

MAURICE, LEE, AND JFK

Written by

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A ten part TV series

Episode Three

John F. Kennedy was 'probably' killed as a result of a conspiracy according to the 1978 US House Select Committee on Assassinations, ergo this is probably a true story. The characters herein are based on real people. Maurice is a composite of real people.

First Draft August 2017

Address
Phone Number

INT US SENATE DAY

JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY announces to the media his candidacy for the Presidency of the United States..

JFK

I am announcing today my candidacy for the Presidency of the United States. I believe that any Democratic aspirant to this important nomination should be willing to submit to the voters his views, record and competence in a series of primary contests. I am therefore now announcing my intention of filing in the New Hampshire primary.

FADE OUT amidst a barrage of questions from the press pack.

QUESTIONER

Will you stand for Vice President if you fail to get the nomination Senator-----?

EXT KENNEDY COMPOUND CAPE COD

VERANDAH. JOSEPH KENNEDY senior, JFK and ROBERT KENNEDY are in conclave. JFK is reading about his announcement in a newspaper

JOE KENNEDY

(to JFK)

I've had Bobby work up a campaign strategy, Jack.

JFK

(lays aside paper)

I'm listening.

RFK

Soap flakes.

JFK

What?

RFK

Soap flakes.

JOE KENNEDY

Marketing Jack.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

RFK

We package you like we would soap flakes and sell that to the American people.

JFK

What about policies? Ideas? Solutions to the country's problems?

JOE KENNEDY

All the candidate will have policies Jack.

RFK

And not much to choose between them. That's why we have to give them policies plus.

JFK

Plus what?

RFK

Image. The image of a young and vigorous candidate with a pretty wife and child----

JOE KENNEDY

Tell him about the plane, Bobby.

JFK

The plane?

RFK

You're gonna look presidential. You don't role up in a bus, or step off a train. You fly in----on your own plane.

JFK looks questioningly at JOE KENNEDY.

JOE KENNEDY

Oh, It'll cost. But I've got some loose change lying around.

JFK

(to RFK)

Anything else?

RFK gets to his feet and begins to pace.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED: (2)

RFK

Where do you go to sell soap flakes?

JFK

I don't know.

RFK

Madison Avenue.

JFK

(shrugs)

OK.

JOE KENNEDY

(to RFK)

And the delegates.

RFK

Oh, sure.

(to JFK)

You won't win enough support in the Senate so we work the delegates on the ground.

JFK

(to JOE KENNEDY)

Maybe you're backing the wrong son.

RFK

(smiles)

I can wait---till sixty eight.

EXT MINSK (USSR) DAY

Establish RADIO MANUFACTURING PLANT.

INT RADIO MANUFACTURING PLANT DAY

LEE HARVEY OSWALD is among workers on an assembly line putting radios together. We see him using a soldering iron to adhere material to a circuit board. Now , a horn sounds and the WORKERS break for lunch.

EXT RADIO MANUFACTURING PLANT DAY

OSWALD and some colleagues eat lunch. One of the men , ERIK, has struck up a friendship with OSWALD and is trying to learn English from him.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ERIK

Lee. I have thought. You should
'came' with us to hunt.

OSWALD

(in Russian)

You should say 'come' with us ,
Erik.

ERIK

(in English)

Come?

OSWALD

(in Russian)

Came is past. Come is future.

ERIK

(in English)

Ah. I can see.

OSWALD

(in Russian)

I have no-----

*(forgets word, mimics
firing a rifle)----no---*

ERIK

(in Russian)

Gun!

(in English)

You not concern. We have guns.

EXT FOREST DAY

We see a RABBIT feeding on some plants. Suddenly there is a
shotgun blast , but the RABBIT scampers off unhurt.

EXT FOREST DAY

We now see that LEE HARVEY OSWALD has fired the shot, and his
THREE FELLOW HUNTERS fall about laughing at his miss

ERIK

(in English)

Comrade! How could you miss!

OSWALD

(meekly in English)

I---guess it must have moved.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ERIK addresses the OTHER HUNTERS, ARTUR, and VIKTOR.

