



JFK's Foreign Policy: A motive for murder

Jim DiEugenio

JFK's Foreign Policy in Assassination Books

Cuba

CIA

Vietnam

Pentagon

Cuba

CIA

Vietnam

Pentagon

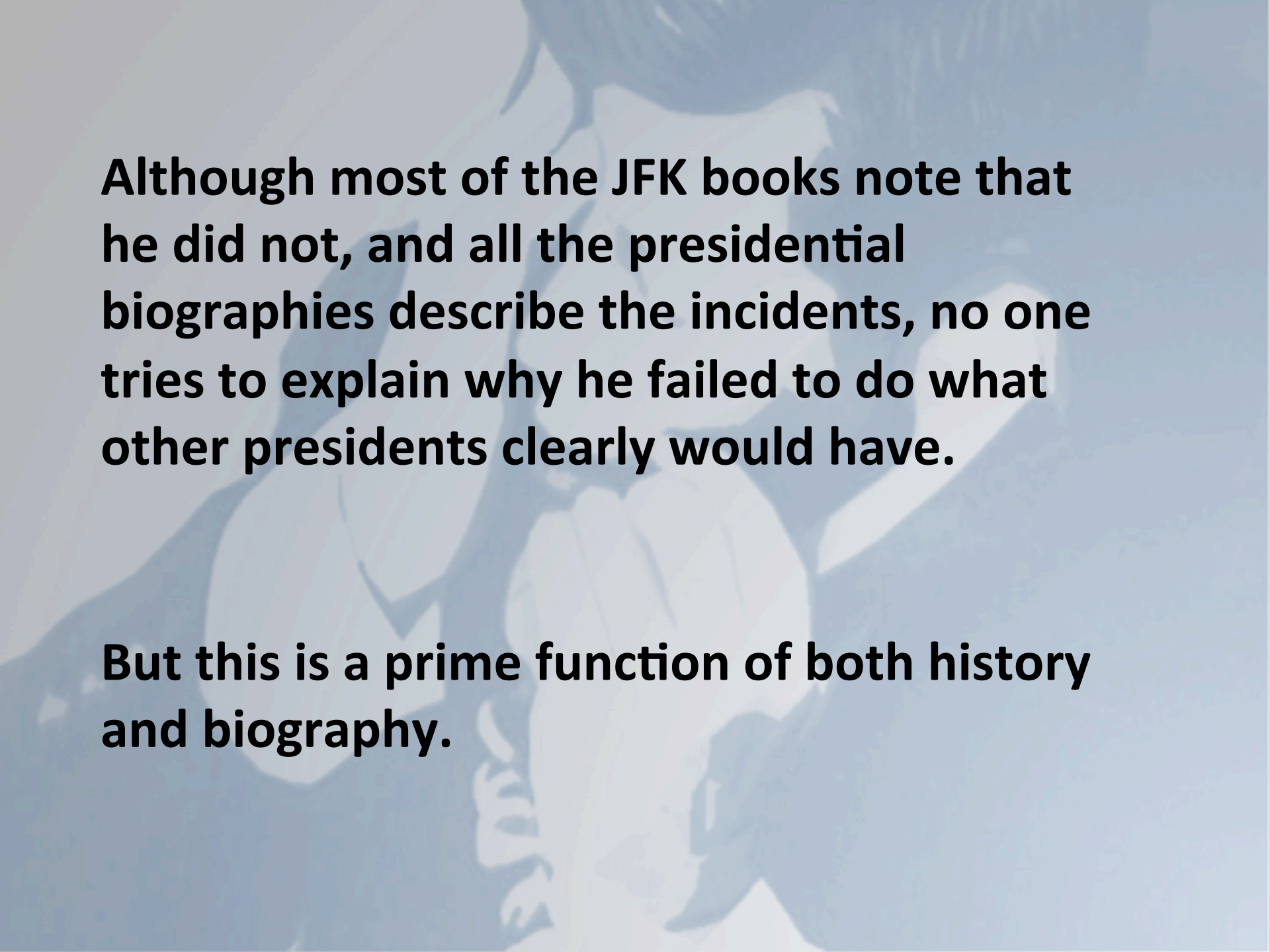
Cuba

Does NOT EXPLAIN

Why JFK didn't commit troops in Vietnam in 1961.

Why JFK did not commit the Navy to bail out "Bay of Pigs" invasion.

Why JFK did not bomb the missile sites in Cuba.



Although most of the JFK books note that he did not, and all the presidential biographies describe the incidents, no one tries to explain why he failed to do what other presidents clearly would have.

But this is a prime function of both history and biography.

If a president consistently goes against the prevalent CW, defying almost all of his advisors, the question then becomes, what made him consistently contrary?

Authors like Dallek and Reeves never even pose the question, let alone answer it.



Robert Dallek



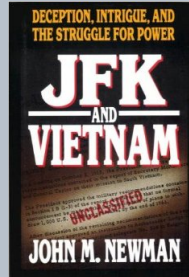
Richard Reeves

But what is more surprising is that authors respected inside the JFK community, people who I admire, don't really explain this mystery either.

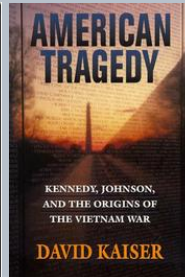
There is a parallel to note.

Yesterday I said that today it appears that people like Mark Lane, Tink Thompson, and Harold Weisberg weren't daring enough.

