

ASSASSINATION, FROM PAGE 1

Battle by Doctors to Save President's Life

Reuter quoted doctors as saying that the President died of wounds in the neck and head. They were possibly caused by the same bullet, but there may have been two bullets. The President did not regain consciousness from the moment he was struck, the doctors said, according to Reuter. The President's throat was opened to relieve breathing, and blood and fluids were administered intravenously. Physicians laboured to keep respiration at a life-sustaining level, U.P.I. said. Dr. Malcolm Perry, the hospital surgeon said he was summoned immediately after the President was brought to the emergency entrance of Parkland Hospital.

Critical

"I noticed he was in a critical condition from a wound in the neck and head," Dr Perry said. "Immediate respiration methods were taken and Dr. Clark was summoned, along with other members of the surgical staff. They arrived immediately, but at this point the President's condition did not allow complete resuscitation. He was critical and moribund. Dr Clark assisted respiration with oxygen." Dr Clark said: "They called me because the President had a brain wound. Tracheotomy and resuscitation were done to relieve the possibility of air being in the pleural space, between the lung and the chest. Shortly after I arrived, the President lost his heart action." Dr Perry tried closed chest cardiac massage, to no avail. Dr Clark said the President lived 40 minutes from the time of the shooting until death was pronounced.

Few at Spot

The President, halfway through a three-day Texas tour, was shot at a spot where there were few spectators, A.P. said. Most of the huge crowd had gathered at other spots along the route. A crowd of several thousand had been waiting at the Dallas Trade Mart, to which the President was driving to give a luncheon speech. A stunned hush fell over the crowd as the news was announced. Many who were to attend the luncheon broke down and wept. The main body of the White House press corps was at the rear of the motorcade, riding in two buses, A.P. said. These men and women, who covered the President's day-to-day activities, knew nothing of the shooting until they reached the trade mart. The transparent plastic roof of the President's vehicle had been removed for the motorcade. Secret Service agents riding with the President were fired the Presidential car's following close behind. They immediately drew pistols and automatic weapons, but they were unable to get a shot at the assassin. Raced Away After the fatal shots were fired, the Presidential car's Secret Service driver raced away from the scene at top speed. He was heading for the nearest hospital and trying to get the Presidential party out of range of further gunfire. The assassination of President Kennedy hit a sunny New York like a bombshell today, according to a New York message. Lunch-hour crowds clustered in graveyards around transistor and car radios as the news spread. Soon the pavements were jammed outside radio and television shops as the news reached America's largest city. Some women were crying. There was pandemonium at the White House, where operators valiantly tried to answer the flood of calls which began coming in. In New York the Stock Exchange closed.

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Recess

The Senate immediately recessed its sittings and practically every Government office came virtually to a standstill. A workman told the President's father and mother in Hyannis Port that the President had been shot while visiting Dallas. The President's father is a semi-invalid as the result of a stroke several years ago. He was napping when the word came. At the United Nations in New York, delegates were plunged into deep shock by the shooting. United Nations officials telephoned the news to the Secretary-General (U Thant), who was lunching in a New York restaurant. Officials said Mr Stevenson "was obviously so shocked he had nothing to say."

Wept

When word of the President's death was received, many delegates and Secretariat staff wept openly. Five members of President Kennedy's Cabinet were out of the country, flying to Japan, when the President was killed. An hour and a half out of Honolulu, the secretaries were advised of the killing and immediately turned back. They were expected to speed back to Washington. The party was on the way to a meeting with members of the Japanese Cabinet. Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower today called the assassination of President Kennedy a "despicable act." The former President, in a statement issued from his suite at a New York hotel, said: "I share the sense of shock and dismay that all Americans feel at the despicable act that resulted in the death of our nation's President." Governor Nelson Rockefeller said today that the death of President Kennedy is a "terrible tragedy for the nation and the world." Senator Kennedy was presiding over the Senate chamber when he was informed that his brother had been shot.

who had been considered a potential rival of Mr Kennedy's in next year's Presidential election, learned of the chief executive's death in Chicago. Later, his office issued this statement on the Senator's behalf: "It is both shocking and dreadful that a thing like this could happen in a free country. The President's death is a profound loss to the nation and the free world."