ERIK
(*in English*)
Artur, Viktor, you were soldiers.
What do you say?

ARTUR
(*in English*)
In Soviet army he would be cook.

VIKTOR
(*in Russian*)
What?

ARTUR
(*in Russian*)
I said in Soviet army they would
make him a cook.

VIKTOR
(*in Russian*)
Or a shit house cleaner maybe.

The THREE RUSSIANS laugh at this. Then ERIK puts an arm round
OSWALD.

ERIK
(*in English*)
Come. We need shoot better if we
are to eat, comrade.

EXT FORREST DAY

HUNTERS' CAMP. OSWALD and the OTHERS pour tea from a pot
suspended above their campfire. A skinned rabbit is also
being cooked above the fire.

OSWALD
Your comrades Erik. What did they
do in the army?

ERIK
(*in Russian to BOTH*)
What did you do in the army?

ARTUR
(*reading newspaper*)
Artillery.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ERIK
(*translates*)
Artillery.

VIKTOR
Driver. Missile carriers.

ERIK
He drove missile carriers.

OSWALD
Drove? The Soviet army has no silos-
-no holes in the ground to keep
their missiles in.

ERIK translates for VIKTOR who shrugs and shakes his head and mutters something.

ERIK
No holes.

OSWALD
(*makes mental note*)
No holes. Right.

Now ARTUR speaks as he shows ERIK a photo of JFK beside a tiny piece in the newspaper referring to JFK's candidacy. ERIK translates.

ERIK
(*to OSWALD*)
He ask if you know him.

OSWALD
(*looks at pic.*)
Heard of him. From a very rich
family in America.

ERIK translates for ARTUR who nods and turns the page

EXT NEW HAMPSHIRE DAY

NEWSREEL (extant) of JFK making a primary campaign speech in a snowy NASHUA.

INT DINER DAY

SCENE BASED on EXTANT PHOTOGRAPH. JFK sits at the counter gratefully sipping coffee after his speech out in the snow. He is surrounded with placard waving supporters.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

SUPPORTER

That was a fine speech Senator.

JFK

Thank you.

DINER OWNER

And in freezing cold too.

(uncorks brandy)

Let me liven up that coffee
Senator.

JFK

Thank you.

SUPPORTER

How's the old man, Senator? I'm
thinking presidential campaigns
don't come cheap.

JFK

He wired me this morning. 'Said
dear Jack, don't buy a single vote
more than is necessary. I'll be
damned if I'm going to pay for a
landslide.

The joke brings laughter from the SUPPORTERS. FLASHBULBS pop
as pictures are taken.

EXT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

We are in the GARDEN of THE DIRECTOR'S house. With him are
HOWIE, HARVE, SID and MAURICE who is reading a newspaper. THE
DIRECTOR is pouring himself a coffee. Pipes and cigarettes
are being smoked.

THE DIRECTOR

(as he pours)

So, gentlemen. Let's talk about the
world and how we'd like to see it,
shall we?

HARVE

This darkie in the Congo could be
troublesome. Lamumba or whatever
the fuck he's called.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

SID

They do say he's Red on the inside.
And the natural resources of that
country are beyond estimate. We
can't let them go to the Soviets.

MAURICE shows them the item he's been perusing. It's a
report, with pictures of JFK winning the New Hampshire
primary.

MAURICE

We can put Lamumba on ice. At least
until he's in the White House.

HARVE

'Never happen. One primary win does
not a President make.

HOWIE

In which case, Maurice is right.
Only Kennedy would want to get in
our way. Lamumba can wait. I say
Castro should be our priority.

MAURICE

Mr. Director?

THE DIRECTOR

I think we should have two
immediate objectives. Castro, yes,
but there's also this upcoming
summit in Paris. Anyone given any
thought to that?

NO ONE answers.

THE DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

Gentlemen the leaders of France,
Britain, Russia and the US are
getting together for a chin wag. Do
we want that to be a success? For
it to result in an outbreak of
brotherly love? This country needs,
if not actual war, then at least
the threat of war. It's necessary
for the economy.