In the field of Kennedy foreign policy studies, I'd make the same claim.



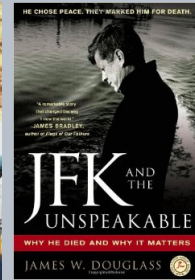
John Newman



David Kaiser

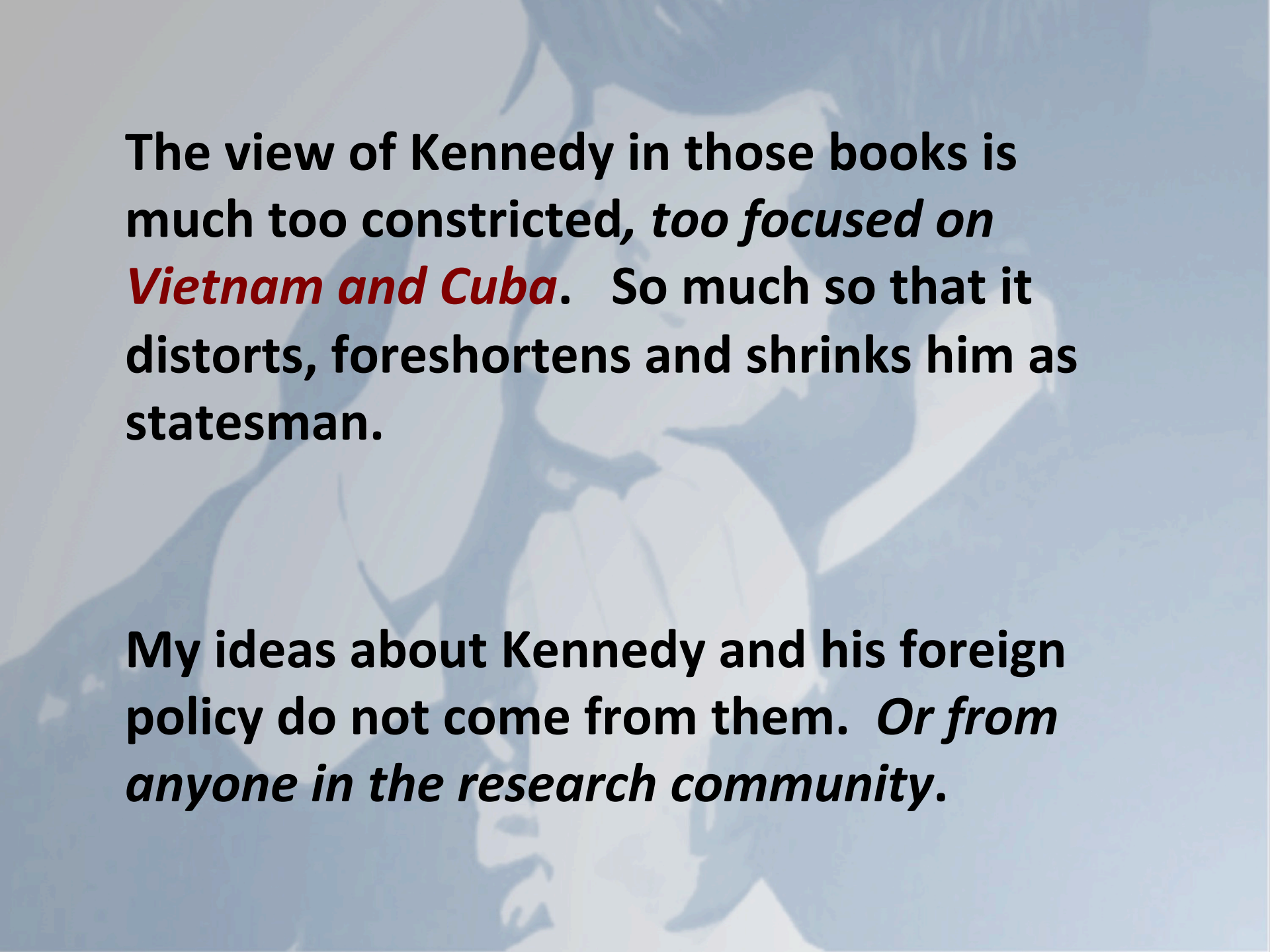
I like the books by John Newman and David Kaiser on Kennedy and Vietnam.

I very much like Jim Douglass' book *JFK and the Unspeakable*.



James Douglass

But I disagree with all three in their view of John Kennedy.

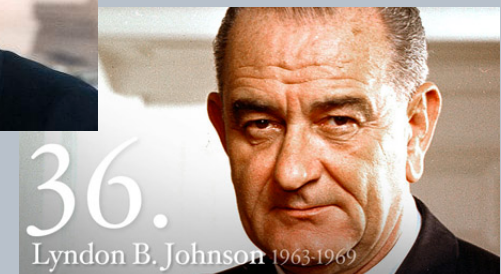
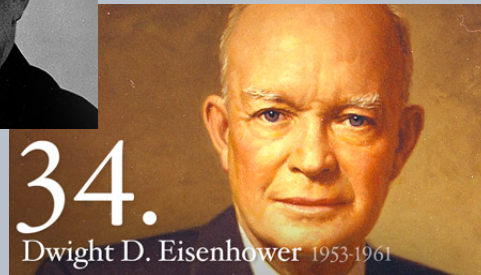
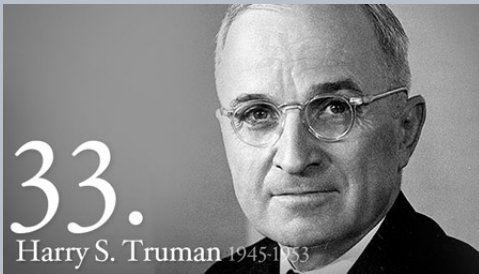
A faded, light blue background image of John F. Kennedy, showing his face and upper torso. He is wearing a suit and tie, and his expression is serious.