Flew Home

Senator Edward M. Kennedy and his sister, Mrs Eunice Schriver, flew red-eyed and sombre to Hyannis Port, Massachusetts, today to be with their parents. The late President's youngest brother and his sister, the wife of the Peace Corps director, arrived at Andrews Air Force base by helicopter and within minutes had boarded a jet for Cape Cod to be with their parents. Senator Kennedy was presiding over the Senate chamber when he was informed that his brother had been shot.

MEMORIAL SERVICE ARRANGED

A memorial service to President Kennedy will be held in the Christchurch Cathedral at 2 p.m. on the day of his funeral. This was announced today by the Commander of the Naval Support Forces to Operation Deep Freeze (Rear Admiral James R. Reedy). "Through the good offices of the Bishop, Dean, and Chapter of the Christchurch Cathedral a memorial service will be held to give an opportunity of condolences to our Government and to all Americans is deeply appreciated and is a gesture worthy of the wonderful people of New Zealand." Senator Goldwater, in a statement issued from his suite at a New York hotel, said: "I share the sense of shock and dismay that all Americans feel at the despicable act that resulted in the death of our nation's President." Governor Nelson Rockefeller said today that the death of President Kennedy is a "terrible tragedy for the nation and the world."

Wife Tells of Events in Car

MRS JOHN CONNALLY, wife of the wounded Governor of Texas, said today she thinks President Kennedy was shot first, United Press International reported. She told the story of the shooting to Julian Read, a Governor's aide. She said the President was in the right rear seat of the open-top limousine. Mrs Kennedy was at his left, Connelly said. The President on a "jump" seat, and Mrs Connally faced the front. "They had just gone through town. They were through the underpass. Mrs Connally heard a shot. When the first shot was fired, Connelly turned to his seat and almost instantly was hit. "She does not know about the third shot, but it may have been the one that hit the Governor," Read said. "Jackie grabbed the President and Mrs Connally grabbed Connelly and they both ducked down in the car." Just a little while before he was assassinated, Jackie Kennedy turned to her husband and said: "You can't say Dallas wasn't friendly to you." Mrs Connally said Mrs Kennedy turned to her husband and made the remarks as they rode past cheering crowds in Dallas. Present at the swearing-in ceremony were Mrs Kennedy and several staff members and several Congressmen. Mr Johnson asked as many of the White House people as possible to crowd into the executive suite of the aeroplane to witness the ceremony. Brown-haired and tiny, Mrs Johnson is a clever businesswoman and has directed two radio and television stations. To-night Mr Johnson and his wife were to have acted as host and hostess to President and Mrs Kennedy at their "L.B.J." Texas ranch. Judge Wept Judge Hughes wept as she administered the oath. The Presidential aeroplane took off immediately for Washington with President Johnson, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Kennedy and some White House aides aboard. President Kennedy's body arrived by air to-night at Andrews Air Force Base, Washington. President Johnson was in the same aircraft. He has taken over the government. President Johnson is an intense hard-driving Texan from a family of politicians. Youngest A career politician, he reached Washington at the age of 23 as assistant to Congressmen, to become a Congressman himself five years later. In his early years he supported the New Deal, and became a protégé of President Roosevelt. He became a Democratic senator at 40, and at 49 became the youngest-ever leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate. By nature a peacemaker who prefers talking to fighting, and listens before he talks, he once said: "Any mule can kick down a barn door, but it takes a good carpenter to build one." The President is married with two daughters. Six-foot three inches tall, he displays his Texas background by wearing ten-gallon hats with his expensive, well-cut suits. His own initials, L.B.J., fascinate him—his wife christened Claudia, has been known as "Lady Bird" since the age of two. His daughters are named Lynda Bird and Lucy Baines, and even the family dog is christened Claudia. Yet in 1957 the first Civil Rights Bill to be enacted since 1875. Works Hard He drives himself hard, and in 1955 suffered a severe heart attack, which forced him to cut back his pace for a time. When he became Democratic leader Mr Johnson steered through the Senate in 1957 the first Civil Rights Bill to be enacted since 1875. Mr Khruschev, meeting him in 1959 during