HARVE

How the fuck do we subvert a Summit
Meeting?

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED: (2)

SID

Excellent question, if crudely put,
Harve.

THE DIRECTOR

Broadly speaking----we need an
international incident.

HOWIE

Got any ideas, chief?

THE DIRECTOR

Maybe. I'll talk to Maurice about
it. Meanwhile the rest of you
gentlemen see if you can at least
annoy Mr. Castro in some way.

The OTHERS take the hint and depart, leaving MAURICE and THE
DIRECTOR alone.

THE DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

How's that young man of yours
doing? Oswald is it?

MAURICE

He's in Minsk. Works in a radio
factory. Keeps us informed about
what the Soviet man in the street
is thinking. Small potatoes,
really.

THE DIRECTOR

You deal directly with him?

MAURICE

No. We have a network of sorts out
there. He can get reports to our
guy in the embassy if need be.

THE DIRECTOR

Do you think you could get out
there and back.

MAURICE

(shrugs)

I think I can do that.

THE DIRECTOR

Good man.

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EXT CUBA NIGHT

A private twin engine plane comes in to land in a rural area and taxis to a halt.

INT PLANE NIGHT

The pilot is DAVID FERRIE, he of the self-made wig and painted on eyebrows. He turns to look at FOUR MEN who, in the body of the plane, gather up equipment. One man helps another on with a WW2 FLAMETHROWER while the other two men prepare PACKS OF EXPLOSIVES.

FERRIE

(joking)

Careful with that stuff. I'm not ready to meet the Lord just yet.

The MEN smile. One has a question. His name is FRANK.

FRANK

How long have we got, Dave?

FERRIE

As long as it takes to do a good fucking job, Frank. Take all night if you want. I'll get us out of here

EXT PLANE NIGHT

The FOUR MEN de-plane and disappear into the night.

EXT OIL REFINERY NIGHT.

CUBAN soldiers mount a desultory guard on the refinery and so do not see the TWO MEN from the plane plant their explosives and withdraw.

EXT SUGAR CANE FIELD NIGHT

FRANK and the MAN carrying the FLAMETHROWER are on the edge of the field.

FRANK

Burn the fucker.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

The MAN levels the FLAMETHROWER and soon the night is lit up as the FLAMETHROWER sprays out flame and ignites the sugar cane.

EXT MIAMI NIGHT

A PRIVATE AIRFIELD. HOWIE and HARVE watch as FERRIE taxis the plane to a stop. Presently FERRIE and FRANK de-plane and approach the waiting TWO.

HARVE
How'd it go?

FERRIE
Great.

FRANK
Lit up both targets.

HOWIE
When can you go back in?

FERRIE
(looks at FRANK)
Anytime?

FRANK
Yeah. Sure

HOWIE
We'll have a think about what to hit next time.

INT APARTMENT BLOCK MINSK DAY

OSWALD opens the door to his apartment and enters.

IN APARTMENT DAY

OSWALD closes the door and notices a small sheaf of paper lying on the floor. He picks it up and reads the message it contains.

INT APARTMENT DAY

TOILET. OSWALD tears the sheaf of paper into tiny pieces and flushes it down the toilet.

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EXT STREET MINSK DAY

OSWALD waits outside a TELEPHONE BOOTH. WE see a WOMAN (a confederate) inside on the phone. OSWALD checks his watch, taps gently on the phone booth, the WOMAN abruptly leaves, OSWALD quickly enters and starts to dial a number.

EXT STREET MINSK DAY

MAURICE stands outside a second TELEPHONE BOOTH. A WOMAN occupies the booth. When the phone rings the woman lifts the receiver, then lets it dangle before leaving the booth. MAURICE enters and lifts the receiver.

MAURICE

Lee? How are things with you?

INT PHONE BOOTH DAY

With OSWALD on the phone.

OSWALD

I'm fine. Just fine.

INT PHONE BOOTH DAY

With MAURICE on the phone.

MAURICE

Say, Lee, do you remember we agreed there were certain items of information you should keep from our friends?

