burkley), the Sibert and O'Neil Report, Secret Service Agent Clint Hill's report, the testimony of Secret Service agent Hill, the testimony of Secret Service agent Bill Greer, the testimony of Secret Service agent Roy Kellerman, the January 27, 1964 Warren Commission executive session transcript and Nurse Diana Bowron's recent statements corroborate Bennett's alleged eyewitness observation within an inch or two, Phil Willis's photo #5, the Hugh Betzner photo, the Zapruder film, and the James Altgens photo depict Bennett looking away from Kennedy!¹⁶⁰

During the HSCA era, Bennett worked in the Intelligence Division.¹⁶¹

Conclusion: It appears that the agent was a willing tool of the Secret Service's test on November 22, 1963.

Howard K. Norton (heretofore unknown PRS employee; worked on JFK's Florida trip, as well as on his proposed trip to Austin, Texas scheduled for November 23, 1963; photographed limousine on November 23, 1963 along with James K. "Jack" Fox [see *Chapter 2 regarding threats*]):¹⁶² 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 [see Chapters 4 and 9]. 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."¹⁶³ Like fellow PRS agent Glen Bennett, this author strongly believes Norton was acting in a covert fashion monitoring potential mortal threats to JFK's life in Florida *and* in Texas. 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)¹⁶⁴—his name is unknown until we get to the night of November 22, 1963 when, along with fellow PRS employee James Fox, he photographs the bloody limousine.¹⁶⁵ 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.¹⁶⁶

Conclusion: Norton appears to have been an integral part of covert monitoring of threats on the Florida and Texas trips.

Agent **Paul E. Landis, Jr.** (First Lady Detail, rode in Secret Service follow-up car): From an obscure newspaper article in the *Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch*, November 20, 1988: "Vice president of Knutsen Machine Products in Cleveland, Paul Landis graduated from Worthington High School in 1953 and is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio. Crediting [Agent] Bob Foster as 'the influence in my joining the Secret Service', Landis remained five years. Assigned to the protection of Jacqueline Kennedy, he was a part of that historic motorcade in Dallas. During this interview - only his second interview in 25 years - he says, 'I've never gone back and read anything on [the assassination] ... I'm about ready ... Up until now, I didn't want to rehash it. It was a very painful time for me.' Landis remained with Mrs. Kennedy for six months after Dallas, helping her move out of the White House, as well as protecting her from the ever-growing, insensitive crowds. Among his photographs is a picture of the former first lady bearing the inscription: 'To Paul Landis, with deep appreciation for all your help to us for three years. Jacqueline Kennedy.'"

This author contacted Landis, through an intermediary, on April 6, 1999 via email. Landis took down the author's email address from the intermediary but

did not make contact as he said he would. The former agent has likewise ignored two letters from the author, as well as two phone messages.

Regarding the drinking incident (see Chapter 8), Landis was a participant and he did not depart “The Cellar” until 5:00 a.m. on the morning of November 22, 1963!¹⁶⁷

Although Landis was, like Agent Hill, assigned to protect Mrs. Kennedy, he was strangely out of position back on the opposite running board, making him unavailable to assist her in the event of a crisis. Interestingly, Landis reported that the fatal head shot to JFK came from the front: “My reaction at this time was that the shot came from somewhere towards the front.”¹⁶⁸ Landis later wrote: “I still was not certain from which direction the second shot came, but my reaction at this time was that the shot came from somewhere towards the front, right-hand side of the road.”¹⁶⁹ The HSCA, who interviewed Landis on February 17, 1979, noted: “Landis confirmed the accuracy of his statement to the Warren Commission [sic: report submitted].”¹⁷⁰

Finally, Landis’s Secret Service report confirms the very close proximity of the follow-up car to JFK’s limousine (this required close distance would evaporate once the shooting commenced).¹⁷¹ As former Eisenhower Press Secretary Jim Haggerty related on ABC on November 22, 1963, the Secret Service was to maintain about a six-foot distance between their car and the President’s car, *regardless* of the speed of the cars.

Landis’s White House Communications Agency (WHCA) code name was “Debut”.¹⁷²

Conclusion: Landis was unaware of the security test and did his job to the best of his ability (albeit out of position).

Agent **George W. Hickey, Jr.** (White House Garage, rode in Secret Service follow-up car): Despite having a loaded AR-15 rifle within inches of himself, Hickey was late in retrieving the weapon and, thus, did not return fire onto the assassin(s).¹⁷³

Agent Kinney revealed that Hickey “loved JFK probably more than he should have”, and, quite surprisingly, the agent revealed that it was *Hickey* who found the coconut in the famous PT-109 incident during WWII and gave it to Lieutenant John F. Kennedy!¹⁷⁴ Kinney later clarified for the author: “He’s the one who turned [the coconut] over to Kennedy. Nobody knew that ’til George Hickey was probably an agent for two or three years.”¹⁷⁵ Interestingly, *The Baltimore Sun* reported on August 23, 1996: “Mr. Kennedy cleared the way for Mr. Hickey to be assigned to the president’s personal protection detail in July 1963, four months before the murder in Dallas. Mr. Hickey was 40 at the time.”

The author’s article in the May 1992 *Third Decade* magazine totally undermines the thesis in the 1992 book *Mortal Error*, in which it is alleged that Agent Hickey *accidentally* shot JFK—the author discovered contradictions in the book through correspondence with Howard Donahue conducted before its publica-

tion. The author also uncovered contradictions inherent in the thesis itself, and the Charles Bronson film¹⁷⁶ totally refutes the book's main thrust. [Note: The author decided not to contact Hickey due to (a) the fallout he received from the book; and (b) his severely declining health at the time. Hickey has since passed away.] Agent Kinney told the author: "I tried to squalch that book. George Hickey was a very good friend of mine ... it's ruined George Hickey. I talked to the publisher of the book for 45 minutes on the phone ... the last time I talked to George Hickey he called me and said, 'Thanks a lot, Sam, for helping me.'"¹⁷⁷ Hickey did try to sue over the allegations in Menninger and Donahue's book, but the judge in Maryland found that he had waited too long to file suit. However, Hickey did win an out-of-court settlement.¹⁷⁸ For his part, Boring told the ARRB on September 18, 1996: "... he firmly stated his opinion that this theory was ridiculous and incorrect. He said he knows it was incorrect because he personally inspected 'the weapons' (plural) during the automobile inspection to see whether they had been fired—by the weapons, he explained he meant both a shotgun, and the AR-15 in the Queen Mary. He said the inspection consisted of both opening each weapon and inspecting its barrel (for powder debris), as well as checking the shells in the magazine to see whether any were missing. Based on his examination of the AR-15 rifle, he stated that he concluded that it was not fired that day, since its barrel was clean, and the clip was not missing any shells." However, Boring called the ARRB's Doug Horne the next day (September 19, 1996) and "stated that he only checked one weapon—the AR-15—but reiterated that it had not been fired."

Interestingly, Hickey noted in his Secret Service report regarding the shooting: "It appeared to come from the right and rear and seemed to me to be at *ground level* ... possibly 4 or 5 seconds elapsed from the time of the first shot and the last shot [emphasis added]."¹⁷⁹

Although Hickey was not interviewed by the Warren Commission, he was interviewed by the HSCA (summary dated June 15, 1978):

George Hickey is retired from the Secret Service since November 1971. In 1963, Hickey transferred from the White House Police to the Secret Service. After President Kennedy's assassination, he was assigned to President Johnson up to and including the election. He was then reassigned to Vice President Humphrey's detail. In 1969, he was assigned to the Washington Field Office and remained there until he retired. He attended Treasury School and Secret Service School. Hickey stated that while in the Secret Service he was mostly involved in the driving of autos during visits [author's note: Hickey *did* ride on the follow-up car on the Florida and Texas trips in November 1963 as a protective agent, not as a driver]. George Hickey stated that he accompanied the President's limousine and the follow-up car on the plane to Love field. At Love Field the cars were turned over to Agent Kinney. Hickey was assigned to ride in the follow-up car and placed in charge of the AR15 automatic weapon. Hickey stated that he placed the AR15 on the rear floor of the follow up car.

As the motorcade proceeded, Hickey stated that it was a normal, boisterous, friendly crowd. After they made the turn from Houston onto Elm, the Presidential limousine was about 20 feet ahead when Hickey heard what he thought

sounded like a firecracker coming from his right rear. He stood up and looked towards the right rear but observed nothing. He heard excited talking in the front of his car and turned to the front. He observed that the President had slumped forward and to the left. Mrs. Kennedy appeared to be aiding him and he was coming to an upright position. Hickey then heard two reports sounding like gunfire and saw what he described as a cloud of dust appear from the *right rear* of President Kennedy's head. Hickey stated that he would guess at about 3 to 4 seconds between the first and second shots. *He stated that the second and third shots were almost simultaneous.*

The motorcade was traveling about 10 miles per hour. Hickey stated he reached down and brought up the AR15. Hickey stated that by the time he cocked the AR15 and turned to the right rear, the follow-up car was starting under the underpass. He stated that he saw Clint Hill holding onto the back of the Presidential limousine. Hill looked back at the follow-up car and shook his head as if the President was seriously injured. They traveled at a high rate of speed to Parkland Hospital.