President Johnson

THE MAN THEY ARRESTED



Lee Oswald, aged 24, who has been arrested on suspicion of having shot President Kennedy. —Radio Picture

55-year-old Texan Sworn In as U.S. 35th President

WASHINGTON, November 22. LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON was today sworn in as the 35th President of the United States, the Associated Press of America reported. He took the oath of office barely two hours after President Kennedy was assassinated.

The oath was administered in Mrs Johnson, several staff members and several Congressmen. Mr Johnson asked as many of the White House people as possible to crowd into the executive suite of the aeroplane to witness the ceremony. Brown-haired and tiny, Mrs Johnson is a clever businesswoman and has directed two radio and television stations. To-night Mr Johnson and his wife were to have acted as host and hostess to President and Mrs Kennedy at their "L.B.J." Texas ranch.

Judge Wept

Judge Hughes wept as she administered the oath. The Presidential aeroplane took off immediately for Washington with President Johnson, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Kennedy and some White House aides aboard.

Next Year

He will serve out the remainder of the Presidential term until the end of next year. Mr Johnson has served in both Houses of Congress for the past twenty-six years.

He was majority leader in the Senate and a leading contender for the Democratic nomination for President against the then Senator Kennedy in 1960.

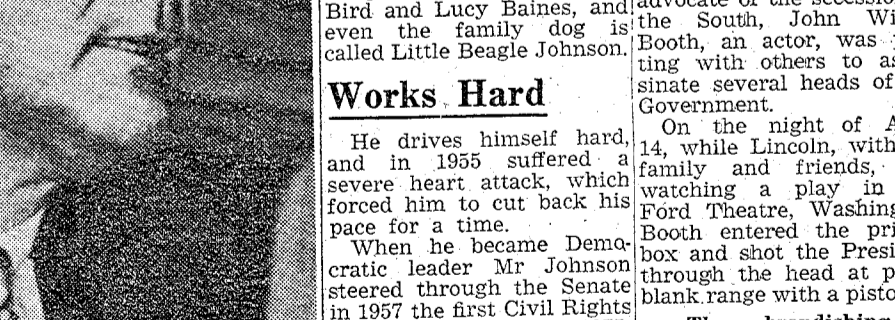
In World War II he served briefly as a naval officer in the Pacific and was for seven months a special emissary of President Roosevelt to Australia and New Zealand before returning to Congress in 1942.

Mr Johnson was with the President in the final moments of the Administration. Other cabinet members of the Administration were scattered around the nation and beyond.

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Mr Khruschev, meeting him in 1959 during



Senator John Connally, who was seriously wounded during the shooting of President Kennedy, but is now in a satisfactory condition.

Another Blow for Kennedys

suffered a stroke two years ago that left him partially disabled. Close to Death The President himself narrowly escaped death during World War II when his torpedo boat was sunk in the South Pacific. He twice was hospitalised for long periods. This recurrence of tragedy struck deeply at the Kennedys. Yet in many ways it strengthened already strong family ties. The Kennedy compound was a place of rousing conversation, of touch football, of sailing and swimming, of romping with children. It was the place where young Jack Kennedy learned to sail a boat while he was still so small that his father could not always see his head above the gunwale. It was also the place where President Kennedy took his wife after their son died in August. There they comforted each other and took comfort in their two older children, not knowing that their life together was so near an end.

WORLD MOURNS DEAD PRESIDENT

THE Prime Minister (Mr Holyoake) said his first reaction to the news of the assassination of President Kennedy was one of "stark tragedy."

"My mind almost refuses to accept his death as a fact," said the Prime Minister.

Tired, grey-faced and obviously shaken, he was speaking from his home in Pipitea Street soon after his arrival in Auckland this morning.

