

# Cloud of Rumor Forms Over Grave of President Kennedy's Assassin

By United Press International  
A cloud of rumor has formed over the grave of Lee H. Oswald.

As is the case with rumors, these are being whispered or elaborated largely by people farthest from the scene or least familiar with the evidence. Many come from Europe.

The Dallas Police Department says it has conclusive evidence that Oswald killed John F. Kennedy and that he did it without assistance. It has turned all this evidence over to the FBI for an investigation ordered by President Johnson.

Until the President makes the facts public, the rumors and

suspicions probably will persist despite the lack of any supporting evidence. They are coming in all sizes and shapes but they fall basically into three categories:

—That Oswald had a still-uncaptured and unknown accomplice or accomplices.

Says Oswald "Used"

—That Oswald, who proclaimed himself a Marxist, was "used" for a murder assignment by extremists who were enraged by Kennedy's liberalism. This is the line taken by the Russian press and radio.

—That when Oswald killed the President, he acted as a political zealot—as a hater of the

American system of government which Oswald did in fact frequently and violently denounce in his role of Marxist and defender of Fidel Castro.

There is absolutely no basis to any of these charges, speculation and rumors on the basis of the evidence as it is available today. Until the FBI uncovers some dramatic new evidence, this form of speculation remains in the realm of fiction and fantasy.

The available evidence in fact tells a far different story. It points very strongly to Oswald as the President's killer. (The fact that he never confessed before he himself was slain is unquestionably encouraging rumor more than anything else.) And it points to a plot conceived and executed by a single man who was socially misfit, emotionally unstable, politically naive—a man with an obsessive hatred of constituted authority, he it a superior in the Marine Corps or the President of the United States.

Most of the doubts and rumors about the Oswald case come from Europe. To Europeans, organized attempts to seize power by assassinating czars and kings are as old as history. Therefore, to them, it is difficult to believe that there weren't people behind Oswald using him as a trigger man in a plot against the entire federal government.

Here are a few of the suspicions and accusations that have been flowing in from Europe:

The newspaper Corriere Lombardo of Milan, Italy, said the Italian Carcano rifle that killed Kennedy could not have been fired three times in such a short space of time. There were three bullets fired and hence there had to be more than one man. (Sheriff Bill Decker in

Dallas replied that three shots could have been fired by one man in 20 seconds.)

Russian newspapers, without offering factual support, blamed Kennedy's death on the "ultra-right hysteria in Texas."

Suspicions Aroused

The Dutch newspaper Algemeen Dagblad said that when Oswald was shot to death suspicions were raised immediately that "Kennedy's assassination was a gang plot." The Berliner Morgenpost in West Berlin said that "it is possible that Jack Ruby silenced Oswald to cover the men behind the plot."

Die Welt of Hamburg spoke of "a forest of question marks."

Dallas and Texas came under heavy fire from the European press—"The City of Assassination," "City of Oil, Cattle and Violent Death," "High-Heeled Boots and Broad-Brimmed Hats Never Again Will Seem Funny."

Against this wave of rumor and criticism, the Dallas police earlier turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation evidence they had collected against Oswald, including:

—Oswald's palm print on the butt of the murder rifle.

—Oswald's palm print on a box in the room from which the assassin shot Kennedy.

—Paraffin tests revealing Oswald had recently fired a rifle.

—Witnesses placing Oswald in the building from which Kennedy was shot before the shooting and immediately afterward.

Employed In Building

—Oswald's employment in the building.

—Witnesses who saw him shoot policeman J. D. Tippit less than an hour after the assassination.

—Photos showing Oswald with the rifle believed to have killed Kennedy and the pistol that killed Tippit.

—Oswald's wife's admission that he owned such a rifle. It was missing, Oswald admitted he owned the pistol.

—Oswald was an expert marksman.

—The rifle, ordered by mail from Klein's Sporting Goods Store. The name on the order blank was "A. Hydel" but the handwriting was Oswald's.

—When tracked down in a movie after Tippit's death, Oswald tried to shoot another policeman but his gun jammed.

—A neighbor drove Oswald to work the day of the assassination and Oswald was carrying an oblong package he said contained window shades. Police said it was the rifle.

Wrote Threatening Letter

—Oswald once wrote a threatening letter to Gov. John Connally, wounded with Kennedy, saying he would "employ any means" to get even for a

wrong he believed done to him as a Marine. Connally was Kennedy's first secretary of the Navy.

Almost every person who knew Oswald said he had a resentment against authority. It started as early as the 11th grade when his football coach told him not to take a drink of water. "Oswald took the water," said a Dallas policeman who was a classmate. "Then he yelled at the coach that this was a free country." In junior high school, in New Orleans, Oswald was a "loner" and constantly getting into fights, his classmates recalled.

This threat of defiance and quick anger ran all through his career in the Marine Corps as Donald Goodwin, one of his sergeants, recalls: "He was such a hothead I was glad when he was shipped out for radar training. He was always having beefs with the boys in the barracks, just to get into a fight and vent his emotions, I suppose."

Court-Martialed Twice

After the Marines transferred him to Japan, Oswald was court-martialed twice. The first time was for carrying an unregistered pistol and the second time for swearing at a superior officer. He obtained his discharge on the grounds that he had to support his mother.