The view of Kennedy in those books is much too constricted, *too focused on Vietnam and Cuba*. So much so that it distorts, foreshortens and shrinks him as statesman.

My ideas about Kennedy and his foreign policy do not come from them. *Or from anyone in the research community.*

A “Cold Warrior” Turns?

The tag line on Douglass’s book, meaning that somehow Kennedy was Eisenhower or Truman or LBJ until the Missile Crisis. That is, just a modified version of the received wisdom that, in essence, when it came to the Cold War,



33 = 34 = 35 = 36

I could not disagree more. *The record does not support that at all.*

President Kennedy's foreign policy was *pretty much formed by the time he was inaugurated in 1961.*

If a real reporter or insider had been aware of it, he could have predicted that Kennedy was not going to commit combat troops to Vietnam, or bail out the Bay of Pigs debacle or invade Cuba.

This is not a matter of hagiography, or of Camelot dreaminess.

It is simply a matter of digging, of real scholarship, of broadening one's perspective to see the overview and not being blinded by tunnel vision, or in the research community, the tendency to "follow the leader".

In a field like this there should be no leaders. There should be nothing but finding new and better information. And that should be a constant process.



Yet the lemming syndrome has blinded us all to this *second* cover-up ...

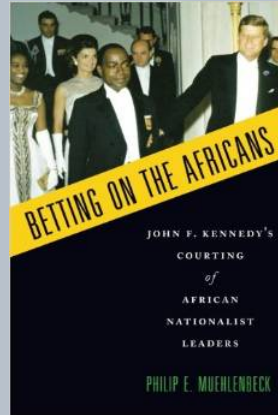
Who was John Kennedy?

Important Sources on JFK's Foreign Policy

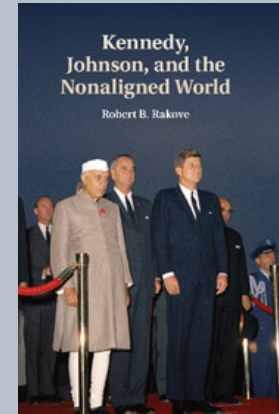
(likely unfamiliar to most researchers of the assassination)



Richard Mahoney's *JFK: Ordeal in Africa*



Philip Muehlenbeck's *Betting on the Africans*



Robert Rakove's *Kennedy, Johnson and the Non-Aligned World*

If you have not read those books, you do not really know who John Kennedy was.

Mahoney's book, especially, completely changed my thinking about how Kennedy's foreign policy was formed.