INT PHONE BOOTH DAY

With OSWALD on the phone.

OSWALD

I remember.

INT PHONE BOOTH DAY

With MAURICE on the phone.

MAURICE

Well I've been having second thoughts about that.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

MAURICE (CONT'D)

I mean, there should be no secrets
between friends don't you agree?

INT PHONE BOOTH DAY

With OSWALD on the phone.

OSWALD

(uncertain)

I guess.

INT PHONE BOOTH DAY

With MAURICE on the phone.

MAURICE

Maybe you should throw a party.
Invite your friends, maybe those
old soldiers I was hearing about.
Have a drink, swap stories.
Unabridged stories. What do you
say, Lee?

INT PHONE BOOTH DAY

With OSWALD on the phone.

OSWALD

(puzzled)

If you say so. Sure.

INT PHONE BOOTH DAY

With MAURICE on the phone.

MAURICE

Good man.

MAURICE hangs up, steps out of the booth and lights his pipe.

INT OSWALD'S APARTMENT DAY

Faint jazz music comes from a gramophone, and much vodka has
been consumed. With OSWALD are ERIK are VIKTOR and ARTUR.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

OSWALD
(to VIKTOR)
I've been thinking--about what you
said. No holes. For the missiles.

ERIK translates for VIKTOR who just shrugs.

OSWALD (CONT'D)
No! It's important. In the US all
our missiles are in holes. They're
protected---from your missiles.

ERIK translates again. VIKTOR says something.

ERIK
He says maybe US cannot find our
missiles as we move them about.

OSWALD
Ha! Not find them! Sure we can.
Find them and take pictures of
them.

ERIK
Pictures?

OSWALD
Sure! We have spy planes. U2s. Hell
they fly so high they're almost in
space.

ERIK
Space?

OSWALD
Almost! How Do I know that? That
was my job. I tracked them on
radar. Tracked them over Russia---
over China.

ERIK
(*skeptically*)
You?

OSWALD
What do you mean, 'me'? Sure, me.

OSWALD gets to his feet and walks unsteadily to the centre of
the apartment. Unseen by the others he glances up at the
light where he knows a 'bug' is located.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED: (2)

OSWALD (CONT'D)

Believe me there ain't a lot I
don't know about them spy planes.
For example----

The rest of the scene is mute as OSWALD holds forth, while looking up at the light. An enthralled ERIK looks on and translates for ARTUR and VIKTOR.

INTERVIEWER (V.O.)

Mr. Kennedy, your brother's now
taken primaries in New Hampshire----

INT HALL DAY

We are at the count for the PHILADELPHIA PRIMARY. RFK is being interviewed for TV

INTERVIEWER

---- Wisconsin, Illinois, New
Jersey, and now it looks like
Philadelphia can be called for
Kennedy. Is your brother stoppable?

INT HOTEL SUITE NIGHT

JFK and RFK, who is standing over the TV, are watching the interview. JFK lies flat on his back on the floor

RFK

Sure he can be stopped. That's why
we must not get complacent. We must
continue to work hard, get our
message across and hope we can
convince our fellow Democrats that
my brother can take us right into
the White House.

RFK switches off the TV. Walks to JFK and kneels down beside him.

JFK

Would our fellow Democrats give us
their support if they could see me
now? Being forced to lie on the
floor.

RFK

Sure they would. Your back
problems?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

RFK (CONT'D)

That's a goddamned war wound you got there. We're going make that work for us.

JFK

We are?

RFK gets to his feet and starts to pace.

RFK

What's going to be our biggest test, Jack?

JFK

West Virginia. No doubt about it. Folks there think we Catholics are in league with the Devil.

RFK

Our people have been doing some research. Do you know how many veterans there are in West Virginia?

JFK

No, but I know you're about tell me.

RFK

Lots. Lots and lots and lots, Jack. Now we have to put the question to them. Who do you want to run for President, a guy who, like you, put on a uniform and fought and nearly died for his country, or a guy like Humphrey who spent the war defending a pharmacy in Minnesota.

JFK

Jesus Bobby, Hubert Humphrey is a good man.