He went to Russia, got a job

in a factory, married a Russian girl and tried to renounce his American citizenship, but failed to get permission from the Soviet Union. Aline Mosby, then of UPI's Moscow staff, interviewed Oswald and from that talk emerged the same pattern of defiance: "Capitalism will disappear as feudalism disappeared. It's the fashion to hate people in the United States."

If, on his return to the United States, Oswald wanted to organize a group opposing the government he went about it in

a strange fashion. Mrs. Lena Garner, who was his landlady in New Orleans for a time, reported: "He wouldn't speak to anyone. When he passed me or my husband in the yard he wouldn't say anything."

It is this consistent pattern of being a defiant loner, fighting a single-handed battle against authority everywhere it brushed his daily life, that persuaded Dallas police to the opinion that Oswald conceived the assassination of Kennedy solely in his own mind and performed the deed alone.

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## Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

JOE McCARTHY met an Englishman who had just returned from the far North and was full of tales of the troubles he had encountered driving a dog-sled team over the frozen wasteland. "I kept urging them on with 'Tally-ho,' 'Tally-ho,' he mourned, 'but the con-founded dogs wouldn't budge. They just panted a bit and laughed in my face.'"

"You should have said 'Mush,' advised McCarthy.

"All right," conceded the Englishman. "The dogs just panted and laughed in my mush."



Tony Martin made one record last year that sold a hundred thousand copies in Rome alone. "Don't get too conceited about that, however," cautioned his agent. "It turned out that the Romans thought it was a licorice pizza."

"My poor husband," sighed a stout lady at the poolside of a Florida motel. "For months now he's been convinced he's a lawn mower."

"He'll get over it," predicted an optimistic acquaintance. "He'd better," snapped the stout lady grimly. "I'm getting sick of lending him to the neighbors."

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**THE Lighter Side...**  
BY DICK WEST

Bathtub Research Committee's Task

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Nature, as every schoolboy knows, abhors a vacuum.

And so, I might add, does the Building Research Advisory Board of the National Academy of Sciences.

The board, more familiarly known as "BRAB," recently announced the appointment of an "ad hoc advisory committee on performance characteristics of sanitary plumbing fixtures."

When I first got wind of this, I was deeply perplexed. I could not figure out what in the name of Chic Sale a committee like that would do.

But by dint of arduous investigation, consisting of a phone call to Robert M. Dillon, BRAB's executive director, I was able to clear up the matter.

It seems that in all of the centuries that mankind has observed the custom of body dunking, nobody has ever established precisely what a bathtub should do.

We all know, of course, what a bathtub is used for. Sailing toy boats and making gin, among other things. But it has never been ascertained with any degree of exactitude just what we should expect from a tub.

And the same is true of wash basins and other bathroom appurtenances.

It was this void, or informational gap, that prompted BRAB to set up the ad hoc committee. The committee will endeavor to determine ad hocly what characteristics the fixtures should have.

Then it will attempt to find out whether the performance of these characteristics can be measured.

The need for such a study arose with the development of new materials — plastics and that sort of thing. For example one company has introduced a line of plumbing fixtures made of reinforced fiberglass.

According to Dillon, no one can say whether the new types of fixtures will perform satisfactorily because no one has ever pinned down what plumbing fixtures "are supposed to do in the first place."

As you can see, the committee has quite a job on its hands. Perhaps it would be helpful if all of us dropped it a line listing the characteristics that we deem desirable.

I, for one, strongly feel that plumbing fixtures, particularly bathtubs, are supposed to hold water. Few things are more irritating than a dry bath.

Secondly, they should be portable. People should be able to take their plumbing fixtures with them wherever they go. There is nothing I dislike more than having to break in a new bathtub.

Thirdly, they should be collapsible. You should be able to fold up the fixtures when they are not in use so that you will have more room to dance.

## Kennedy Coverage Cost \$32 Million

WASHINGTON (UPI) — It cost the nation's radio and television networks an estimated \$32 million to broadcast the events surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy.

Broadcasting Magazine said that during the four days of broadcasting more than 2,100 network employees in this country and abroad were involved at one time or another in working on the story.

The magazine said that, based on the best available estimates, the costs included the \$18.8 million lost through elimination of television commercials; \$6.8 million lost in radio commercials; \$3.3 million in commissions to advertising agencies and salesmen, and \$3.1 million for television and radio coverage of the story.

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## Hearings Stated On Workers' Benefits

PORTLAND (UPI) — A series of hearings to determine if lumber and sawmill workers are entitled to unemployment benefits as a result of the lumber industry strike and shutdown last summer will open here Tuesday.

The initial session will be devoted to questions of a general nature, according to F. J. Bradshaw, public relations representative of the State Department of Employment benefits division. Later, a series of meetings dealing with specific claims will be held around the state, probably beginning in January, Bradshaw said.

Representatives of labor and management will be on hand for the meeting here.

## Sweet Home Youth Drowns In River

SWEET HOME (UPI)—Howard Wayne Thompson, 21, drowned in the backwaters of the South Santiam River near here Friday afternoon when he fell from a raft.

Officials said Thompson was fishing with a young companion, Jim Reynolds, 13, when he lost his footing. The boy said Thompson could not swim and was weighted down with heavy clothing.

The body was recovered shortly after the accident.

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