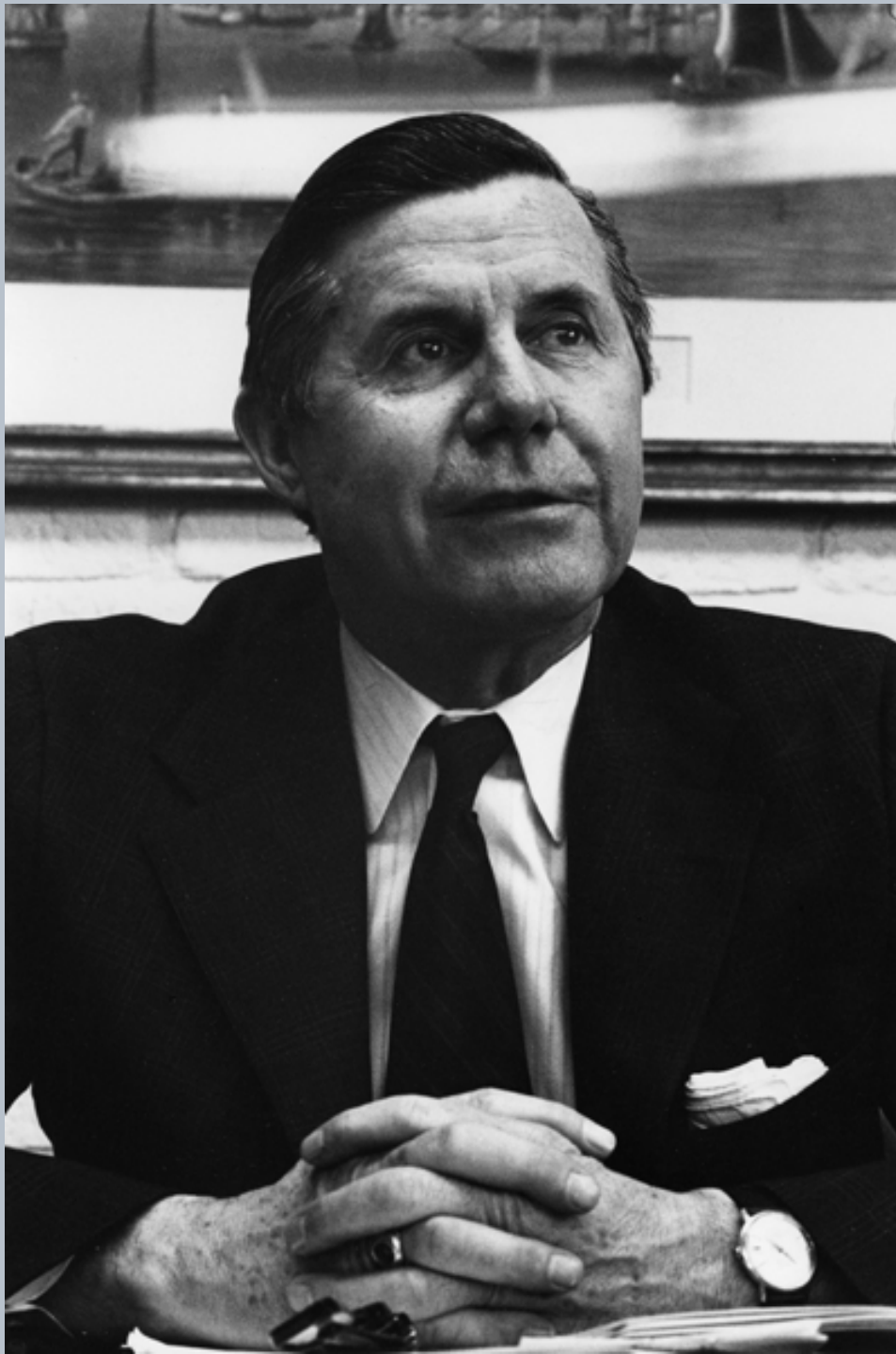
JFK's Foreign Policy Education

Why do I say that Kennedy's foreign policy was formed in large part by 1961?

Because he met a certain diplomat many years before he became president.

To show how far behind the learning curve the research community was, this man's name was not in a Kennedy assassination book until *JFK and the Unspeakable* in 2008. Which means it was bottled up for 44 years.

A bit astonishing, considering the influence this man had on young Kennedy.



**State Department
Official**

Edmund Gullion



Since Gullion spoke French, he was transferred to Vietnam.



**On a visit to Saigon
in 1951,
Congressman
Kennedy had a
meeting with
Gullion.**

The 1951 Saigon Meeting

France will never win the war in Vietnam.

Ho Chi Minh inspired the young men to die rather than be under the yoke of the French.

France could never win a war of attrition.

The French home front would never support it.



**Gullion changed forever JFK's
thinking on foreign policy.**

Congo

Gullion became Kennedy's point man on the great Congo struggle, which began before Kennedy was president, and continued until after his assassination.

This episode is disgracefully ignored by the JFK research group.

Why is it important?

It shows Gullion's immense influence on Kennedy, in JFK's undying attempt to keep Congo free of European influence, and the rich region of Katanga part of Congo and not a colony of Belgium and France.

All three protagonists for freedom were murdered by 1963.

Congo

There is an old cliché, “A picture is worth a thousand words.”

To me, there is no picture in all of Kennedy’s presidency worth more than the one Jacques Lowe shot unbeknownst to Kennedy in the Oval Office.

It was unrehearsed and it was a surprise call; that is why it reveals so much about the man and who he was.

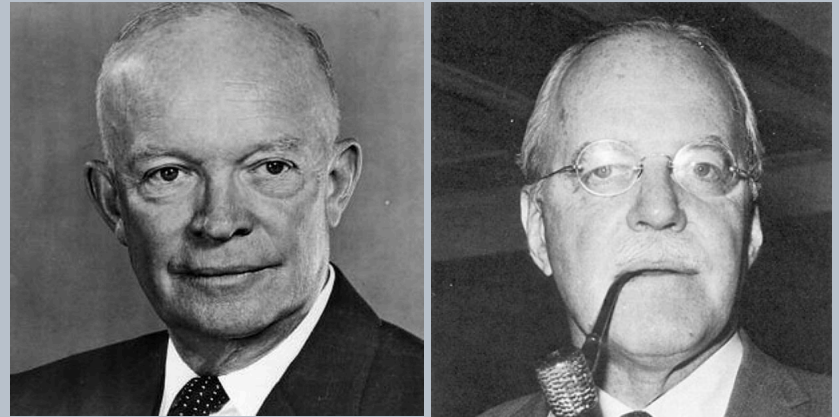


Kennedy getting the news of Lumumba's death

We know that neither Eisenhower nor Johnson would have reacted remotely like this.

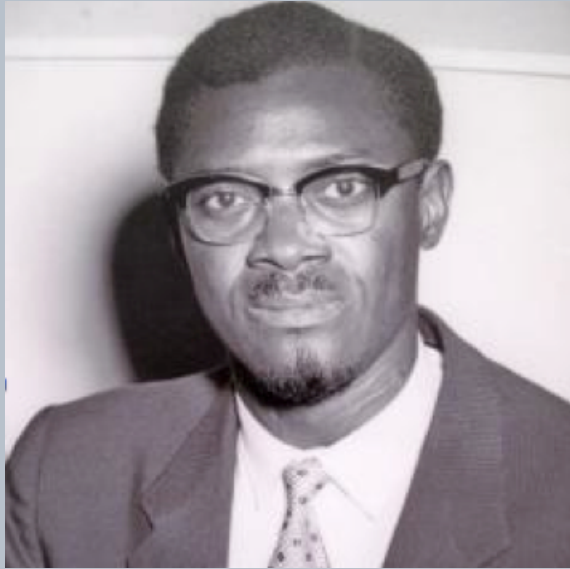
How do we know this?