"I offer my family and the people of America the heartfelt sympathy of all of us in New Zealand. Their loss is the whole world's loss. Their grief will be shared by peoples of all races everywhere," Mr Holyoake said. He had met the late President only twice but they were lengthy and intimate meetings.

"I was immediately impressed by his youthfulness, by his vigour and his drive, by the blend of his idealistic fervour, with his practical commonsense, by his extraordinary grasp of so many subjects and by the quickness of his intellect. "Few heads of State can have combined so much charm or personality with such ability and determination."

Other tributes included: The Leader of the Opposition (the Hon A. H. Reed) declared "I do not know you. But I have read all your speeches and do not like any of them." Mrs Johnson whom the President married in 1934, once described her role as that of "a nice quiet background for my husband, to keep his life pleasant and smooth."

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Shocked

The Deputy-Mayor of Christchurch (Mr Harold Smith): The people of Christchurch are deeply shocked at the dreadful news, particularly in view of the

city's close ties with America through the Deep Freeze organisation. Commander of the United States Antarctic Support Force (Rear Admiral James R. Reedy): "I am deeply shocked."

The United States Ambassador to New Zealand (Mr Herbert B. Powell): I express for the people of the United States our profound shock and grief at the loss of a great President and statesman, a humanitarian concerned with the welfare of all men, regardless of race, colour or creed and a God-fearing father and family man. The Anglican Archbishop and Primate of New Zealand (the Most Rev N. A. Lessner): In common with people throughout the world, we share the deep sense of grief of our friends in the United States. We recognise fully that President Kennedy had his actions guided by his Christian convictions.

The Bishop of Christchurch (the Rt. Rev A. K. Warren) has expressed to the American Ambassador regret at the loss to the whole world, and deep sympathy to the Ambassador and his people. He had asked for special prayers for President Kennedy and for the family of the late President at services to-morrow. The Rev Athol R. Penn, President of the Methodist Church of New Zealand: My church shares the grief of the world at the tragic death of the President. The Rev Karl W. Schuessler, pastor of St Paul's Lutheran Church, Christchurch: We recognise the unique contribution Mr Kennedy made in dispelling many religious fears and prejudices. He made notable strides towards understanding among Christians of all denominations.

To Lie in State

PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S body will lie in State to-morrow at the White House, the Speaker of the House of Representatives (Mr John McCormack) has announced. Mr McCormack said he believed the body would be taken to the Capitol on Sunday, to lie in State in the great rotunda until about noon on Monday.

Traditionally, Presidents who die in office have lain in State in the rotunda. Further plans were indefinite, but it was understood funeral services would be held in Boston.

FOURTH PRESIDENT TO DIE BY BULLET

THE assassination of President John Kennedy was the fourth of a President of the United States during his term of office. Others were Abraham Lincoln (1865), James A. Garfield (1881), and William McKinley (1901).

There were unsuccessful attempts on the lives of President Theodore Roosevelt (1912), President Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933) and President Truman (1950).

The assassination of Lincoln, on the night of April 14, 1865, is probably one of the best known instances of the murder of a head of State. Lincoln, who had championed the cause of the liberation of negro slaves and the preservation of the Union throughout the Civil War, had advocated the appropriation of 400,000,000 dollars, a considerable sum in those days, for the relief of the South. He will not fail to act, when satisfied that action will be proper," he said at his last public address.

Fanatic

At that time a fanatical advocate of the secession of the South, John Wilkes Booth, an actor, was plotting with others to assassinate several heads of the Government. On the night of April 14, while Lincoln, with his family and friends, was watching a play in the Ford Theatre, Washington, Booth entered the private box and shot the President through the head at point-blank range with a pistol.

Dreams

The attempt on the life of Theodore Roosevelt was made in Chicago, in 1912, by John Neponuk Schrank, a Bavarian born fanatic, who claimed that dreams of Lincoln's assassination, Booth, prompted him to attempt the President's life. He fired at Roosevelt at the range of six feet but the bullet was partly arrested by the President's folded notes for a speech and his spectacles case. But Roosevelt carried the bullet in his chest until his death in 1919.