On arrival at Parkland, Hickey placed the gun back onto the floor of the follow-up car. He stated that it was the duty of the driver of the follow-up car to check the AR15 out to see if it was loaded or unloaded. He went inside the hospital and the President was in the Emergency Room. Hickey went back outside and brought Kenny O'Donnell in to Mrs. Kennedy.

Hickey stated that he drove the follow-up car back to Love Field by himself. He helped place the cars on the C130 aircraft and tied them down. He flew back to Washington on the C130. On arrival they were met by an escort and taken to the White House garage where the vehicles were placed under the security of the White House Police. *Floyd Boring came to the garage and told Hickey that statements were being taken at the White House. He proceeded to that location and gave his statement.*

I asked Hickey about the theory of Howard Donohue, who has stated that Hickey shot President Kennedy with the AR15. Hickey stated that Donohue has caused him many problems and harassment. He wanted to sue Donohue but was told by private counsel and Secret Service counsel that according to Maryland law he didn't have much of a case. He stated that with the Secret Service agents and two presidential aides in the follow-up car, if he had fired the AR15 someone would definitely have heard it—unless you want to believe they were all in on a conspiracy.

[Emphasis added.]

Agriculture Department/DNC advance man Jack Puterbaugh told researcher Larry Haapanen: "He said that while at Love Field, he saw one of the two Secret Service agents that had flown into Dallas with the presidential limousine [either Kinney or Hickey] beating on the trunk of a car with an ax, trying to get at something in the trunk."¹⁸⁰

Conclusion: Agent Hickey was probably an unwitting pawn in the agency's test that day in Dallas.

Agent **Rufus W. Youngblood** (ASAIC of the V.P. Detail; rode in LBJ's car): Youngblood gave background information on his life and career to the Warren Commission as follows:¹⁸¹

I graduated from Georgia Institute of Technology, Bachelor of Industrial Engineering [in] 1949 ... I worked for Bradshaws, Inc., which was a refrigeration and air-conditioning concern in Waycross, Georgia, and then worked for Alvin Lindstrom, who is a consulting mechanical engineer in Atlanta, Georgia ... began in the Secret Service as a special agent, criminal investigator, and started off at the Atlanta field office, and stayed there about a year and a half. This time was spent in investigation of Government forged check cases, bond cases, counterfeiting, and similar investigations ... I came to the Washington, D.C. area, and worked in the Washington field office, a continuation of the same type of work I had done in Atlanta, plus the beginning of the protective work, working on temporary assignment at the White House detail. And then in 1953 I was assigned to the White House detail and worked there during the Eisenhower Administration about six years, and returned to the Atlanta field office for three more years in that area, during which time President Eisenhower would come to Augusta and Albany, and on two occasions on foreign trips I was called in. And after three years in that field office, I returned to Washington again, assigned to the White House detail [during] the last part of the Eisenhower Administration and the beginning of the Kennedy Administration.

And in March of 1961, I was assigned to the Vice-Presidential detail. This, at that time, was part of the Washington field office. And I have been on an assignment with the Vice-Presidential detail since March 1961, except for a one-month period when I returned to the White House detail. And then back to the Vice-Presidential detail. But during this time, the Vice-Presidential detail changed from a field office assignment to a small independent office, and then, later, in October of 1962, when legislation was passed, changing the laws relative to protection of the Vice President, it became a larger detail. And I have been on the Vice-Presidential detail in the occurrence at Dallas, and returned to the White House detail when Mr. Johnson became the President. And during this period of time, I have been a special agent, assistant special agent in charge, and was scheduled to be the special agent in charge of the Vice-Presidential detail. But due to what occurred in Dallas, I went to the White House as an assistant special agent in charge.

During the course of interviews with the agent on October 22, 1992 and February 8, 1994, the author was able to uncover the following information: Youngblood confirmed that "there was not a standing order" from JFK to restrict agents from the back of the limousine—the agents had "assigned posts and positions" on the back of the President's car. Also, the agent confirmed that the head of the White House Detail, Gerald Behn, "got some flack 'cause he didn't make the trip to Dallas".¹⁸² In fact, according to Jerry terHorst in *The Flying Whitehouse*, Mr. Behn, who "traditionally accompanied" JFK, "would never forgive himself or be forgiven by others" for missing the Texas trip.¹⁸³ Further-

more, William Manchester (who interviewed both Behn and Youngblood) wrote: "In deciding that he would not make each Presidential trip Behn had not only broken precedent; he had left his agents without a leader ... Had he been present, the bodyguards ... would never have dreamed of acting without his consent."¹⁸⁴

Interestingly, Youngblood revealed that he was in the very same Air Force unit—the 91st Bomb Group—as Howard Donahue, the man responsible for the book *Mortal Error* (see above).

In fact, Donahue sent the author a blow-up of a color photo of himself talking to Rufus Youngblood at an Air Force WWII conference in Memphis, Tennessee back in 1996. In the enclosed letter, he wrote the following: "[To Youngblood] ... I am puzzled about the number of spectators who claimed to have smelled gunpowder——" Youngblood: "So did I after the last shot." Youngblood now joins the list of those witnesses who smelled street-level gunpowder in Dealey Plaza. Interestingly, while others slept or were out drinking in Fort Worth, Youngblood left in the early morning hours of November 22, 1963 to visit a supposed childhood acquaintance,¹⁸⁵ a detail not mentioned since he noted it in his report—not in his LBJ Library oral history, his book, or anywhere else.

Youngblood had this to say during his LBJ Library oral history:¹⁸⁶ Interviewer: "Do you have anything you want to add to that, or any qualifications you want to add to the previous record of events in Dallas?" Youngblood: "No, I think that it has been very well covered in the Warren Commission and other reports. I have nothing additional." The agent later wrote in his book: "Do I believe Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, killed the President, and do I believe Jack Ruby, acting alone, killed Oswald. My answer is yes. The Warren Commission, in my opinion, accomplished its mission, and dug deep until it reached the truth."¹⁸⁷ He also told the author: "Him [Jim Garrison] and Marguerite Oswald [mother of Lee]: two nuts!"¹⁸⁸

Youngblood's White House Communications Agency (WHCA) code name was "Dagger".¹⁸⁹

Conclusion: Although "official" history tells us that Youngblood received a medal for his fast actions on November 22, 1963,¹⁹⁰ covering LBJ (who wasn't even the target) after the *first* shot sounded, Senator Ralph Yarborough, who sat in the same car as the agent and LBJ, said that this never happened (and Dave Powers agreed with him)¹⁹¹—Youngblood *never* left the front seat, and, in addition, the agent and the Vice President were listening to a walkie-talkie with the volume set too low for the Senator to hear what they were picking up! In light of the agent's benefits after November 22, 1963 (a medal, SAIC of the WHD, then Assistant Director), this author believes that Agent Youngblood was well aware of the security test that made his immediate protectee (LBJ) the President. Author William Manchester wrote: "... Presidents pick their chief bodyguards"¹⁹²

President Johnson spoke during Youngblood's award ceremony: "There is no more heroic act than offering your life to save another, and in that awful moment of confusion when all about him were *losing their heads*, Rufus Young-

blood never lost his [emphasis added].”¹⁹³ President John F. Kennedy, in a sense, lost his head that day in Dallas.¹⁹⁴ It is clear that, early on, LBJ was fond of only one Secret Service agent: Youngblood. Johnson said: “Youngblood was tougher and better and more intelligent than them all [the other agents]. Not all the Secret Service are sharp. It’s always worried me that they weren’t. They are the most dedicated and among the most courageous men we’ve got. But they don’t always match that in brains. But the problem is, you pay a man four or five hundred dollars a month and you get just what you pay for.”¹⁹⁵ In fact, LBJ called Youngblood “the dearest of all”.¹⁹⁶

Agent **Thomas L. “Lem” Johns** (ATSAIC of V.P. Detail, rode in V.P. follow-up car): Regarding the shooting, Johns stated: “The first two [shots] sounded like they were on the side of me towards the grassy knoll.”¹⁹⁷ From a February 1999 *Newsday* article written by Michael Dorman: “ ‘If you get the tie [JFK was wearing] nicked by a different bullet, you’ve got a second gunman—simple as that,’ Johns said. ‘I’ve never thought that was out of the question.’ ”

Johns told the HSCA: “... I was running towards LBJ’s car, which was now some distance away from us and picking up speed. I was left on the street with no way to get back in our car. A passing car with White House photographers in it came by and one of them recognized me. He said ‘Hey, there’s Lem Johns. Let’s give him a ride.’ They stopped and picked me up and we drove to the Trade Mart”¹⁹⁸ This further debunks the notion that Johns was the agent of unknown repute in Dealey Plaza.