Because Eisenhower, after conferring with Allen Dulles, ordered the assassination of Lumumba.



LBJ reversed Kennedy's policy in Congo and ordered CIA Cuban exile pilots to strafe the last of Lumumba's followers.

Congo: Three Murders, 1961-63



Patrice Lumumba

Murdered by the Belgians with the help of the CIA in 1961.



Dag Hammarskjöld

Murdered. Likely by the Belgians in a faked plane crash.



John F. Kennedy

Murdered. By the CIA and its allies, including the Mob, in 1963.

Congo

Why are those three murders so important?

Because once they were completed, **Kennedy's policy was completely reversed**. The CIA took over the American embassy and started a secret air war to eliminate the last of Lumumba's followers.

Congo became a vassal state to Belgium and England, and the **riches of Katanga did not go to the Congolese people** as Kennedy wanted.

They went to dictator Mobutu and his imperial employers.

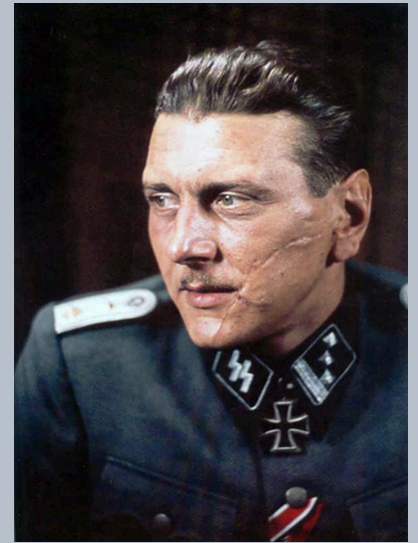
Congo

How important was Congo to the Power Elite?

Jim Lesar has seen CIA documents which show that they hired Otto Skorzeny, Hitler's ace commando, to coordinate the anti-Lumumba forces in Katanga.

Skorzeny was not CIA; he ran his own agency called Paladin.

To risk the exposure of something like that means the stakes were *very high*.



Otto Skorzeny

Out of Africa

Kennedy was determined to get European powers out of Africa.



Antonio Salazar

He offered Salazar of Portugal the equivalent of 16 billion dollars (today) to set free Mozambique and Angola.

When Portugal refused, JFK sent aid to the rebels in each country.

Out of Africa



Charles DeGaulle

Kennedy risked relations with France over Africa also.

In November 1963, a study was made to find countermeasures to ways in which DeGaulle was keeping Francophone Africa under his influence.

Indonesia



Sukarno

The exact *same pattern* occurred in Indonesia as in Congo.

Eisenhower and the Dulles brothers approved a coup attempt to overthrow Sukarno.

When Kennedy became president, he asked for a report on this action.

Dulles gave him a *redacted* version.

But once he read it, Kennedy exclaimed, “No wonder Sukarno doesn’t like us. *We tried to overthrow his government.*”

Indonesia

Kennedy was *determined to make an alliance* with the leftist Sukarno.

He assigned RFK and Ellsworth Bunker to negotiate the **return of West Irian to Indonesia** from Netherlands.

West Irian

West Irian is even richer than Katanga. Kennedy wanted this wealth to go to the people of Indonesia.

Just one mine in that area, the Grasberg Mine, does almost **three billion dollars a year** in gold, silver and copper deposits.

And that was in 2006! Multiply that sum by about 40 years and you will see what was at stake there for the Power Elite.

So the familiar pattern repeats itself

After Kennedy befriends a Third World leader, and in fact promises to visit him in his homeland, the **CIA and LBJ reverse this policy** – with disastrous results for the native population.

- Within 18 months of JFK's assassination, the CIA plots to overthrow Sukarno and decimate the PKI, his communist base party.
- This takes place in the fall of 1965, and is **the bloodiest CIA coup in history**. Perhaps as many as 400,000 of the PKI are murdered. Another brutal dictator, Suharto, comes to power.
- The **wealth of West Irian does not go to Indonesia**, but to Suharto and his imperial allies.

Middle East

All of this, showing Gullion's influence, is important and strangely ignored.

But for today's world, what I think is most relevant is Kennedy's Middle East policy.

How many of you knew he had a Middle East policy? (After all, all that matters is Cuba and Vietnam, right?)

Well, he did have such a policy. And he built it, as he usually did, **in opposition to** what came before him: **Dulles/Eisenhower.**

Egypt and Nasser



Gamal Abdel Nasser

John Foster Dulles killed the US relationship with Nasser of Egypt. He decided to **back the monarchy in Saudi Arabia** against Nasser.

Kennedy **reversed** his policy and actually **backed Nasser's** importation of troops into the Yemen civil war against Saudi Arabia.

The Role of Egypt



Gamal Abdel Nasser

Kennedy perceived Nasser and Sadat as the best hopes of **harnessing Arab nationalism** in a direction of progress and democracy, avoiding the extremes of monarchy and religious fanaticism.

Lebanon and Iran

Kennedy **opposed the Dulles intervention in Lebanon** in 1958 to back a Christian pro-West leader.

Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi



He also commissioned a State Department study of the costs and liabilities of **returning Mossadegh to power** in Iran.