RFK

I know that. But right now he's the enemy, Jack.

JFK

If you say so.
(*extends hand*)
Pull me up.

BOBBY pulls a grimacing JFK to his feet.

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EXT AIRFIELD PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN DAY

MAY 1st, 1960. A U2 SPY PLANE piloted by GARY FRANCIS POWERS takes off.

INT SOVIET MISSILE SITE DAY

RADAR ROOM. A RADAR OPERATOR sees the U2 on his screen. He presses a button and klaxon's begin to sound.

EXT SOVIET MISSILE SITE DAY.

SOLDIERS hurry to prepare a SURFACE TO AIR MISSILE. When it is readied the missile is launched.

INT U2 COCKPIT DAY

There is an explosion at the rear of the U2. POWERS is thrown violently forward. He struggles to control the plane, but cannot. As it plunges to earth he bails out.

EXT SKY OVER SVERDLOVSK DAY

POWERS' chute opens and he begins to descend. As he nears the ground he sees RUSSIAN TROOPS arriving in trucks and hurriedly disembarking.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE NIGHT

MARY'S HOUSE. She holds up a NEWSPAPER. There is a photograph of a smiling and waving JFK beneath the caption. KENNEDY WINS WEST VIRGINIA.

MARY

(to JFK)

West Virginia! My God! Not bad for an altar boy.

JFK

(smiles)

I was never an altar boy.

MARY

No? Well it was still one Hell of a win, wasn't it?

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

JFK

Absolutely. And all down to Bobby's strategy. Even if I don't make the White House, he will some day. He'll be unstoppable, believe me.

MARY

Seriously, where does this leave you?

JFK

Seriously? As a serious contender for the nomination.

MARY

Then we must celebrate. I have champagne. I'll go put it on ice--- for after.

JFK smiles and begins to loosen his tie as MARY exits the room.

EXT GEORGETOWN HOUSE NIGHT

ESTABLISH MARY'S HOUSE.

INT CAR NIGHT

From inside the car, MAURICE watches the house. A CAB pulls up outside and , presently, JFK exits the house, gets into the car and is driven off.

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE NIGHT

MARY'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. MARY is asleep in bed. She is wakened by a NOISE coming from downstairs. Now she sniffs the air, pulls back the sheets and quickly dons a silk dressing gown.

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE NIGHT

MARY'S house. MAURICE, puffing his pipe, sits studying the portrait of JFK. MARY walks silently up behind the chair MAURICE is seated in.

MAURICE

A fair likeness--but not your best work.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

MARY

How did you get in?

MAURICE

Come on!

MARY knows no lock can keep him out.

MARY

All right, then why are you here?

MAURICE

Don't know, really. I just---it was
an impulse I guess.

MAURICE (CONT'D)

Well would you mind leaving?

MAURICE (CONT'D)

Sure.

MAURICE gets to his feet and turns to look at her.

MAURICE (CONT'D)

My God. I swear you get more
beautiful each time I see you.

MARY

Please. Leave.

MAURICE

And yet, as beautiful as you are,
and as gifted as you are, it's not
enough for him.

MARY

Please. I'm tired.

MAURICE

You do know he sees other women,
don't you?

MARY

Is that why you came? To tell me
that?

MAURICE

Does he--?

MARY

What?

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED: (2)

MAURICE

Think he can become President? I mean really think?

MARY

I suppose. Why?

MAURICE walks to the portrait of JFK and stands before it.

MAURICE

I----don't dislike him , you know. Don't bear him any ill will. Despite the fact that he's fucking you I mean. But I rather hope he doesn't get the keys to the White House.

(turns to face her)

He has some, well, unwelcome ideas.

(beat)

I'll see myself out.

As MARY continues to look at the portrait we hear MAURICE leave and close the door behind him.

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

In a darkened room a NEWSREEL PACKAGE (EXTANT) showing, with sombre VO, KHRUSHCHEV perusing the remnants of the downed U2 with warnings about it's potentially disastrous effects on the up-coming summit. The summit leaders arriving in Paris, a brief speech from EISENHOWER, then news that KHRUSHCHEV'S tirade against the US has destroyed the summit. The NEWSREEL ends and we now see it has been watched by THE DIRECTOR , MAURICE, HARVE, HOWIE and SID. JAMES the black servant has been operating the projector.