Like Youngblood, Johns was originally a JFK agent until his reassignment to Vice President LBJ.¹⁹⁹ Johns retired from the Secret Service in May 1975 after 21 years of service to work as a Special Assistant to HEW Secretary (and former LBJ aide) Joseph Califano. Interestingly, at the time of his HSCA interview, Johns had a son who was presently on the White House Detail of the Secret Service protecting then-President Jimmy Carter. Johns told the author on February 11, 2004 that his son served both President Carter and President Reagan during his time on the WHD. In fact, Johns’ son was in charge of the Amy Carter Detail. The agent also added that Bob Camp, an agent sent to Dallas (from the Columbia, South Carolina office) immediately after the assassination, has a son on the WHD presently (2006) protecting President George W. Bush.

Johns’ White House Communications Agency (WHCA) code name was “Dandy”.²⁰⁰

Conclusion: Johns did the best he could do, under the circumstances.

Agent **Jerry D. Kivett** (V.P. Detail, rode in the V.P. follow-up car): Jerry Kivett, an LBJ Detail agent who rode in Johnson’s Secret Service follow-up car on November 22, 1963, stated for the record that “[JFK] was beloved by those agents on the detail and I never heard anyone say that he was difficult to protect.”²⁰¹ History’s “official” verdict about JFK and the Secret Service continues to disintegrate. During the Ford era, Kivett was SAIC of the Atlanta, Georgia office.²⁰²

Kivett's White House Communications Agency (WHCA) code name was "Daylight".²⁰³

Most of the agents who served LBJ were extremely close. In fact, Kivett told the author that Rufus Youngblood was "the godfather of one of my children".²⁰⁴ Regarding the necessary merging of the former JFK WHD with the old V.P. LBJ detail into one unit after the assassination, Kivett wrote: "I was not aware of any tension between the two details. We merged together well, even though it took a while for us to get used to the White House, just like it did for them to get used to the LBJ Ranch. We were just doing our job."²⁰⁵ Kivett later wrote the author: "I have already read some of your thoughts and conclusions on the internet and did not necessarily agree with them, but then everyone is entitled to their own opinion."²⁰⁶

Conclusion: Kivett did the best he could do, under the circumstances.

Agent **Warren "Woody" Taylor** (V.P. Detail, rode in V.P. follow-up car; assigned to Lady Bird Johnson): From Taylor's Secret Service report, we learn the following detail: "[After the first shot:] Out of the corner of my eye and off slightly to the rear of our car, I noticed what now seems to me might have been a short piece of streamer flying in the air close to the ground ... I thought that it was a firecracker going off."²⁰⁷ This was a *missed* shot, at least one more than the "official" count of three required for Oswald to have been the sole assassin. This important information was overlooked until the author noted it back in 1991,²⁰⁸ yet another example of important information overlooked by the official investigations.

During the HSCA era, Taylor went from being the ASAIC of the WHD (PPD) to being a member of the USSS Dignitary Protective Division (Richard Johnsen was also a member of this division at this time).²⁰⁹

Conclusion: Taylor did the best he could do, under the circumstances.

Agent **David B. Grant** (Assistant advance agent, stationed at the Trade Mart): When the author asked about Agent Grant's role into the planning of JFK's fateful motorcade route, Lawson attempted to defend his comrade, stating that Grant "wasn't there at the beginning" of the motorcade planning.²¹⁰ This statement does nothing to elaborate on either:

- a. Grant's arrival in Texas on November 18, 1963—the time period the route was changed;²¹¹ or
- b. Lawson's Final Survey Report of November 19, 1963, which includes this statement: "This survey was conducted by SA Winston Lawson and SAIC Forrest Sorrels, and assisted by SA David Grant, from November 13 through November 22, 1963"²¹²

In fact, on the 1995 documentary *Inside the Secret Service*, Win Lawson stated that he had arrived first in Dallas, as the second advance person (unnamed: David Grant) arrived just a few days before the event. It appears that Lawson

has a habit of attempting to minimize the importance of his partner's role in the planning of the event(s). He then went on to say that he was the first and only advance agent to ever lose a President ... what about his partner, David Grant? Like Agent Boring's role, Agent Grant was unknown to the public—and certainly almost the entire research community—until the author discovered and pointed this out in 1991. In addition, Lawson wrote the author: "In fact, David Grant[,] who [arrived] quite late in the advance, came to help me—he had been on advance in [Florida] I believe. *He was senior to me and would have been in charge in Dallas if he had gone there before me.*"²¹³ [Emphasis added.] Perhaps Grant was more "in charge" than even Lawson knew.

Grant's HSCA staff interview is quite interesting and deserves lengthy mention:²¹⁴

Mr. Grant stated that he served as the Secret Service White House Detail (SS-WHD) Advance agent for President Kennedy's trip to Chicago that was scheduled for November 2, 1963. According to Mr. Grant, President Kennedy canceled his appearance, but had requested that the trip continue, despite his absence, "as though he were still there". Consequently, 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. Mr. Grant's advance work occupied him for approximately one week prior to the November 2nd trip. It required his continual presence in Chicago from the beginning of that week until the completion of the trip. Mr. Grant also participated with certain JFK military and air force aides in a pre-advance trip in the Chicago area. The pre-advance work was performed during a two-week period preceding the Secret Service's normal one-week advance activities. Mr. Grant stated that his advance work required him to be present a "great deal" at the local Chicago SS office Headquarters. He indicated that while performing his advance duties out of headquarters, he developed several contacts or associations within the SS and with the Chicago P.D. These contacts included making the acquaintance of Chicago-office Special Agents Abraham Bolden, Conrad Cross, and Edward Tucker; they also included working in close professional association with the Chicago office Acting Special Agent in Charge (ASAIC) Maurice Martineau.

Mr. Grant's description of certain procedures that normally come into use when a local office (1) detects an active threat and (2) reports to Washington about the threat was as follows. First, if there is a threat detected, the WHD Advance Agent is the first person informed because of his position as the agent in charge of all protective operations in the field. Second, the threat is investigated in order to determine its validity. Third, Mr. Grant as WHD advance agent would have reported to the agent in charge of the White House Detail, who then was a Mr. Gerald Behn. This report would have been submitted to WHD-HQ at approximately the same time when the chief agent in the Chicago Office, Mr. Martineau, would have reported the same information to the Chief of the Protective Research Service (PRS) of the SS in Washington, D.C. However, Mr. Grant stated that none of these procedures was ever put into effect because of the fact that *no information about a threat ever came to his attention from any source including PRS, the local Chicago SS office, and the Chicago P.D. Specifically, Mr. Grant was "not familiar" with the name of Thomas Arthur Vallee, a person who was suspected by the Chi-*

cago SS to be involved in a threat and who was detained by the SS. Nor could Mr. Grant “recall” in the context of this trip other instances of the investigation of a threat or the detention of a person. [Note the quotation marks: the HSCA staffer knows that Grant is lying!]

Mr. Grant went to New York after Chicago, then left for Palm Beach on November 14, 1963, then went to Dallas for the three-day period prior to November 22, 1963.

In Dallas, he assisted Special Agent Winston Lawson, who was the SS-WHD Advance Agent for the Dallas trip.

Throughout his stay in Florida during November 14–19, 1963, *Mr. Grant never heard of threats developing in the Miami area against President Kennedy from any Cuban or any right-wing source. In particular, Mr. Grant could not recall the name of Joseph Milteer.* He doubted that he had ever been in touch during this period either with the WHD-SS Advance Agent into Miami for the November 18, 1963 JFK visit or with the local Miami office SS agent who received information about threats from officers of the Miami P.D. Mr. Grant could not remember having talked with either agent.

Prior to his appearance for this interview, Mr. Grant acknowledged having discussed this interview with Mr. Lawson and with Secret Service counsel. Their discussions concerned the kinds of questions that HSCA personnel had been asking and might ask, especially in re: the assignments and activities of SS personnel. Mr. Grant said one SS counsel had said that he didn't know what *subjects the Committee's questions had covered.* Mr. Grant's final remark was that he believed that the primary function of the SS was and is to protect the President.”

[Emphasis added.]