Few Months

James Abram Garfield, a lawyer-politician, was shot on July 2, 1881, only a few months after his inauguration on March 4, and lingered until September 19, 1881. Garfield, who during the election campaign had been the subject of violent personal abuse, and was accused of underhand practices, was shot in a Washington railway station by a disappointed office-seeker, Charles J. Guiteau.

At the range he fired the whole contents of his revolver—five shots—but missed Roosevelt altogether. Each shot hit a member of Roosevelt's party, though none was seriously wounded. Two Puerto Ricans,

Oscar Collazo and Grisello Torresola, who advocated the complete independence of their country, made an attempt on the life of President Harry Truman, at Blair House, Washington, on October 31, 1950. They tried to shoot their way into the President's temporary residence while the White House was being repaired, but they did not gain entry. Torresola was shot dead during the action, and a policeman, Coffelt, died of his wounds after the gun-battle. President Truman was asleep at the time the shooting started, but he awakened in time to put his head out of the window and see the end of the battle.

Two Puerto Ricans, Sir Eruru Tirikatene: On behalf of the Maori people of New Zealand, I want to express sadness and shock at the tragic loss of the modern world's greatest political leader. He exemplified other great qualities besides forthright and fearless upholding of the principles which he believed. He was an example of a man sure in his faith in God and was also the cornerstone of a cohesive family unit. Maori dom mourns. Canterbury regional executive of the Social Credit Political League: Never since Abraham Lincoln has there been an American President with such an understanding of the common people and their needs. Undaunted by political pressure, he persisted in his efforts to bring justice to the underprivileged. In the international field, his statesmanship, with its strength, conciliation and understanding, marked him as an historical figure. Sir John Walsh, President of the United Nations Association in New Zealand: We should remember Lincoln's words: "From this honourable dead we should take increased devotion to that cause for which he gave the last full measure of devotion."—P.A. Overseas reaction included: Moscow—Moscow Radio broke its programme to make a "sorrowful report." It did not resume its normal programme but began broadcasting solemn organ music. Pope Prays Rome—Pope Paul received the news with dismay. He immediately retired to his private chapel to pray. Paris—The French Prime Minister (Mr Georges Pompidou): The assassination was "atrocious, it is frightful." President De Gaulle: President Kennedy died like a soldier, under fire, for his duty and in the service of his country. The stations throughout Finland stopped their scheduled programmes and broadcast mourning music. Belgrade—President Tito of Yugoslavia telephoned the United States. The Charge D'Affaires in Belgrade to offer his condolences. Madrid—A Spanish Foreign office spokesman said: "Everyone here is horrified." Grieving Bonn—West German Vice-Chancellor Mr Erich Mende: "The news fills the German people with deep grief." Berlin.—The Mayor of the American States (Mr Willy Brandt): I feel as if I light ha; gone out. The Hague—Dutch Prime Minister (Mr Victor Marijnen): "His disappearance from the political world will have far-reaching consequences." Algiers—President Ahmed Ben Bella praised President Kennedy's humane policies in favour of desegregation. Memorial Canberra.—The Australian Opposition leader (Mr Arthur Calwell) by his life and his death he has achieved an enduring memorial to the hearts and minds of the American people and the people of all nations who have looked to America for leadership and support during his short but highly successful administration. Ottawa—The Prime Minister of Canada (Mr Lester Pearson): "The world can ill afford at this time to lose a man of his courage."

20 Years Between N.Z.P.A.A.P. WASHINGTON, Nov. 23. President Kennedy's assassination continues the coincidence that American Presidents elected at twenty-year intervals in zero-numbered years die in office. The list includes: 1840—William Henry Harrison. 1860—Abraham Lincoln. 1880—James A. Garfield. 1900—William McKinley. 1920—Warren G. Harding. 1940—Franklin D. Roosevelt. 1960—John F. Kennedy.

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