

UNCLASSIFIED

\*\*\* BEGIN MESSAGE 42 \*\*\*

SERIAL= UDN=W01(451)

CLASS=UNCLASSIFIED

LEY788

REULE

R A

BC-USA-JFK CI-02 0445

BC-USA-JFK

SCIENTIST SAYS HIS ANALYSIS SHOWS KENNEDY WAS SHOT FROM THE REAR \*  
NARRAGANSETT, RHODE ISLAND, JAN 2, REUTER - THE HOME MOVIE \*  
OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F KENNEDY REVEALS THAT HE \*  
WAS SHOT IN THE HEAD FROM THE REAR -- NOT FROM THE FRONT -- AS \*  
SEVERAL ASSASSINATION THEORIES CLAIM, A SCIENTIST SAID ON \*  
SATURDAY.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND CHEMIST KENNETH RAHN SAID HE \*  
ANALYSED THE DRAMATIC FILM BY ABRAHAM ZAPRUDER AND FOUND THAT AT \*  
THE INSTANT KENNEDY WAS HIT -- A MOMENT MARKED BY THE CLOUD OF \*  
BLOOD THAT APPEARS AROUND THE FACE -- THE PRESIDENT'S HEAD \*  
SNAPPED FORWARD 2 \*  
INCHES (5.4 CM).

IT IS NOT UNTIL A FRACTION OF A SECOND LATER, AFTER THE \*  
BULLET PASSED THROUGH KENNEDY'S SKULL, THAT THE PRESIDENT BEGAN \*  
TO LURCH BACKWARDS AND TO THE RIGHT, HE SAID.

THAT MOVEMENT HAS CONVINCED MANY PEOPLE THAT THE FATAL SHOT \*  
MUST HAVE COME FROM A GRASSY KNOLL TO KENNEDY'S RIGHT.

BUT RAHN, WHO USUALLY STUDIES THE PATH OF POLLUTION \*  
PARTICLES IN THE ATMOSPHERE, SAID THE LAWS OF PHYSICS MAKE IT \*  
IMPOSSIBLE FOR A BULLET TO MOVE A TARGET AFTER IT HAS FINISHED \*  
PASSING THROUGH.

KENNEDY'S BACKWARD LURCH DOESN'T BEGIN UNTIL ABOUT A 10TH OF \*  
A SECOND AFTER THE BULLET PASSED THROUGH, RAHN SAID, A DELAY \*  
CONSISTENT WITH THE TIME IT WOULD TAKE FOR REFLEXES TO MAKE HIS \*  
BODY JUMP BACK INVOLUNTARILY.

RAHN BECAME INTRIGUED BY THE ASSASSINATION MOVIE AFTER \*  
WATCHING DIRECTOR OLIVER STONE'S CONTROVERSIAL FILM

J.F.K.,:

THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT OLIVER STONE BELIEVES:: THAT THE \*  
FATAL SHOT CAME FROM THE FRONT:: AND NOW THERE'S NO DOUBT HE \*  
BLEW IT. BIG TIME,:: SAID RAHN.

A SPOKESWOMAN SAID THE FILMMAKER WAS TIED UP WITH A NEW \*  
PROJECT AND DECLINED TO COMMENT.

KENNEDY, WAS KILLED IN DALLAS ON NOVEMBER 22, 1963, WAS ALSO \*  
STRUCK IN THE THROAT BEFORE BEING SHOT IN THE HEAD.

ZAHN'S THEORY IS CONSISTENT WITH THE WARREN COMMISSION'S \*  
FINDINGS, WHICH SAID THE SHOT THAT HIT KENNEDY IN THE HEAD CAME \*  
FROM ABOVE AND TO THE REAR. THE COMMISSION CONCLUDED THAT \*  
KENNEDY WAS KILLED BY A LONE GUNMAN, LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

MANY CONSPIRACY THEORIES ASSERT THAT KENNEDY WAS KILLED BY A \*  
SHOT FROM THE FRONT, BUT RAHN SAID THE FORWARD SNAP OF KENNEDY'S \*  
HEAD, SEEN ON FRAMES 312 AND 313 OF THE ZAPRUDER FILM, DESTROYS \*  
MOST OF THESE THEORIES.

RAHN SAID IT IS STILL POSSIBLE THERE WAS MORE THAN ONE \*  
ASSASSIN. BUT IF OTHER ASSASSINS PULLED THE TRIGGER, HE SAID.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

THERE IS NO CONVINCING EVIDENCE THEIR SHOTS MADE ANY DIFFERENCE.

RAHN SAID HIS ANALYSIS REQUIRED LITTLE MORE THAN A BASIC  
BACKGROUND IN PHYSICS, A LASERDISK VERSION OF

J.F.K.: -

WHICH PERMITTED THE DETAILED, FRAME-BY-FRAME ANALYSIS OF THE  
ZAPRUDER FILM -- AND TRACING PAPER TO COMPARE THE MOTION OF  
KENNEDY'S HEAD TO IMMOBILE OBJECTS IN THE SCENE.

REUTER STR TB GE

REUT19:19 01-02

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED