

KENNEDY ASSASSINATED

the MYSTIC LAMP



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PRESIDENT KENNEDY IS DEAD: DALLAS, Texas—John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the United States, was assassinated in Dallas, Texas, Friday, Nov. 22, at 12:30 C.S. A single shot through the right temple took the life of the 46-year-old chief executive. He was shot as he rode in an open car in downtown Dallas, waving and smiling to a crowd of 250,000.

The new President—Lyndon B. Johnson—was in the same cavalcade but a number of car lengths behind. He was not hurt.

Texas Gov. John B. Connally, sitting across from Kennedy in the bubbletop Presidential limousine, its bullet-proof glass lowered, was hit in the chest. His condition was listed as "satisfactory" at Parkland hospital where Kennedy died at 1 p.m.

The Kennedy party arrived in Dallas on a short plane hop from Carswell AFB. The shooting occurred close to their destination—the new Trade Mart where a bipartisan audience of 2,000 already had gathered to hear the President's address. As the Presidential car neared through the crowded main street, Kennedy sat on the right side of the back seat. Mrs. Kennedy was on his left. Connally faced the President in a jump seat. Mrs. Connally was in the jump seat facing Mrs. Kennedy. Neither of the ladies were injured.

After the shot Mrs. Kennedy screamed as her husband slumped over on the back seat. She cradled her dying husband's blood smeared head in her arms as the limousine sped toward Parkland Memorial hospital. Ten physicians battled in vain to save the President's life. Father Huber of the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic church administered the last rites shortly after Kennedy entered the hospital.

Dallas police jailed Lee H. Oswald, a pro-Castro Marxist and 1959 defector to Russia as the prime suspect in the assassination. Oswald, a 24-year-old ex-Marine, denied all knowledge of the crime.

Oswald shot to death policeman J.D. Tippit as officers closed in on him at the Texas theater in Dallas. He admitted owning the snub-nosed 38-caliber revolver used to shoot the policeman. Police Capt. Pat Conaway said Oswald had visited Russia and was married to a Russian. This was not immediately confirmed. Police said Oswald worked in the Texas School Book Depository building where a German-army Mauser bolt-action rifle was found after the assassination. Police received a tip that a man had ran into the Texas theater where the films "Cry Battle and War is Hell" were playing.

Johnson, who had gone to Parkland hospital immediately after Kennedy was shot, was spirited out of the building under heavy guard and taken to Dallas' Love Field where he was sworn in as the U.S.'s 36th President aboard the presidential air plane—Air Force 1—by Federal Judge Sarah T. Hughes at 2:39 pm, CST. She was appointed by Kennedy.

After Johnson took the oath of office, the plane, carrying the new President, the body of the late President and Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, the widow, winged off to Washington. When the plane arrived at Andrews AFB, Md., President Johnson was flown directly to the White House. Kennedy's body was taken to Bethesda Naval Hospital.

The United Nations General Assembly and other U.N. bodies scheduled brief meetings Friday afternoon with quick adjournment out of respect to Kennedy. Foreign embassies throughout Washington dropped their flags to half staff minutes after the death of President Kennedy was announced. Television networks cancelled all commercial programming to provide continuous coverage of the assassination. Spokesmen for ABC, CBS, and NBC said there would be no broadcasts other than news at least through Friday night, probably into Saturday and perhaps until the funeral. No commercial will be broadcast, the Spokesmen said.

STATION COMMANDER COL. THOMAS C. HYDE HAS DECLARED AN OFFICIAL STATE OF MOURNING AND ALL SOCIAL ENGAGEMENTS WILL BE CANCELLED. FURTHER, THERE WILL BE AN OFFICERS' CALL IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 0800 HOURS THIS MORNING, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23.

Kennedy was the fourth U.S. President to be killed in office. He died after spending two years, 10 months and two days in the Nation's highest office.

The military transport plane bearing Secretary of State Dean Rusk and other cabinet ministers to a meeting in Japan turned back between Honolulu and Tokyo. Treasury Secretary Douglas Dillon, Commerce Secretary Luther Hodges and several other high officials were with Rusk.

Former President Harry S. Truman, who himself was an intended victim of assassin bullets 13 years ago this month, said the assassination of President Kennedy was a "tragedy" for the nation. Truman said he planned to attend the funeral and burial services for Kennedy in Boston. He said he did not believe he would be able to view the body in state Saturday at the White House. Truman's wife, Bess, said Truman suffered "quite a shock" when he heard the news of the assassination on a radio broadcast and was "too upset" to make a statement until four hours after Kennedy was pronounced dead.

After lying in the White House east room Saturday, Kennedy's body will be taken to the Capital where it will lie in state for public mourning throughout Sunday. He will be the sixth President, four of them victims of assassins, to lie in state in the Capitol Rotunda.

President Johnson, who took over with an appeal for the help of God and the American people, held a mid-evening meeting with House and Senate leaders of both parties after conferring with several top Administration officials.

In Japan, major political leaders hailed Kennedy as a man of peace and said his death was a tragic loss for the world. KENNEDY WAS BOTH LOVED AND HATED IN ASIA. He was loved and respected by the Japanese as the first American President to give Japan the attention its people thought it deserved. He was hated by Red China and its Asian supporters as the man who sent American troops into Asian trouble spots to fight Communism, and as the man who, Peking claims, lulled Soviet Premier Khrushchev into peaceful competition with capitalism.

News of the assassination brought the Nation's market activity to a standstill. Traders, brokers, bankers, runners--all of the community of the New York commercial center--were stunned by the news.

"I am deeply shocked and horrified" said former Prime Minister MacMillan, when informed of the assassination. Khrushchev was somewhere in the south when the news reached Moscow. It could be presumed he was informed immediately of Kennedy's death by the "hot line" circuit.

A Vatican spokesman said Pope Paul received the news with "profound grief. He went to his chapel to pray." Francis Cardinal Spellman expressed his "Deepest sympathy for all, and especially sympathy for the country and the world which the President served so well.

West German Vice Chancellor Erich Mende said, "the news fills the German People with deep shock. All those who were fortunate enough to know him personally--not least the Berliners--in this hour are filled with deep grief."

IN LONDON, Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home arranged immediately to address the British nation Friday night. He received the news shortly after reaching the home of the Duke of Norfolk at Arundel Castle, and it was announced almost immediately he was returning to London to speak to the country.

President Johnson, in his first public statement as chief executive, promised to "do my best" in his new and grave responsibilities and asked divine guidance in the task. He made the statement at Andrews AFB.

An Honor Guard of Air Force enlisted men was cordoned around the area at Andrews.

Six pallbearers, enlisted men from each of the armed services, marched behind a yellow elevator-type ramp at the rear door of the plane in removal of the casket when the group arrived from Dallas.

Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, wearing a pink suit and clutching the hand of Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy who had gone aboard the plane, was lowered on the same lift-truck.

Johnson and others in the party left the plane by the front door. After chatting with congressional leaders, Johnson stepped to a battery of microphones nearby to make his first personal statement to the Nation as President.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, in a telegram to Mrs. Kennedy, said: "I realize the utter futility of words at such a time, but the world of civilization shares the poignancy of this monumental tragedy. As a former comrade in arms, his death kills something within me." Premier Khrushchev is rushing back to Moscow by special train from the Ukraine after receiving the report on President Kennedy's death.

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