Either Grant was extremely ignorant (highly doubtful), kept out of the loop (also highly doubtful, due to his helping advance the Chicago, Florida, and Texas trips in November), or he lied to the HSCA: SAIC Bouck's statements to the author, as well as the documentary record, prove the existence of these threats and the fact that the agency knew about them *before and during* the dates of the trips (November 2, 1963; November 18, 1963; and even November 22, 1963). And, as noted earlier, ASAIC Boring was involved in the planning of all of these trips; *he* had to know, as well.

Former Dallas detective Bobby Brown came forward in February 1992 to reveal that it was he who made the silhouette matte photo of Oswald (found in the declassified records) on November 23, 1963, the day after the murder of JFK.²¹⁵ This photo is identical to the backyard photos of Oswald, except that Oswald is *missing* in the photos! What is most disturbing is that Brown did this *under orders from the Secret Service*: he was told to make these photos “for comparison purposes”. The original photos have been demonstrated to be nothing more than very clever fakes; even Oswald himself said they were not genuine during

his interrogation by the Dallas police.²¹⁶ The Secret Service was directly involved in the manipulation of this evidence ... and Agent Grant is the prime suspect.

Unlike the other Washington agents, Grant *and* his partner Lawson *remained* in Dallas to help “the Dallas police and Captain Fritz with the homicide investigation”. However, Grant remained with the local authorities who detained Oswald until “approximately 12 midnight” on November 23, 1963, when he departed Dallas aboard American Airlines Flight 628 “*carrying a blow-up of the photograph showing Oswald holding a rifle* similar to the one used in the assassination which I was to deliver to our agents at the White House [emphasis added]”; Grant arrived in Washington, D.C. at “approximately 7 a.m. the morning of November 24, 1963 and delivered the photograph to the White House”.²¹⁷ That same morning, Lee Harvey Oswald was shot by Jack Ruby.

Conclusion: Grant was *principally* involved in the security test on November 22, 1963. However, he was just a soldier following orders from superiors. Interestingly, Grant went on to become an advance man during the Nixon years²¹⁸ (along with Agent Bill Livingood)²¹⁹ and, like Boring, lived in near-total anonymity from the events of Dallas until the author advertised his role. During the Ford era, Grant was ASAIC of the V.P. Detail. Grant was still with the V.P. Detail during the Carter era.²²⁰ Grant is fellow former agent Clint Hill’s brother-in-law. Both gentlemen also live in Northern Virginia. Finally, when asked why Lawson (and Hill) harbored much guilt about Dallas, while nothing is ever mentioned about the feelings of Lawson’s partner, David Grant, former agent Walt Coughlin wrote: “People just react differently to a tragedy. I have never heard Grant mention it.”²²¹

Agent **Andrew E. “Andy” Berger** (stationed at the Trade Mart): Berger reported meeting the following persons at Parkland Hospital shortly after the assassination:

- a. FBI agent Vincent Drain (sent via Hoover), the same agent who would go on to accompany Agent Lawson during the transfer of critical assassination evidence later on that weekend.
- b. “A doctor friend of [Drain’s]”: this unidentified doctor came *with* the FBI agent.
- c. An “unidentified CIA agent” who had *credentials*. (Like the FBI man sent by Hoover, how could the CIA agent get to the Dallas hospital so soon after the murder?)²²²
- d. An “unidentified FBI agent” who did *not* have credentials.²²³

Like Agent Taylor’s report, Berger’s report was totally ignored by just about everyone.²²⁴

Berger would go on to drive the hearse, containing JFK’s body, back to Love Field after the assassination. During the HSCA era, Berger was the SAIC of the Baltimore, Maryland field office.²²⁵

In the Fall of 2003, newspaper articles reported at length about Berger's connection to the events of November 22, 1963, his wife Dolly, and the fact that Berger was suffering from Alzheimer's disease.²²⁶ While quite lengthy, a few pertinent excerpts deserve attention:

Berger, of Charlotte, was a member of the Secret Service for 20 years, trusted by presidents and their families. But today, he is rapidly losing the memories of those exciting years, and of the quieter moments he shared with his wife, Dolly, and their four children. Alzheimer's is sapping the strength of the man who drove the hearse with a grieving Jacqueline Kennedy to Dallas' Love Field, who flew to Andrews Air Force Base, the man whose shoulders gently helped lift Kennedy's casket from Air Force One. Now it's the job of Andy Berger's family to take care of him ... Andy Berger had witnessed the death of one president and the inauguration of his successor. Closer than most, he had seen the widow in the bloodied pink suit who had insisted on sitting beside her husband during that hearse ride. Andy Berger didn't say a word. "He cried and cried and cried," Dolly Berger said. "My heart ached for him."

[...] Andy Berger loved Jack Kennedy. They were Catholics, making something of themselves at a time when being Catholic could be a liability ... Andy Berger resigned from the Secret Service in 1981 with an impressive resume: youngest agent, at 32, in charge of the Buffalo, New York, field office; cracking down on forgers and counterfeiters from offices in Syracuse, New York, Baltimore and Washington; personal detail for presidents Kennedy and Johnson and Vice President Agnew.

Yet, even after he moved to Charlotte that year to work as director of security for North Carolina National Bank, eventually started his own business, then retired, he carried the Secret Service with him. At parties, friends would sit close to Andy Berger and try, after a couple of drinks, to get him to reveal presidential secrets. All struck out, as the phrase "to the grave" became his trademark ... Andy Berger is there in the pictures on the family room wall: with Lyndon Johnson and his daughter, Luci, with Frank Sinatra, with Dolly and the kids all wearing the polyester prints of the 1970s. He's there in the books about Kennedy and November 22 that line the shelves: driving the hearse in *Johnny We Hardly Knew Ye*, hitting the siren to clear a way through traffic in *The Day Kennedy Was Shot*.

[...] [The interviewer asked:] Tell me about Kennedy. Was he your favorite? "Oh yes. It was the way he handled himself." The day of his assassination? "We thought, 'Why did it all happen?'"²²⁷

Conclusion: Berger did the best he could do, under the circumstances.

¹ Former agent Frank Stoner sent the author several great photos of himself and his colleagues during the FDR, Truman, and JFK days. Included was a particularly compelling picture of Kellerman walking beside FDR's limousine in Fort Worth, Texas, while fellow future ASAIC John Champion, the man Kellerman replaced, walks on the opposite side of the car. A picture of Kellerman with FDR, along with other members

- of the detail, can be found in *Looking Back and Seeing the Future: The United States Secret Service 1865–1990* by the AFAUSSS (Dallas: Taylor Publishing Company, 1991), p. 36.
- ² ASAIC John Campion became the Aide to the Assistant Chief for Security, and Kellerman replaced him as ASAIC (author's interview with Samuel Sulliman, February 11, 2004). In addition, former agent Walt Coughlin wrote the author: "I believe that to be correct—Kellerman followed Campion—but do not hold me to that!" (Email to author dated February 22, 2004.)
- ³ 2 H 62–3.
- ⁴ Manchester, pp. xxi, 61.
- ⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 163.
- ⁶ "Get me to a hospital": Sibert and O'Neil Report, November 22, 1963 (see also 2 H 92–3); "My God, I've been hit" / "My God, I am hit": 2 H 73, 93, 104; November 29, 1963 Secret Service report (CD 3 Exhibits).
- ⁷ In addition, none of the other passengers in the car claimed JFK said a word: Jackie Kennedy, 5 H 180; Governor Connally, 4 H 134; Mrs. Connally, 4 H 147 (Mrs. Connally was always adamant that JFK never uttered a sound); Greer, 2 H 121, first said he did not remember, then said (2 H 132), "No, sir; I never heard him say anything; never at any time did I ever hear him say anything." Greer also told the HSCA on February 28, 1978: "He heard nothing from the back of the car"
- ⁸ 2 H 104.
- ⁹ *Detroit Free Press*, December 27, 1963; author's interview with June Kellerman, March 2, 1992. See also *Phoenix Gazette*, January 2, 1964; *Louisville Courier-Journal*, January 3, 1964; Manchester, p. 156; HSCA Report, pp. 234–5; *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye*, p. 31.
- ¹⁰ Author's interview with Newman, February 7, 2004; Newman reiterated this to the author on February 12, 2004.
- ¹¹ Author's interview with Lilley, September 27, 1992.
- ¹² December 6, 1970 audio-taped interview of Greer by Roy Ennis.
- ¹³ Youngblood, p. 230.
- ¹⁴ During Greer's February 28, 1978 HSCA interview, the agent said that Kellerman's "function was personal protection of the President and manning the short wave radio" Kellerman chose to man the radio only.
- ¹⁵ 2 H 104. See also WR 24–25, 452–3.
- ¹⁶ 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).
- ¹⁷ Darwin Horn, *Dar's Story: Memoirs of a Secret Service Agent* (Santa Barbara, CA: Haagen Printing, 2002), p. 114.
- ¹⁸ Email to author dated February 28, 2004.
- ¹⁹ Author's interview with June Kellerman, March 2, 1992; *Vanity Fair*, December 1994, p. 88: information provided to authors.
- ²⁰ 2 H 78.
- ²¹ 2 H 74, 76, 77.
- ²² 2 H 91.
- ²³ Dr. Robert R. Shaw Press Conference (Connally's surgeon), 7:00 pm Central Standard Time, November 22, 1963, on WFAA/ABC (see also Walt Brown, *Treachery in Dallas*, p. 158: video snippet provided to author).
- ²⁴ HSCA interview of Kellerman, August 24–25, 1977. Kellerman: 2 H 80–81, 93. Greer: 2 H 124, 127–8.
- ²⁵ This was revealed in a letter to the author from noted author/researcher Harold Weisberg, March 1992.
- ²⁶ Walt Brown, *Treachery in Dallas*, p. 48.
- ²⁷ Michael R. Beschloss, *Reaching for Glory: Lyndon Johnson's Secret White House Tapes, 1964–1965* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2002), p. 703.