Mohammad Mossadegh

Algeria

This policy stems all the way back to **1957** and Kennedy's great Algeria speech in the Senate:

“In these days, we can help fulfill a great and promising opportunity to show the world that a new nation, with an Arab heritage, can establish itself in the Western tradition and successfully withstand both the pull toward Arab feudalism and fanaticism and the pull toward communist authoritarianism.”

Secular Nationalism

These policies of actively backing *secular nationalists* like Nasser and Sadat were part of a conscious effort to moderate the *radical Islamist* strain Kennedy knew was still there from the days of the Ottoman Empire.

At the same time, JFK opposed Israel's acquiring atomic weapons. He saw that as threatening and escalating.



King Saud

And he was also firmly opposed to monarchies like the Shah in Iran, and also King Saud in Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia / Iran

The two later reversals of Kennedy's policies there had cataclysmic results.

Because Saudi Arabia became a secret sponsor to terrorism.

And the explosion of Islamic religious fanaticism Kennedy feared broke out in Iran in 1979.

The “White Revolution” in Iran

The Kennedy brothers were very dissatisfied with the Shah of Iran. As with Saud, they saw his monarchy as being out of touch with the masses, cronyish, and opposed to civil rights.

The Shah knew the study about Mossadegh was not just talk. The Kennedys wanted the Shah to expand economic opportunity and civil rights.

So in 1963, the Shah launched a reform movement called the **White Revolution** to give land to peasants and grant more rights to women.

The Aftermath of Dallas

But as James Bill notes in his fine book, *The Eagle and the Lion*, the pressure on the Shah was *greatly lessened* by Johnson, and especially Nixon and Carter.

Why?

Because of **all three presidents' connections to the Rockefellers**, who had much invested in the Shah's survival by any means.

LBJ was close to Nelson Rockefeller. Henry Kissinger, Nixon's national security adviser, owed his career to David Rockefeller. As did Zbigniew Brzezinski, Carter's national security adviser.

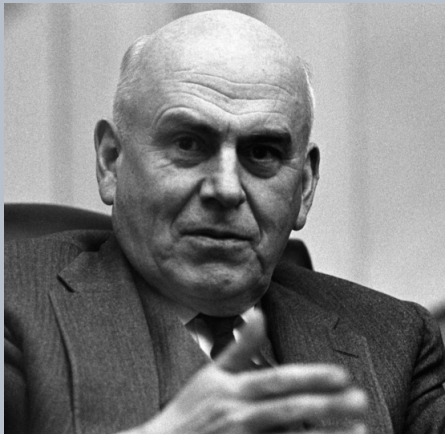
The Rockefellers

Kennedy never cared for David Rockefeller's globalist designs.

But there is no doubt that **Allen Dulles and John McCloy** were Rockefeller's disciples.



David Rockefeller



John McCloy

It was not Jimmy Carter's decision to let the Shah into the USA. That decision was pushed on him by John McCloy, who was being paid royally to do so by David Rockefeller.

Since Carter resisted his overtures, McCloy decided to pick off his advisors one by one – Warnke, Vance, and Mondale now joined Brzezinski.

Carter was now cornered. But before he caved in, he turned and asked:

*“All right. But just answer me this: What are you guys going to advise me to do **when they invade our embassy and take our employees hostage?**”*

David Rockefeller & John McCloy

That move by Rockefeller and McCloy, which did so much to bring us Ronald Reagan, was previewed back in 1964.

In the fall of 1963, David Rockefeller wanted to meet with JFK about planning an overthrow of the government of Brazil. **Kennedy refused** to take that meeting.

But in December, **Johnson did**.

The coup in Brazil started in spring, 1964. The point man for Rockefeller and the CIA was McCloy, at the same time he was sitting on the Warren Commission.

The Legacy of Policy Reversal



The switching of JFK's policies in the Middle East was completed by the tilting toward Saudi Arabia, and the overall imbalance toward Israel.

Therefore, when the outburst of Islamist radicalism exploded in 1979 in Iran – as Kennedy predicted – there was no real check on it.

In fact, all the conditions were there to make it grow and mushroom. And has it ever.



The Legacy of Policy Reversal

As Robert Rakove has written, there is a direct line from Kennedy's assassination to the Six Day war, to the creation of Al Qaeda, to the attacks of 9-11, to Edward Snowden.



John Kennedy was loved in the Third World. Today America is despised there.

The Legacy of Policy Reversal



So when people ask, “What is relevant about the JFK case today?”, the answer should be:

“Everything in today's headlines.

It's just that the MSM doesn't know it.”

That is one reason there is a cover up about who Kennedy was.

Other Reversals

Within 18 months of JFK's death:

- American combat troops are in Vietnam.
- Cuban exiles are flying missions to kill the last of Lumumba's followers.
- Sukarno is overthrown and the Communist Party of Indonesia is decimated.
- This story is repeated in the Dominican Republic, Brazil, and Laos.

C[orporate] I[nterests] of A[merica]

One of the errors many of us make is not to understand that the CIA is *not really an entity unto itself*.

As Donald Gibson noted, when the CIA was created, the two men lobbying hardest for it were **Donovan** and **Dulles**. Donovan was strongly involved with the **Morgan** interests and Dulles with **Rockefeller**.



Allen Dulles

When Dulles became director, the CIA escalated overthrows and assassinations, in the Eastern Establishment's interests.

JFK was *not* “Eastern Establishment”

Owing to his Irish heritage, which he never forgot, Kennedy was not a part of the Eastern Establishment.

He **never** joined the CFR.