THE DIRECTOR

Thank you James.

JAMES nods and exits.

INT. GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

JAMES, having exited, closes the door behind him, but remains in place so he can eavesdrop on the conversation taking place inside.

THE DIRECTOR (V.O.)

Well Maurice, looks like a job well done.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

MAURICE (V.O.)

Thank you sir.

SID (V.O.)

How was it out in Redland.

MAURICE (V.O.)

Grey.

HOWIE

What about the pilot? Powers?

MAURICE (V.O.)

Probably s show trial with much ranting about US imperialist aggression. It'll just get better and better.

HARVE (V.O.)

Well I think this calls for a drink.

THE DIRECTOR (V.O.)

(slightly annoyed tone)

Well go run after James and have him pour you one for God's sake. The fellow's only just left the room.

JAMES moves quickly off.

INT BAR WASHINGTON DC

The customers are PREDOMINANTLY BLACK. JAMES and another BLACK MAN , lets call him MR. WHITE share a booth.

MR.WHITE

(looks about to see if they can be overheard, before speaking)

Wait a minute, James, are you saying those guys-----those guys had something to do with that plane being shot down?

JAMES

I'm just telling you what I heard Mr. White. Like I always do.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

MR.WHITE

(pondering)

That's fucking crazy. Why would they do that?

JAMES

I don't know. But I know they were happy as hogs in shit over that summit falling apart.

JAMES (CONT'D)

(as MR. White falls into thought)

Will you pass it up the line, Mr. White

MR.WHITE

Sure. But it might-- it might take some time to reach the top. If ever.

JAMES

Why's that?

MR.WHITE

Come on James. Mr. White? You think that's my real name? Nooooo. That was conferred upon me by my 'superiors' in the Bureau for the purposes of our little chats. Their little joke, see, at the expense of these here nigger boys. You see what I'm saying?

JAMES

No.

MR.WHITE

If your information is good, why then this nigger looks good. Some of my 'superiors' might choke on that idea. I might have a fight on my hands. Especially with this kind of info.

MR. WHITE gets up to leave, hesitates, then retakes his seat.

MR.WHITE (CONT'D)

James, these guys-----you have a care, you hear?

JAMES

I hear.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED: (2)

MR. WHITE reaches out and squeezes JAMES'S arm before rising again and leaving.

EXT RADIO MANUFACTURING PLANT DAY

MINSK. It is the lunch break and a drowsy OSWALD is lying in the MAY sunshine, when ERIK arrives carrying a newspaper which he shows to OSWALD, indicating a tiny photograph of JFK.

ERIK

This Kennedy has one again in--
(looks at paper)
Oregon--have I said it right?

OSWALD

(drowsily)
Oregon, yeah, that's very good,
Erik.

ERIK

So, will he become President now?

OSWALD

(opens one eye)
Noooo. I told you. Right now he's
trying to become his party's
candidate. If he wins that fight,
then a majority of Americans must
vote for him if he's to become
President.

ERIK

(shakes his head)
That is too---um--

OSWALD

Complicated?

ERIK

Here in Russia it is simpler.

OSWALD

That's because there's only one
party.

ERIK

You think there is something wrong
with that?

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

OSWALD
(suddenly alert: sharply)
I didn't say that! Did I say that?

ERIK
(slightly taken aback)
No. You didn't say that.
(conciliatory)
Would you like me to read to you?

OSWALD
What about?

ERIK turns to the front page which is all about the impending trial of U2 pilot GARRY POWERS.

ERIK
Your American pilot. The trial starts soon.

OSWALD
(interested)
Yes. Please.

ERIK
(before actually reading)
The trial will be in Moscow. And the pilot's family will attend.

OSWALD
(quietly)
Good. That's good.