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- ²⁸ *The Washington Post*, October 11, 1973; Manchester, p. 165.
- ²⁹ Author's interview with Howard Donahue, September 23, 1992.
- ³⁰ *The Washington Post*, October 11, 1973; David Clark, Archivist, Harry S. Truman Library and Museum: Reathel M. Odum Papers, Box 10. Odum was Secretary to Mrs. Truman: 1945–53.
- ³¹ *The Washington Post*, October 11, 1973. A picture of Roberts protecting Nixon in Caracas can be found in Gregory Matusky and John P. Hayes, *Know Your Government: The U.S. Secret Service*, p. 36.
- ³² Email to author dated February 27, 2004.
- ³³ Letter to author dated March 25, 2004.
- ³⁴ From the videotape presentations *Kennedy's Ireland* and *JFK: A Celebration of his Life and Times* (the vehicle had the D.C. license plate number GG-678).
- ³⁵ Author's interviews with Sam Kinney during October 1992 and March–April 1994.
- ³⁶ Author's interview with Art Godfrey (who guarded JFK at the Hotel Texas in Fort Worth on the evening of November 21, 1963, and was waiting for the President in Austin when the assassination occurred; for his part, Agent Stout also protected President Truman during the assassination attempt at Blair House in 1950—along with Floyd Boring). Their designation was ATSAIC: Assistant to the Special Agent in Charge, a position right below the ASACs.
- ³⁷ Author's interviews with Kinney (April 15, 1994) and Agent Don Lawton (November 15, 1995). See also Lamar Waldron, *Ultimate Sacrifice* (New York: Carroll & Graf, 2005), p. 691.
- ³⁸ Peter Dale Scott, *Deep Politics and the Death of JFK*. See also Gaeton Fonzi, *The Last Investigation* (New York: Thunder's Mouth, 1993); author's interviews with Robert Bouck, September 27, 1992; author's interviews with Sam Kinney. HSCA document 180-10074-10394, an interview with agent Robert J. Jamison, states: "The threat of November 18, 1963 was posed by a mobile, unidentified rifleman with a high-powered rifle fitted with a scope." In addition, HSCA document 180-10083-10419, an interview with Lubert F. deFreese, states: "A threat did surface in connection with the Miami trip."
- ³⁹ Author's interviews with: Jerry Behn (three on September 27, 1992); Robert Bouck (September 27, 1992); and Bob Lilley (three interviews).
- ⁴⁰ 18 H 738. Agent John Ready may have also been mentally occupied: according to the Secret Service shift reports released by the ARRB in the late 1990s, an "emergency leave" took Ready out of the White House detail from *November 15–19, 1963*, missing the entire Florida trip (as verified by USSS RIF#1541-0001-10081), although Ready claimed during his March 1, 1978 HSCA interview that he arrived in Miami on *November 18, 1963* for the Florida trip with JFK, then went home upon being advised of a death in his family. Although he did go back on duty November 21, in time for the Texas trip, he did not ride in the follow-up car in San Antonio, Houston, or Fort Worth on November 21, 1963.
- ⁴¹ 18 H 665-702. Agents Hill, Ready, Landis, and Bennett were the guilty parties on Roberts' shift.
- ⁴² 18 H 679.
- ⁴³ 18 H 665.
- ⁴⁴ WFAA-TV (ABC's Dallas affiliate) on November 22, 1963; 25 H 787; video shown on *The Men Who Killed Kennedy*, 2003, by the author. While SA Lawton states categorically in his November 30, 1963 report that "... my instructions were to remain at the airport to effect security for the President's departure", Agent Rybka's very brief, vague, and *undated* report contains no such disclaimer. Rybka's report is by far the briefest of the 29 reports submitted to Chief Rowley and the Warren Commission. Many of the agents submitted two (or more) reports, a good percentage of which were

- multi-page reports and with some detail, not to mention a proper date somewhere on the report.
- ⁴⁵ Advance man Jerry Bruno's notes from the JFK Library in Boston. Agent Henry Rybka was also on the follow-up car team in San Antonio on November 21, 1963. In addition, the newly-released Cooper film depicts Rybka jumping out of the follow-up car in Fort Worth on November 22, 1963—he was the first agent out of the car. On two of the three stops, Rybka was *not* the driver.
- ⁴⁶ Rybka was a member of the detail during at least the latter Eisenhower years: Protective Survey Report dated January 16, 1961: Re: Inaugural Activities of the President on January 20, 1961, conducted by SAIC James M. Beary (1–15 [Washington Field Office]) and SA H. S. Knight (1–16 [WHD]).
- ⁴⁷ Kellerman, 2 H 69: "Each agent carries his own gun. This is a four-inch revolver on their person." See also Hill, 2 H 134.
- ⁴⁸ Secret Service shift reports, November 1963.
- ⁴⁹ 18 H 739; 17 H 593–600: Lawson's Preliminary Survey Report (dated November 19, 1963); 17 H 601–617: Lawson's Final Survey Report.
- ⁵⁰ 18 H 739.
- ⁵¹ USSS RIF#1541-0001-10031.
- ⁵² USSS RIF#1541-0001-10127.
- ⁵³ USSS RIF#1541-0001-10132, 1541-0001-10125.
- ⁵⁴ 18 H 738.
- ⁵⁵ Cecil Stoughton photos from the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston; author's interviews with agents Don Lawton and Chuck Zboril (November 1995).
- ⁵⁶ 25 H 786.
- ⁵⁷ 18 H 803–9.
- ⁵⁸ 18 H 734–5; Manchester, p. 155. Manchester did interview Emory Roberts twice (p. 667).
- ⁵⁹ 18 H 735–9: The first transmission was made a full minute before the shooting, while the other was made after the shooting.
- ⁶⁰ 5 H 453.
- ⁶¹ 18 H 749–750; also p. 734. Manchester, pp. 155–6, 165.
- ⁶² Roberts' and Ready's reports, CD 3 Exhibits.
- ⁶³ *High Treason*, pp. 14, 417.
- ⁶⁴ Hill also described the President's skull defect as located in the "right rear" with the actual missing piece of skull lying in the back of the car. This was confirmed by Agent Sam Kinney to the author on two occasions.
- ⁶⁵ 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).
- ⁶⁶ *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye*, p. 34.
- ⁶⁷ Manchester, pp. 165, 175; Curry, pp. 36–37; Hepburn, *Farewell America*, p. 229; *The Flying White House*, p. 215.
- ⁶⁸ Manchester, pp. 170, 175–6, 233.
- ⁶⁹ Manchester, pp. 170, 232–3; author's interviews with Kinney and Boring in March and April 1994. See also Bishop, p. 195. The Texas trip was apparently Kellerman's first *major*, multi-stop trip on his own in a supervisory capacity, for the November 8 and 9 shift reports place Kellerman in New York (without Agents Behn or Boring). However, this was not the more publicized trip that JFK made to the same city a few days later (November 14 and 15 with Floyd Boring, who was *also* on the Elkton, Maryland and Florida trips around this same time period). Evidently, the President made a low-key trip—that even advance agent Godfrey couldn't remember (see Chapter 2)—to New York before the New York City trip that was well covered in the media. This first New York trip, for all intents and purposes, was unknown to researchers today until the author "discovered" it (in contrast to the infamous second New York