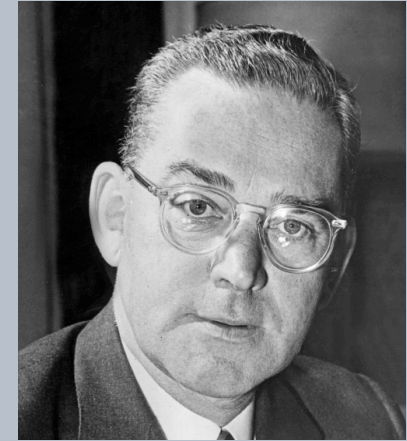
He **never** joined any secret societies.

He **didn't like working intel** in WW II.

JFK was *not* “Eastern Establishment”

To show how much apart he was from this club, consider his treatment of Jock Whitney.

Whitney was a firm ally of the Rockefellers who published the Herald Tribune. Eisenhower appointed him ambassador to England.



Jock Whitney

After Kennedy was inaugurated he wrote Whitney a rather terse termination telegram:

JOCK, PACK. JACK

The night of the assassination, Whitney went to work as a copy editor [sic!]. His was *the first paper to propagate the Oswald-as-sociopath fairy-tale.*

The Last Mystery:

Why did Kennedy listen to Gullion in 1951?

JFK's response to Nehru:

“I grew up in a community where the people were hardly a generation away from colonial rule. And I can claim the company of many historians in saying that the colonialism to which my immediate ancestors were subject was more sterile, oppressive and even cruel than that of India.”

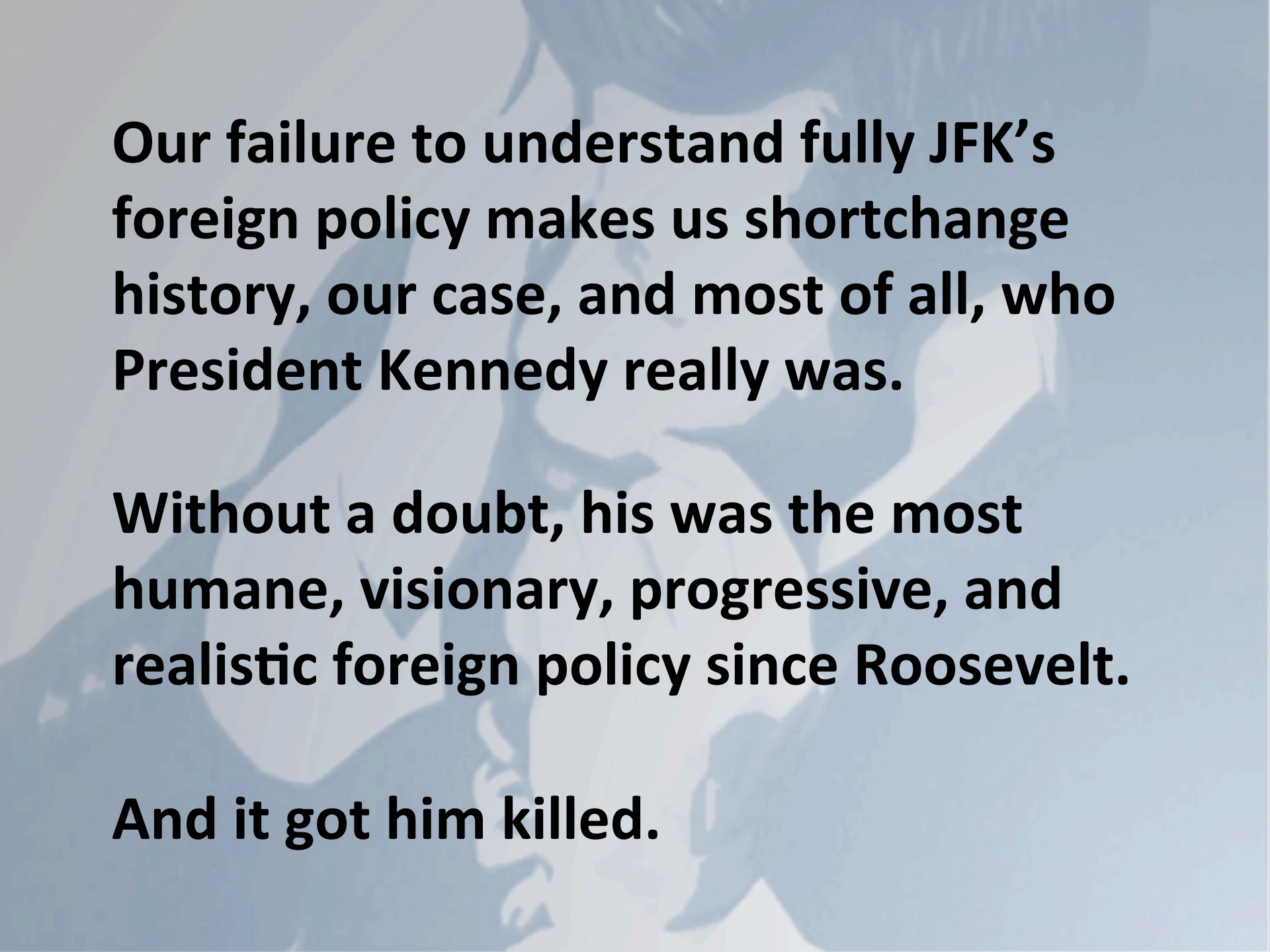
I have just done something that perhaps most of you have never heard before in the field of JFK studies.

