

Kennedy's Assassination

1. JFK was taking a trip to Dallas to prepare for his re-election campaign. He was trying to win over Texas Democrats.
 - a. Jackie and John rode through Dallas in a convertible limousine, traveling at about 5 miles/hour.
 - b. Governor of Texas, John Connally and his wife, Nellie, sat in the front seat.
 - c. There had been concerns from some of Kennedy's aides that he would have an unfriendly reception in Texas, due to problems within the Democratic party.
 - d. As crowds cheered and waved, Nellie turned around and said, "You can't say Dallas isn't friendly to you today." Seconds later . . .
 - e. Shots rang out as the car rounded a corner near a warehouse for books, called the Texas School Book Depository.
2. On November 22, 1963, he was killed by Lee Harvey Oswald (?).
 - a. Oswald was a 24-year-old ex-Marine who had lived briefly in the USSR, supported Castro, and had been given a dishonorable discharge from the military due to his controversial beliefs.
 - b. Oswald had also recently visited Mexico, where he went to the Soviet embassy and the Cuban embassy.
 - c. Lee Harvey Oswald's fingerprint was found on the rifle used to kill JFK.
 - d. Oswald was captured hiding in a movie theater.
3. Two days later, when Oswald was being transported between jails, a man stepped forward from the crowd of reporters and shot and killed Oswald.
4. The killer of Oswald was a strip club owner and minor mobster, named Jack Ruby.
5. "Where were you when Kennedy was shot?" became the question of the era, as word of the president's death sent shock waves across the country.
6. Kennedy's funeral was on Monday, November 25, 1963.
7. The Warren Commission was created to investigate the murder and concluded that Oswald fired three shots and acted alone.
 - a. They insisted that all the shots came from behind, but other evidence contradicts the finding.
 - b. Many say that Oswald could not have acted alone, and there were more than three shots.
 - c. People question whether all of the shots could have come from behind and wonder if there was a second shooter that fired from the front.
 - d. There is still a great deal of debate and missing information, so that there has been no definite, conclusive evidence either way.
8. In 1979, a reinvestigation concluded Oswald was in a conspiracy and that two people fired on the president.
9. There were further investigations with re-creations and acoustic tests, and some of the evidence supported the Warren Commission findings, while other evidence refuted it.
10. In 1992, the JFK Public Records Act created a panel to review government and private files to decide what's part of the public record and can be released. This law allowed government documents, on many different subjects, from various eras of US history, to be released . . .
11. But, there is still evidence considered sensitive that is sealed from public view even today.