- trip). Also, no motorcade was involved on the first trip, an important distinction from the second New York trip, days later.
- ⁷⁰ *The Washington Post*, October 11, 1973. Agent Rex Scouten to author (letter received September 1998): “Emory Roberts, a very good friend of mine, died in the late ’60s as I recall [actually October 8, 1973]—returned home from work one afternoon—laid down on the bed and suffered a major heart attack—and died.”
- ⁷¹ Manchester, p. 667.
- ⁷² *The Washington Post*, October 11, 1973.
- ⁷³ Ibid.
- ⁷⁴ Manchester, pp. 232–5; Bishop, pp. 199, 200, 244, 247, 249; *A Woman Called Jackie*, p. 403; 18 H 736; 2 H 152; 5 H 562–3.
- ⁷⁵ 5 H 563.
- ⁷⁶ Jim Marrs, *Crossfire*, pp. 296–7. See also Bishop, p. 259, and Manchester, pp. 234–5.
- ⁷⁷ 7 H 451. See also *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye*, pp. 35, 38.
- ⁷⁸ Marrs, p. 297. In fact, as noted by researcher David Starks in his 1994 video *The Investigations*, while Specter’s name appears in the hardcover version of O’Donnell’s book, it was deleted from the mass-market paperback (p. 41)!
- ⁷⁹ Bishop, p. 244.
- ⁸⁰ Manchester, p. 176.
- ⁸¹ Ibid., p. xxi.
- ⁸² Author’s interview with Bolden, September 16, 1993.
- ⁸³ March 1, 1978 HSCA interview with Ready; December 14, 1977 letter from Secret Service Legal Counsel Robert O. Goff to the HSCA’s G. Robert Blakey, RIF#180–10112–10218.
- ⁸⁴ Author’s interview with Kinney, March 4, 1994.
- ⁸⁵ Author Edward Klein noted: “He had been a football star at Concordia College in his native North Dakota. He had married his high school sweetheart, Gwen Brown, who still sang in her church choir. Among his Secret Service colleagues, Hill was considered to be an agent’s agent.” [Edward Klein, *Just Jackie: Her Private Years* (Ballantine Books, 1999), pp. 70–72.] Klein received his information on Hill [p. 374] from fellow agents Hamilton Brown, Frank Yeager, Bill Livingood, Larry Newman, and Paul Landis, as well as Concordia classmates (and the archivist).
- ⁸⁶ *Inside the U.S. Secret Service*, National Geographic DVD *outtakes* (from full, unedited interview), channel.nationalgeographic.com/channel/secretservice/transcripts.html.
- ⁸⁷ 2 H 132–3.
- ⁸⁸ When asked when Hill was the SAIC of the WHD, former agent Walt Coughlin wrote: “Late LBJ years. About ’66 to ’68, but don’t hold me to those dates. It was in that era. Seems he followed Rufus Youngblood and Lem Johns.” (Email to author dated February 28, 2004.)
- ⁸⁹ December 8, 1975 interview with Mike Wallace on *60 Minutes*, CBS.
- ⁹⁰ 2 H 133.
- ⁹¹ Manchester, p. 350.
- ⁹² Jim Marrs, *Crossfire*, p. 15.
- ⁹³ Hill received the Exceptional Service Award on December 3, 1963, as did Rufus Youngblood on December 4, 1963 (*20 Years in the Secret Service*, pp. 144–6). Original copy of award announcement sent to Richard Trask by Clinton J. Hill, 1964 (*Pictures of the Pain*, pp. 72, 149). December 3, 1963 newsreel of Hill’s Treasury Department Award ceremony (depicted in both *Inside The Secret Service* [1995, Discovery] and *The Secret Service* [1995, History Channel]).
- ⁹⁴ *60 Minutes*, CBS, December 8, 1975. Hill’s guilt was also demonstrated in the 1995 documentary *Inside The Secret Service* with Hill, as well as the 2004 documentary *Inside The U.S. Secret Service*.
- ⁹⁵ Author’s article in the September 1993 *Third Decade* journal. *In the Line of Fire* is now available on video and DVD with bonus footage and interviews. Former agents Jerry

Parr, Robert Snow, and Jack Warner were among the technical consultants on the film. When we consider that (as reported by *Entertainment Tonight* and *USA Today* in February 1993) this marks the very first time that the United States Secret Service has ever given their full participation and co-operation to a book or film project, the word “propaganda” is not such a paranoid term. Regarding the book version of *In the Line of Fire* (New York: Jove Books, 1993), this is a novel by Max Allan Collins, based on the screenplay written by Jeff Maguire.

⁹⁶ This shows excerpts from Hill’s December 1975 *60 Minutes* television appearance, a portion of which also appeared on the Dan Rather/CBS special starring Gerald Posner in November 1993.

⁹⁷ Hill also appeared on the 1995 History Channel documentary, *The Secret Service*, and the 2004 National Geographic documentary, *Inside the U.S. Secret Service*.

⁹⁸ Letter to author dated January 12, 2004.

⁹⁹ See also David Seidman, *Extreme Careers—Secret Service Agents: Life Protecting the President* (New York: The Rosen Publishing Group, Inc., 2003), p. 19.

¹⁰⁰ *Farewell America*, Ch. 14, entitled “Secret Service”, p. 299.

¹⁰¹ Hill’s November 30, 1963 report: 18 H 740–5. (See also the 2004 National Geographic documentary, *Inside the U.S. Secret Service*.) Kellerman’s November 29, 1963 report states: “I summoned SA Hill down to the morgue to view the body and to witness the damage of the gunshot wounds.” [CD 3 Exhibits.] One wonders if this was because—as Kellerman, Greer, and Hill went on to testify—the wounds reflected a pattern different than a sole lone gunman firing from behind. As Kellerman told the Warren Commission: “... it was my decision to get Mr. Hill down and view this man for all the damage that was done; so I went up to the floor where they were at and brought him down and he inspected the incisions ... More witnesses ... I think more to view the unfortunate happenings it would be a little better [sic].” [2 H 100.]

¹⁰² 2 H 141, 143.

¹⁰³ Mike Wallace’s interview of Clint Hill on *60 Minutes*, December 8, 1975. In addition, the narrator for the 1995 History Channel program, *The Secret Service*, Ike Pappas, states that Clint Hill believes that Lee Harvey Oswald was the lone gunman. Although Hill is interviewed at length, he does not actually say this on the program, although he did agree to it during Mike Wallace’s questioning back in 1975.

¹⁰⁴ Manchester, pp. xxi, 61.

¹⁰⁵ Author’s interview with Jerry Blaine, June 10, 2005; email to author from former agent Walt Coughlin dated February 24, 2004. Good anecdotal information on Hill can be found in Edward Klein, *Just Jackie: Her Private Years* (Ballantine Books, 1999), based on information gleaned from interviews with fellow agents Ham Brown, Paul Landis, Frank Yeager, Bill Livingood, and Larry Newman. Hill himself was not interviewed.

¹⁰⁶ Apparently, Aragon was scheduled to testify before the full Committee, along with Thomas Kelley and Chief Rowley; this is duly noted in Chief Counsel G. Robert Blakey’s September 19, 1978 Agenda Memo that contains a brief biography for Aragon and a slot for the agent to testify, sandwiched between Kelley (listed as the first witness) and Rowley (listed as the third, after Aragon, the second). For some unknown reason, Aragon did not testify, instead giving the abovementioned staff interview and a deposition on July 27, 1978. Perhaps this was because, unlike Kelley and Rowley, Aragon was critical of the Secret Service.

¹⁰⁷ Film clip shown during author’s appearance on *The Men Who Killed Kennedy*, 2003.

¹⁰⁸ For Hersh’s book, *The Dark Side of Camelot* (Boston: Little Brown, 1997).

¹⁰⁹ *Dangerous World: The Kennedy Years*, December 4, 1997, ABC, hosted by Peter Jennings. Former CBS newsman Marvin Kalb writes on p. 4 of his book, *One Scandalous Story*, about an incident which occurred in September 1963 in which he stumbled upon the Secret Service escorting “a woman with stunningly attractive legs” up a private elevator in New York’s Carlyle Hotel where President Kennedy was staying.

The panicked Secret Service knocked Kalb flat on the floor to prevent him from getting a good look at the woman! *New York Times* reporter R. W. Apple also related to Kalb that he saw a beautiful young woman escorted into JFK's hotel suite at the Carlyle in 1963.

¹¹⁰Hersh, pp. 240–1.

¹¹¹Wire service story picked up by many newspapers and media outlets, an example of which was *The Chattanooga Times*, in an article written by Sandra Sobieraj on December 18, 1997.

¹¹²David Seidman, *Extreme Careers—Secret Service Agents: Life Protecting the President* (New York: The Rosen Publishing Group, Inc., 2003), pp. 9, 55. See also the 2004 National Geographic documentary, *Inside the U.S. Secret Service*.

