

Reopen the search for the assassins of John F. Kennedy

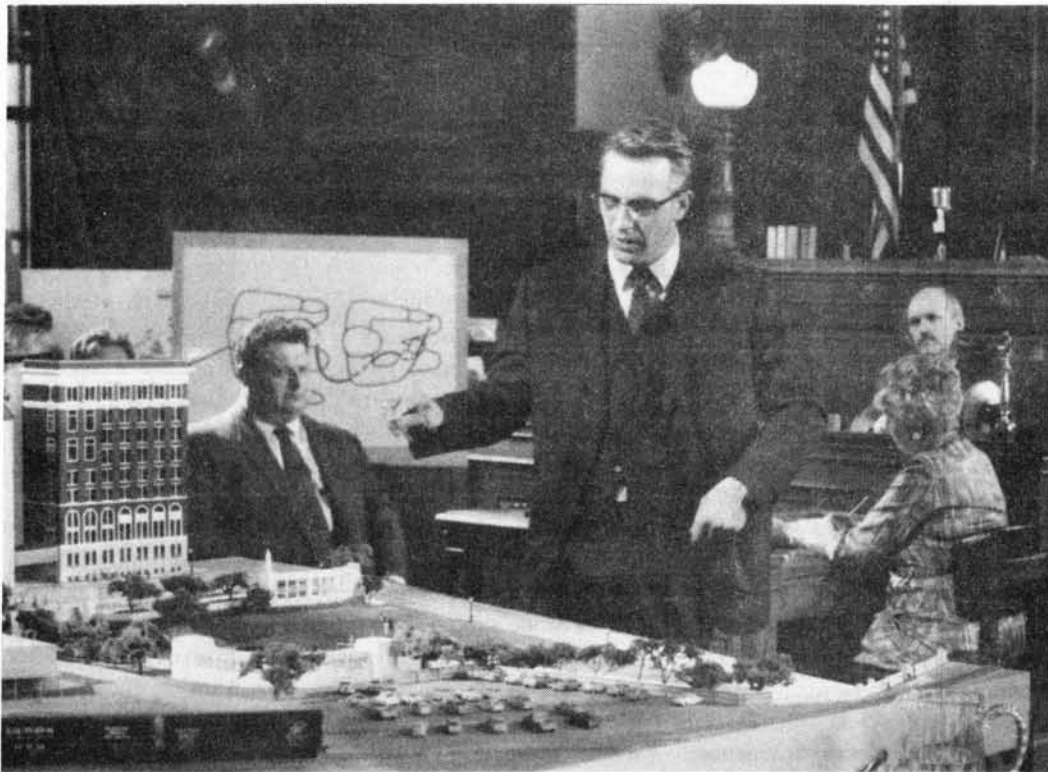
by Jeffrey Steinberg

"I have been accused by a number of people, some of them journalists, of a distortion of history. And if there is any common thread of attack running through the claims of those critics of 'JFK,' it is the notion that somehow there is an accepted, settled perspective, a carefully thought-out and researched body of history about the assassination of John F. Kennedy, all of which I have deliberately set out to subvert, using as my weapon the motion picture medium, and taking as my target the impressionable young who will believe anything as long as it is visual."—Oliver Stone, Jan. 15, 1992

Since early December, over 10 million Americans—most under 30 years of age—have flocked to movie theaters and received a shocking lesson in contemporary history. Director Oliver Stone's epic three-hour film "JFK" has catalyzed a renewed clamor for the truth to be told at last about one of the darkest moments in American history: the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. By the time the 1992 general elections take place, a projected 50 million people, nearly one out of every five Americans, will have seen the film. In an era in which the majority of Americans rarely take the time to read, the Stone film drama is having a profound impact.

Statesman and historian Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., who was railroaded into federal prison in 1989 by the same faction that 26 years earlier conspired to kill President Kennedy, has called the Kennedy assassination and its coverup the beginning of the end of America as a force for good in the world. Thus, the settling of accounts for that tragic event is, in LaRouche's view, an urgent and unavoidable precondition for reversing the policy course during the period from 1964 to the present that has led the United States to economic ruin and moral decay.

Drawing heavily from the 1967 investigation by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison, the archives of the Warren Commission, and the files of the 1978 congressional investigation, Stone has crafted a devastating, irrefutable critique of the Warren Commission's conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald was the "lone assassin" of President Kennedy in November 1963. Beyond that, as Stone has said in recent interviews, the film "JFK" simply presents one well-documented hypothesis as to the motives for



Warner Bros., Inc.

In the film "JFK," New Orleans D.A. Jim Garrison (Kevin Costner) presents his case to the courtroom, showing the path of Kennedy's motorcade. The spot where Kennedy was shot did not present the optimum target from the Texas Book Depository, but was perfect for crossfire from three directions—one of many pieces of evidence refuting the Warren Commission's "lone assassin" theory. In the background is a diagram of the "magic bullet" which allegedly defied physical laws in order to kill the President.

killing America's youngest President. The film does not pretend to provide all the answers to why Kennedy was killed. Indeed, as *EIR* suggests in the report that follows, it does not even ask all the right questions.

But as an artistic intervention into the popular conscience, "JFK" has rekindled a debate and triggered a groundswell of pressure for opening the archives and unearthing the truth—a demand which *EIR*'s editors fully endorse. And not surprisingly, the film has called forth violent attacks from an army of establishment loyalists, many of whose own careers were forged through their cooperation in burying the truth about who killed Kennedy and why.

No lesser figures than President George Bush and former President Gerald Ford (the last living member of the original Warren Commission panel) have stepped forward to denounce Stone and to urge Americans not to be "fooled" by the movie.

Stone explained the reason for the attacks to a crowded luncheon audience at the National Press Club in mid-January: "So long as the attackers of that comforting lone gunman theory could be dismissed as kooks and cranks and writers of obscure books that would not be published by 'reputable' publishing houses, not much defense was needed. Now, that myth is under attack by a well-financed and, hopefully, well-made motion picture. Now, either enormous amounts of evidence have to be marshaled in support of that myth, or else those who are questioning must be attacked. There is no evidence; therefore, the attack is on."

Permindex revisited

At the heart of the Stone film is the 1967 trial of Clay Shaw, the New Orleans "businessman" who was indicted by Garrison on charges that he conspired to kill Kennedy. Shaw was the New Orleans World Trade Mart director and a board member of the international trade expositions firm Permindex-CMC (Centro Mondiale Commerciale), founded by leading British intelligence figure Maj. Louis Mortimer Bloomfield of Montreal, Canada.

In 1978, at the request of Lyndon LaRouche, a team of U.S. Labor Party investigators conducted a probe of Bloomfield and Permindex, expanding on the original work by Garrison. Those findings were included in the bestselling book *Dope, Inc.*, and were later published in a special report issued by *EIR*.

Next month, *EIR* plans to publish an updated and expanded edition of *Dope, Inc.*, which will include the original material on Permindex, detailing the links between the authors of the assassination of President Kennedy, the would-be killers of President Charles de Gaulle of France, and the assassins of Italy's state oil industrialist Enrico Mattei in 1962. The Permindex dossier suggests a far broader roster of assassins than the American "military-industrial complex" targeted by Garrison and Stone. It also suggests a far broader set of motives, implicating powerful forces on both sides of the Atlantic who saw Kennedy's plans to end the Cold War by a peace through superior strength approach to U.S.-Soviet relations, and his moves to bring the Federal Reserve System under constitutional control, as a grave threat to their global power.