

Coincidence and the death of a President

There have been two official commissions into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. *The Warren Commission* (1963-64) concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in killing JFK, while the *House Select Committee on Assassinations* (1976-79) concluded that there was a high probability that two shooters fired at Kennedy and the assassination was very likely a conspiracy

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Oct 18, 1939: Born in New Orleans, youngest of three brothers. Oswald is raised in children's home

David Ferrie



1955: Fifteen-year-old Oswald joins Louisiana Civil Air Patrol. Cadets learn rifle shooting in squadron commanded by David W. Ferrie

1956-59: Enlists in U.S. Marine Corps



DAVID W. FERRIE

Eastern Airlines pilot – dismissed 1961 on “morals” charge

1962-63: Works for New Orleans lawyer **G. Wray Gill**, defending Louisiana Mafia boss **Cosimo Marcello**

CARLOS MARCELLO

Fighting deportation action brought by Attorney General **Robert F. Kennedy**. **HSCA** establishes have close ties to **Jack Ruby** (left)



CAREER IN MARINES

Assigned to Atsugi Naval Air Facility, Japan. Works as radar operator supporting secret CIA U2 surveillance flights over Soviet Union
Sep 1959: Released from active duty



Oct 1959: Oswald defects to Soviet Union

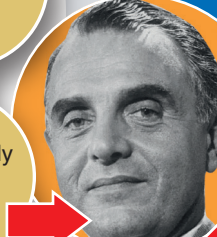
Allegedly provides U2 radar secrets to Soviets. Oswald sent to city of Minsk to work in radio factory. Here he meets and marries **Marina Prusakova**



May 1960: U2 flown by **Gary Powers** is shot down over Soviet Union

May 1962: U.S. renews Oswald's passport

Jun: Oswald family returns to United States



GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Jun 1962: Oswald, Marina, and baby daughter Jane are granted exit visas to return to United States. Russian-born Dallas socialite **George de Mohrenschildt** befriends family in Fort Worth and introduces them to local Russian community. **De Mohrenschildt** debriefs Oswald on behalf of CIA

De Mohrenschildt's personal friend, First Lady **Jacqueline Kennedy**, agrees to become honorary chairman of his Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Apr 5, 1963: Marina Oswald gives De Mohrenschildt inscribed photograph of



Oswald posing with rifle. Five days later Oswald attempts to shoot retired General **Edwin Walker**. **De Mohrenschildt** passes photograph to CIA

March 29, 1977: On same day that **HSCA** issues subpoena, **de Mohrenschildt** commits suicide with shotgun

JACK RUBY

Dallas nightclub owner
Nov 24, 1963: Following arrest of Oswald, Ruby shoots him in stomach as he is led out of police headquarters. **Oswald later dies**



Feb 1963: Oswald becomes remote, abusive and violent towards Marina as marriage falls apart. **De Mohrenschildt** introduces family to **Ruth Paine** (above). Marina and daughter move in with Paine

Oct: Paine tells Oswald of job vacancy at **Texas School Book Depository**



Apr: Oswald moves back to New Orleans

Mar 1963: Oswald buys handgun and rifle

Aug: Oswald starts **Fair Play for Cuba Committee**

Sep: Oswald attends party at David Ferrie's apartment

Sep 26: Oswald travels to Mexico City

Nov 19: Route of presidential motorcade published

Nov 22, 12:30: Open-top motorcade enters Dealey Plaza, Dallas
Oswald fires three rifle shots from sixth-floor window of Texas School Book Depository, killing President Kennedy and seriously wounding Texas Governor **John Connally**



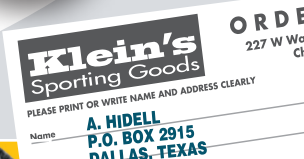
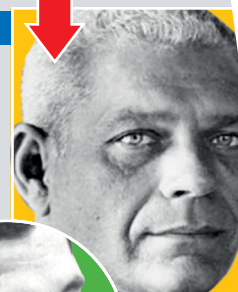
JIM GARRISON

District Attorney of New Orleans
1967: Arrests and charges Clay Shaw with conspiring to assassinate President Kennedy with help of Oswald and Ferrie. **David Ferrie commits suicide before trial begins**
Mar 1969: Shaw is acquitted

Sep 26-Oct 3, Mexico: Oswald visits Cuban and Soviet Consulates in unsuccessful attempts to obtain visas. However, Cuban Consulate employee **Sylvia Duran** describes man identifying himself as Oswald as short with sparse blond hair. Surveillance photos confirm her description

CLAY SHAW

Director of International Trade Mart in New Orleans. Links to CIA from 1948-1956
Sep 1963: Party-goers include **Clay Shaw** and **Perry Russo** (inset). **Russo claims** that **Shaw, Ferrie and Oswald discuss plans to assassinate JFK**



Oswald buys .38 calibre Special Smith & Wesson revolver from Seaport Traders, Inc. and Mannlicher Carcano 6.5mm rifle with scope from Klein's Sporting Goods. Purchases, by mail order to Dallas PO Box 2915, in name of **Alek James Hidell**



WARREN COMMISSION'S SINGLE-BULLET THEORY

* Report concludes that one of Oswald's three shots misses target, wounding spectator. One bullet hits Kennedy in head, fatally wounding him. **All other wounds are caused by single bullet – exhibit CE-399 – which passes through JFK's neck and Connally's chest, breaking rib, before shattering his wrist and embedding itself in his thigh**

Oswald's ease in buying murder weapons by mail order leads to profound changes to U.S. gun laws and eventually to **Gun Control Act 1968**