ERIK
Now----I read more----

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

In a darkened room we are watching a newsreel (EXTANT) of the opening of the U2 PILOT GARY POWERS trial. The CAMERA pans across the hundreds of people and journalists in the audience.

THE DIRECTOR (O.S.)
Hold it there James.

We hear the projector stop and see the film has been watched by THE DIRECTOR and MAURICE.

THE DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
Thank you James.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

JAMES exits.

THE DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
(hands MAURICE a
magnifying glass)
Come take a look.

They walk to the screen and THE DIRECTOR points to a man standing at the rear of the courtroom (EXTANT).

THE DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
That's your man, isn't it? Oswald?

MAURICE
Certainly looks like him.
(dubiously)
But I very much doubt if he'd get
time off work to take in the trial.
(thinks)
Unless---?

THE DIRECTOR
What?

MAURICE
We've got another fellow out there.
Roberts. Never met him myself but
I'm assured that he and Oswald look
very much alike--and we do know he
was in Moscow for the May Day
celebrations. Maybe they let him
stay on for the trial.

THE DIRECTOR
(takes magnifying glass.
Looks at screen again)
I could have sworn that was your
boy.
(beat)
Let's join the others shall we.

EXT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

GARDEN. The DIRECTOR and MAURICE have joined HARVE, HOWIE and SID in the GARDEN

THE DIRECTOR
Well I think we can feel pretty
pleased with ourselves---for the
moment. There is, however, Messrs
Castro and Lamumba laying in wait
for us.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HOWIE

We've been hitting Cuba regularly,
but it's a slow process.

MAURICE

Time to take out The Commandante
himself perhaps?

HARVE

I'm for that.

HOWIE

Yeah, but how?

SID

Maybe Harve's Sicilian friends can
help out. They're pretty damned
good at killing one another.

THE DIRECTOR

Harve?

HARVE

I think it's worth exploring. I can
set up a meeting, if you want.

THE DIRECTOR

Go right ahead.

INT HOTEL SUITE DAY

A SUMPTUOUS SETTING. JOHNNY ROSELLI introduces MAURICE, HARVE
and HOWIE to his MAFIA ASSOCIATES. PSEUDONYMS ARE USED ALL
ROUND

ROSELLI

Maurice, Edouardo (HOWIE) Mr.
Knight (HARVE) this is Mr. Gold (SAM
GIANCANNA) Mr. Joseph (SANTO
TRAFFICANTE) and Mr. Silver (CARLOS
MARCELLO)

(gestures to large table)

Please, let's be seated.

THEY ALL do as they are bid.

MAURICE

Gentlemen, If I may speak for my
colleagues. I'm sure, like us, you
are all dismayed by the turn of
events in Cuba.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GIANCANNA

Too fucking right.

TRAFFICANTE

Yeah. That fucker put me in jail
down there

MARCELLO

Fucker.

TRAFFICANTE

Right.

HOWIE

How did you get out of there?

TRAFFICANTE

I got contacts. Deals can be done.
Castro runs a government.
Government's need money---need
things.

MAURICE

Contacts. That's music to our ears,
Mr. Joseph. Do any of your contacts
ever get close to El Jefe Maximo?

HARVE

He means that bearded fuck.

GIANCANNA

Sure. We got some guys.

TRAFFICANTE

One guy waits table in a
restaurant. Castro eats there
pretty regular.

MARCELLO

You aim to pop him while he eats?

MAURICE

I don't think so. We have to give
your contact time to walk away.

GIANCANNA

(makes a joke)

I think our guy might appreciate
that.

All laugh or smile at the MAFIOSI'S joke.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED: (2)

MAURICE

We too have a guy. And our guy can make things like pills. Poison pills. If we could get our guy's pill to your guy we can get this stone out of our collective shoe.

GIANCANNA

I like that. You got Sicilian blood in you Mr. Maurice?

MAURICE

I'm afraid not, Mr. Gold. But I do have a fondness for analogy whatever its source.

MARCELLO

I say let's do this thing.

EXT HAVANA DAY

Establish HAVANA.