¹¹³Anthony Summers, *The Arrogance of Power* (Penguin: reissue edition), p. 511.

¹¹⁴Letter to author dated January 24, 2004.

¹¹⁵Email to author dated February 22, 2004.

¹¹⁶Email to author dated April 27, 2005.

¹¹⁷Philip H. Melanson with Peter F. Stevens, *The Secret Service: The Hidden History of an Enigmatic Agency* (2003), pp. 309–310.

¹¹⁸Rush (Venker), p. 59.

¹¹⁹*Protecting the President*, p. 31.

¹²⁰*Orange County Register*, October 31, 1996: "I retired from the United States Secret Service as the Agent in charge of protection for the Los Angeles area immediately after Clinton was elected president in 1992."

¹²¹Hersh, pp. 241–3.

¹²²*The Atlantic Online*, January 1998.

¹²³Hersh, p. 230.

¹²⁴Hersh, p. 244.

¹²⁵Edward Klein, *The Kennedy Curse: Why Tragedy Has Haunted America's First Family for 150 Years* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2003), pp. 171, 173.

¹²⁶Barbara Leaming, *Mrs. Kennedy: The Missing History of the Kennedy Years* (Free Press, 2002). See especially pp. 61–63, 142, 167, 204, 252–3. Newman also spoke to author Edward Klein: *Just Jackie: Her Private Years* (Ballantine Books, 1999), p. 374, and is acknowledged for his help by Tim Green, *The Fourth Perimeter* (Warner Books, 2003).

¹²⁷Boring's JFK Library oral history, February 25, 1976, released 1998. For a picture of Agent Boring right in front of Marilyn Monroe, see p. 217 of Carl Sferrazza Anthony's *The Kennedy White House* (New York: Touchstone, 2001). To be fair, just with regard to Campbell and Meyers, SAIC Behn also echoed the same lack of knowledge as Boring (JFK Library oral history, February 24, 1976). See also Anthony Summers, *The Arrogance of Power* (Penguin: reissue edition), p. 511.

¹²⁸Author's interview with Newman, February 7, 2004.

¹²⁹E-mail to author dated January 30, 2004.

¹³⁰Email to author dated February 28, 2004.

¹³¹Email to author dated February 26, 2004.

¹³²James J. Rowley Oral History, JFK Library, March 29, 1976.

¹³³January 31, 1978 HSCA interview with McIntyre.

¹³⁴December 14, 1977 letter from Secret Service Legal Counsel Robert O. Goff to the HSCA's G. Robert Blakey, RIF#180-10112-10218.

¹³⁵RIF#180-10078-10493.

¹³⁶Although Sam had also told the HSCA on February 26, 1978 that he found the idea of conspiracy "plausible", this interview summary was not released until several years after the author's interviews.

¹³⁷Author's interview with Kinney, March 4, 1994.

- ¹³⁸ Ibid. Kinney also told the author: “Kennedy had a very unique memory. If you met Kennedy, he’d know you two years from now, three years from now, or probably never forget you.” Kinney reiterated all of this to the author on April 15, 1994.
- ¹³⁹ Manchester, p. 37.
- ¹⁴⁰ Kinney was interviewed by Manchester on February 19, 1965.
- ¹⁴¹ James Lehrer, *A Bus of My Own* (Putnam Publishing Group, 1992), p. 83.
- ¹⁴² Also, in UPI’s *Four Days*, p. 25, Kinney is depicted transporting some of JFK’s clothing, as well as the gifts he received in Fort Worth, to DPD Chief Jesse Curry’s car; Curry is directly behind Kinney; same photo: Secret Service agent George W. Hickey, Jr. is seen holding a hand to the top of his head.
- ¹⁴³ Connally: numerous, including 4 H 129; HSCA Report 36–44, 46, 48, 82, 182–3; see also Michael Benson, *Who’s Who in the JFK Assassination*, pp. 85–87. Powers: 7 H 472–474; *JFK: The Day the Nation Cried* (1988); and *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye*, p. 30.
- ¹⁴⁴ Kinney reiterated this to the author on April 15, 1994.
- ¹⁴⁵ Author William Manchester stated that Kinney, interviewed February 19, 1965, “... kept his eyes on the back of the President’s head ... still keeping his eyes on Kennedy’s head [on Elm Street] ... [saw] the back of the President’s head erupt ...” [Emphasis added.] (*The Death of a President*, pp. 134, 154, 159, 664.)
- ¹⁴⁶ Sam was also credited on Rick Boudreau’s *Presidential Limousines* video (1996), although he does not appear on the program itself.
- ¹⁴⁷ Dr. Burkley later stated that he believed there was a conspiracy: March 18, 1977 HSCA Memorandum (RIF#180–10086–10295); *Reasonable Doubt*, p. 49 (1982 interview by Henry Hurt, plus letters of October 6, 1982 and October 14, 1982).
- ¹⁴⁸ Kinney had also told the HSCA on February 26, 1978 the same thing: “Inside the aircraft [the C–130 transport plane] during flight, the loading sergeant, who had been in the rear compartment where the cars were stored, entered the forward cabin and said, “I can’t stand to be back there.” SA Kinney gave him his seat and returned to the rear compartment. At this point he discovered in the Presidential limousine (1) a skull fragment under the jump seat where Connally had been seated, and (2) a bullet fragment in the front seat between the driver’s and passenger’s seat. He remarked that the bullet fragment “looked like it had hit the windshield frame above the windshield”. SA Kinney put on a radio patch to Presidential Physician Admiral Burkley to inform him that he had discovered the skull fragment. Chief Petty Officer Tommy Mills, an aide to Burkley, received the message. SA Kinney then announced that he was going to go directly to the White House non-stop. The Washington Field Office learned of this and sent six or seven Park police to escort SA Kinney to the White House Garage. In the garage they were met by FBI agents.”
- ¹⁴⁹ 2 H 140.
- ¹⁵⁰ See also James H. Fetzer, ed., *The Great Zapruder Film Hoax* (2003), pp. 27–28.
- ¹⁵¹ At first, Sam seemed to have trouble with exactly what designation Emory Roberts had in this new role under LBJ: “He became the secretary ... no, the press secretary ... no, the appointment secretary for Johnson.”
- ¹⁵² Again, Kinney seems confused about the exact title he (and Roberts) had during the LBJ years.
- ¹⁵³ The author obtained the late Juanita Roberts’ LBJ Library oral history: on the surface, there *appears* to be no overt relation to Emory Roberts. Probably just a coincidence ... but a relation of some sort cannot be ruled out as of this writing. Author David Lifton spoke to Mrs. *Emory* (Betty) Roberts regarding the filing of Emory’s Secret Service report (*The Third Decade* journal, January–March 1992: article by Joel Waggoner). Unfortunately, nothing else is said (no details) and the author was unable to gain further insight from Lifton. See also *The Washington Post*, October 11, 1973. A further note: Johnson’s other secretary, Marie Fehmer, later became the first woman officer of the CIA (*Today* show, January 12, 1989: interview with Fehmer).