I have given a nearly 60-minute lecture on his foreign policy *without delving into Cuba or Vietnam at all.*

I have not done that just because I think the matters I have dealt with have been too long ignored – though they have been.

But because if we know about these other matters, we understand why Kennedy was not going into Cuba or Vietnam unless under the most dire circumstances.

But does it get more dire than the Missile Crisis?

A faded, light blue background image of President John F. Kennedy, showing his face and hands in a thoughtful or speaking pose.

Our failure to understand fully JFK's foreign policy makes us shortchange history, our case, and most of all, who President Kennedy really was.

Without a doubt, his was the most humane, visionary, progressive, and realistic foreign policy since Roosevelt.

And it got him killed.

This is the big secret that the Establishment has kept hidden for decades.

The world would have been very different if he had lived.

That is *not* Camelot mythology. As I have shown, it is an historical fact.

And that is the reason this has all been concealed for five decades.

If America does not know, the people in the Third World do.

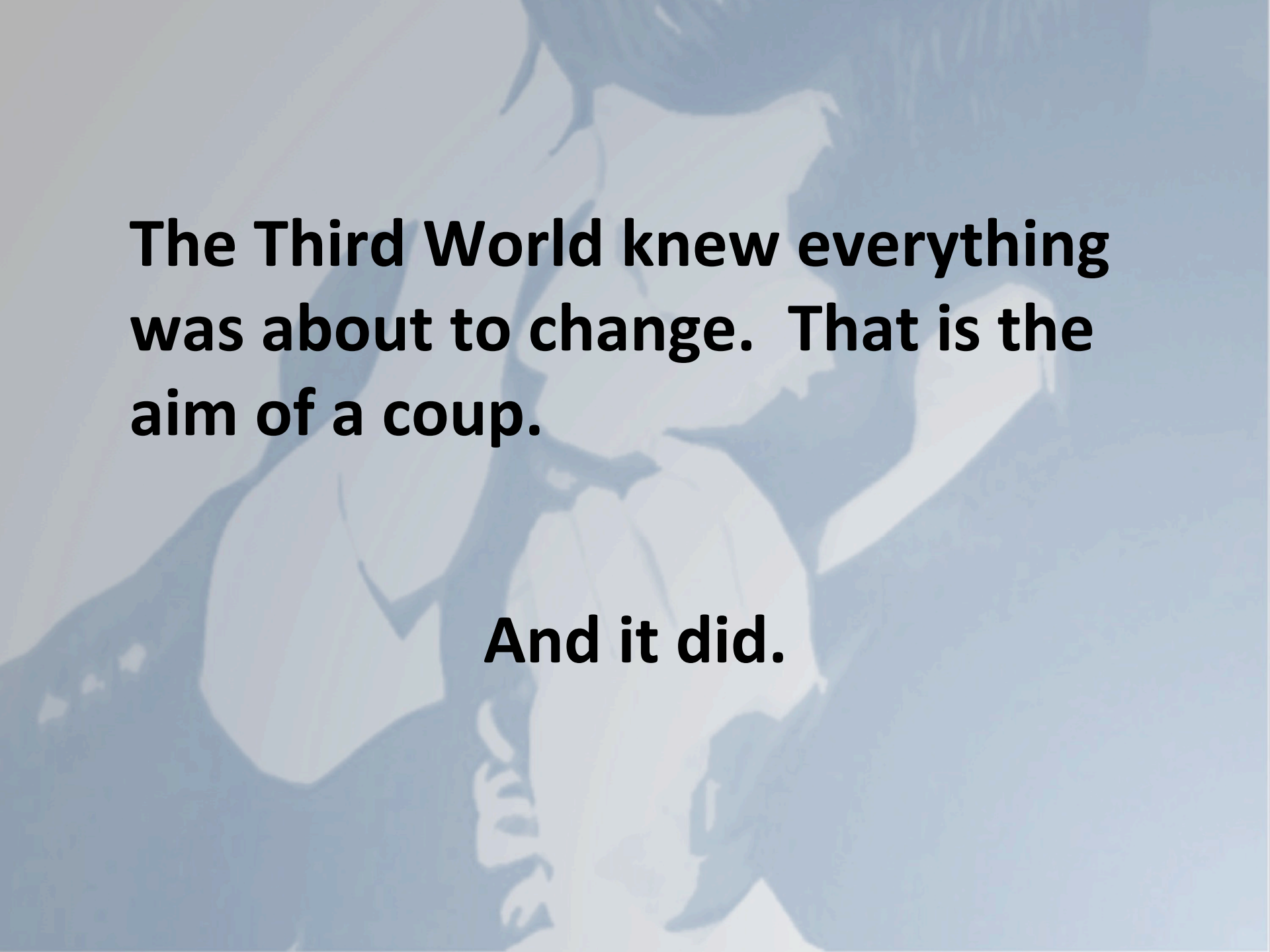
When Nasser learned of JFK's death he fell into a month-long depression. He then ordered Kennedy's funeral shown four times on Egyptian television.

Anwar Sadat was the first person at the US Embassy in Cairo to sign his letter of condolence.



Anwar Sadat

Sukarno broke out in a sweat and asked, "Tell me, why did they kill Kennedy?"



**The Third World knew everything
was about to change. That is the
aim of a coup.**

And it did.