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- ¹⁵⁴ Letter to author dated November 20, 1997.
- ¹⁵⁵ Email to author dated May 5, 2005.
- ¹⁵⁶ RIF#180-10082-10452.
- ¹⁵⁷ 24 H 541-2.
- ¹⁵⁸ 18 H 760.
- ¹⁵⁹ January 30, 1978 HSCA interview with Bennett (RIF#180-10082-10452.)
- ¹⁶⁰ David S. Lifton, *Best Evidence*, autopsy photo 5; Stewart Galanor, *Cover-Up*, p. 128; *Best Evidence*, photo 18; 17 H 25-26; *Best Evidence*, photo 17; 17 H 45; *Postmortem*, pp. 310, 532-6; 18 H 744-5; 2 H 143; 2 H 127; RIF#180-10099-10491: February 28, 1978 HSCA interview; 2 H 93; Robert Groden, *The Killing of a President*, p. 118; Harrison Edward Livingstone, *Killing the Truth*, p. 183; 21 H 770; Bonar Menninger, *Mortal Error*, photo 14 blow-up; *Image of an Assassination* video/DVD (1998): sprocket hole area; 21 H 781-2.
- ¹⁶¹ December 14, 1977 letter from Secret Service Legal Counsel Robert O. Goff to the HSCA's G. Robert Blakey, RIF#180-10112-10218.
- ¹⁶² RIF#154-10002-10420: Survey Report regarding Palm Beach, Florida trip, November 18, 1963; RIF#154-10001-10033 regarding shift report for Austin, Texas trip; CD 80, p. 3 (also found in James H. Fetzer, ed., *Murder in Dealey Plaza* (2000), p. 430; see also HSCA RIF#180-10102-10212: three-page chronology of the presidential limousine and Charles Taylor's March 1976 Affidavit to the Church Committee).
- ¹⁶³ Email to author October 9, 1999.
- ¹⁶⁴ RIF#154-10001-10033: shift report for Austin, Texas trip.
- ¹⁶⁵ CD 80, p. 3 (also found in James H. Fetzer, ed., *Murder in Dealey Plaza* (2000), p. 430).
- ¹⁶⁶ RIF#154-10002-10420: Palm Beach, Florida trip, November 18, 1963; October 9, 1999 email from former PRS Agent J. Dale Wunderlich to the author.
- ¹⁶⁷ 18 H 687.
- ¹⁶⁸ Landis's report dated November 27, 1963: 18 H 758-9.
- ¹⁶⁹ Landis's detailed report dated November 30, 1963: 18 H 751-7.
- ¹⁷⁰ HSCA Report, pp. 89, 606 (referencing Landis's interview, February 17, 1979 outside contact report, JFK Document 014571).
- ¹⁷¹ 18 H 751-7.
- ¹⁷² Manchester, pp. xxi, 61.
- ¹⁷³ 18 H 763.
- ¹⁷⁴ Author's interview with Sam Kinney, October 19, 1992.
- ¹⁷⁵ Author's interview with Kinney, March 4, 1994.
- ¹⁷⁶ This is the name of a spectator who filmed the assassination in Dallas, not the famous actor of the same name!
- ¹⁷⁷ Author's interview with Kinney, March 4, 1994; *Mortal Error* (1992), pp. 252-3 (letter to St. Martin's Publishers from 1991 or 1992, and Publishers call to Kinney in response): "I was driving the car at the time and I can assure you that there was not a gun fired from the U.S.S.S. follow-up car."
- ¹⁷⁸ *The Baltimore Sun* (February 3, 1998) ran a story which read: "Lawsuit is settled in favor of former Secret Service agent—Book claimed man accidentally fired bullet that killed Kennedy—A retired U.S. Secret Service agent has been paid an undisclosed sum of money by the publishers of a book that claimed he fired the bullet that killed President John F. Kennedy, an allegation that prompted the agent to sue. The obscure book, *Mortal Error: The Shot That Killed JFK*, claimed that George W. Hickey Jr. slipped during the confusion on November 22, 1963, and accidentally pulled the trigger of his high-powered AR-15 rifle. Kennedy, according to Missouri-based author Bonar Menninger, was hit in the head by the bullet. Hickey, who lives in Abingdon, filed a libel suit in U.S. District Court in Baltimore. He has received a confidential monetary settlement in the case, according to attorneys representing Hickey and St. Martin's Press, which published the book."

¹⁷⁹ CD 3 exhibits.

¹⁸⁰ Larry Haapanen's September 5, 1970 interview with Puterbaugh (transcript provided to author).

¹⁸¹ 2 H 145.

¹⁸² This is also duly noted in Youngblood's book, p. 176. However, Youngblood wrote: "Behn made his share of the trips and delegated others to his assistants." As we have seen, Behn was on the vast majority of trips (often with Boring and/or Kellerman included), while Boring was truly the one who made "his share" of the trips. Kellerman, compared to the other two, was the odd man out. For his part, Boring said that Kellerman "... was the third man at the White House. He and I were doing the trips in opposites from one another ... the idea was great, and it was unfortunate it had to be culminated by the assassination." (Boring JFK Library Oral History, February 25, 1976, released 1998). Again, this "opposites" statement is not borne out by the record.

¹⁸³ terHorst, p. 214.

¹⁸⁴ Manchester, p. 232.

¹⁸⁵ 18 H 681-2.

¹⁸⁶ December 17, 1968, p. 24.

¹⁸⁷ *20 Years in the Secret Service* (1973), p. 177.

¹⁸⁸ Author's interview with Youngblood, October 22, 1992. The author also interviewed Youngblood on February 8, 1994. Youngblood passed away on October 2, 1996 (*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, October 4, 1996).

¹⁸⁹ Manchester, p. xxii.

¹⁹⁰ Youngblood received the Exceptional Service Award on December 4, 1963, the day after Clint Hill received the same award (*20 Years in the Secret Service*, pp. 144-6).

¹⁹¹ Manchester, p. 166; *The Killing of a President*, p. 37; *Crossfire*, pp. 249-250.

¹⁹² Manchester, p. 176.

¹⁹³ *20 Years in the Secret Service*, pp. 145-6. See also the 1995 History Channel documentary, *The Secret Service*.

¹⁹⁴ As Jackie Kennedy herself said, "They have shot his head off." (*The Day Kennedy Was Shot*, p. 178.)

¹⁹⁵ Michael R. Beschloss, *Reaching for Glory: Lyndon Johnson's Secret White House Tapes, 1964-1965* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2002), p. 703.

¹⁹⁶ Youngblood, p. 230.

¹⁹⁷ HSCA interview with Johns, August 8, 1978: RIF#180-10074-10079.

¹⁹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹⁹ Interestingly, Johns rose to become assistant Secret Service director in charge of all the agency's protective operations.

²⁰⁰ Manchester, p. xxi.

²⁰¹ Letter to author, December 8, 1997. (See Chapter 1.)

²⁰² December 29, 1976 letter from Glenn Bennett to the HSCA's Robert Blakey.

²⁰³ Manchester, p. xxi.

²⁰⁴ Author's interview with Kivett, February 7, 2004. The former agent also confirmed to the author that he was not contacted by the HSCA. Regrettably, Kivett highly recommended the book *Case Closed!*

²⁰⁵ Letter to the author dated February 28, 2004.

²⁰⁶ Email to the author from Kivett, February 4, 2006.

²⁰⁷ 18 H 782.

²⁰⁸ Author Walt Brown credits the author with this discovery in his 1995 volume *Treachery in Dallas*, p. 31, 325-6. (Although this information was also revealed in the 1992 book, *Mortal Error*, Menninger's book came out a year after this author first reported this overlooked piece of information.)

²⁰⁹ December 29, 1976 letter from Glenn Bennett to HSCA Robert Blakey.

²¹⁰ Author's interview with Winston Lawson, September 27, 1992.

²¹¹ 18 H 789.

²¹² 17 H 601.

²¹³ Letter to author dated January 20, 2004.

²¹⁴ February 3, 1978 HSCA interview with Grant (RIF#180-10082-10451).

²¹⁵ Numerous sources, including *A Current Affair*, February 24, 1992.

²¹⁶ Numerous sources, including Oliver Stone's *JFK*.

²¹⁷ Grant's report, CD 3 Exhibits; 18 H 788.

²¹⁸ Rufus Youngblood, *20 Years in the Secret Service*, p. 233.

²¹⁹ *Ibid.* November 19, 1997 letter to the author from Livingood: "I served on the White House Detail from November [?] 1963 (after the assassination of President Kennedy) until 1972. I was in the Dallas Field office from Aug. 8, 1961 until November 1962, at which time I was transferred to the Vice Presidential [LBJ] Protective Division." Recently, Livingood attended (along with fellow former agent Jerry Blaine) Clint Hill's son's wedding (author's interview with Jerry Blaine, June 10, 2005).

²²⁰ December 14, 1977 letter from Secret Service Legal Counsel Robert O. Goff to the HSCA's G. Robert Blakey, RIF#180-10112-10218.

²²¹ Email to author from former agent Walt Coughlin, dated February 29, 2004.

²²² See also see Bill Sloan, *Breaking the Silence*, pp. 181-5; *The Man Who Knew Too Much*, pp. 570-1; Michael Benson, *Who's Who in the JFK Assassination* (1993), pp. 40-41.

²²³ The FBI Agent turned out to be J. Doyle Williams (see Henry Hurt, *Reasonable Doubt*, pp. 71-72 (based on a February 1983 interview); see also 18 H 795-6 (Berger); 798-9 (Johnsen); 21 H 261 (Price); RIF#180-10082-10454: January 31, 1978 HSCA interview of Secret Service agent Tim McIntyre; Noel Twyman, *Bloody Treason*, pp. 90, 91, 93, 96, 110; 5 H 132, 144; 18 H 96; Richard Trask, *Pictures of the Pain*, p. 105: photo of Williams; 22 H 841, 910; 23 H 681; 24 H 523; Larry Sneed, *No More Silence* (1998), pp. 130, 164.

²²⁴ 18 H 795.

²²⁵ December 14, 1977 letter from Secret Service Legal Counsel Robert O. Goff to the HSCA's G. Robert Blakey, RIF#180-10112-10218.

²²⁶ *Charlotte (North Carolina) Observer*, November 14, 2003; *Duluth News Tribune*, November 22, 2003.

²²⁷ Excerpts from *Charlotte (North Carolina) Observer*, November 14, 2003.