INT RESTAURANT DAY

A busy establishment. Few of the PATRONS seem troubled when TWO UNIFORMED MEN wearing side arms enter and scan the restaurant. Presently FIDEL CASTRO enters and walks to a table that has been reserved for him. A WAITER quickly approaches, hands CASTRO a menu and begins to decant water into a glass. CASTRO makes his choices from the menu, the WAITER NODS and retreats.

INT RESTAURANT KITCHEN DAY

The WAITER waits while CASTRO'S food is plated up. We now see the WAITER take a vial from his pocket. He removes a CORK from the vial and when he is given a GUMBO to serve to CASTRO he tips a pill into the steaming liquid.

INT RESTAURANT DAY

The WAITER, clearly anxious and perspiring. Approaches CASTRO'S table. We see CASTRO from behind. He leans forward in his seat, his head resting on clenched fists, as he reads something on the table. Now the WAITER arrives and is about to lay the Gumbo on the table, when 'CASTRO' leans back in his seat and we see that the man staring up at the waiter is NO LONGER CASTRO.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

Only now does the WAITER become aware of the silence that has descended on the restaurant. The WAITER drops the Gumbo and is about to run for the door when he sees the UNIFORMED MEN place their hands on their side arms. In desperation the WAITER about turns, but only to see that his way back into the kitchen is blocked by more ARMED MEN. The WAITER'S shoulders drop dejectedly.

INT PRISON YARD DAY.

The WAITER is marched to a wall and positioned against it. His is then blindfolded. A firing squad of SIX SOLDIERS are marched up, turn to face the WAITER and on orders from AN OFFICER, raise their rifles, take aim, and shoot the WAITER.

EXT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

GARDEN. Present are THE DIRECTOR, HOWIE, SID and MAURICE. Now HARVE approaches and joins the others who watch him expectantly.

HARVE

It's been confirmed. The waiter's dead.

HOWIE

Damn.

SID

How? I mean, what went wrong?

HARVE

They knew about it. They fucking knew.

THE DIRECTOR

You're sure about that?

HARVE

Yeah.

SID

How did they know?

MAURICE

Isn't it obvious. Someone told them.

THE DIRECTOR

Someone?

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

MAURICE

I wonder---just how did that Mr. Joseph get out of Castro's jail?

THE DIRECTOR

Go on.

MAURICE

What was it he said? Deals can be done. But just what kind of a deal did he strike with El Jefe Maximo. Maybe that in exchange for his freedom he would keep his ear to the ground and Castro informed of anything he might hear?

THE DIRECTOR

Harve?

HARVE

Don't see it. As soon as he stepped ashore in the US Castro had no hold over him.

MAURICE

Not so, Harve. El Jefe Maximo has Mr. Joseph's businesses down there. Maybe he promised to give them back some day. Maybe even allow Mr. Joseph to return to the island and carry on much as before. It's all speculation I know, but----- somebody got word to them.

INT COCKPIT NIGHT

DAVID FERRIE lands his PRIVATE PLANE as before.

THE DIRECTOR (V.O.)

--meantime we keep hitting that island when and where we can.

EXT CUBA NIGHT

We are outside a small POWER GENERATING PLANT. We see FRANK hurrying away from the PLANT just as an EXPLOSION rips through the PLANT.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

THE DIRECTOR (V.O.)
If people get the idea Castro's
bringing this misery upon them they
may round on him---

EXT CUBA NIGHT

HAVANA HARBOUR. A fast MOTOR CRUISER enters the harbour and speeds towards a FREIGHTER moored in the harbour. From the deck of the MOTOR CRUISER we see FRANK and OTHER MEN tossing EXPLOSIVE PACKS up onto the FREIGHTER'S deck. As the MOTOR CRUISER wheels away the PACKS EXPLODE.

THE DIRECTOR (V.O.)
----so let's be ambitious and hit
them hard.

EXT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

GARDEN. As before but now MAURICE is pacing thoughtfully.

MAURICE
Why don't we get really ambitious
and invade the island.

SID
Invade? You mean--the US.

THE DIRECTOR
I could never sell that to the
President.

MAURICE
I wasn't thinking about the US
invading. I was thinking of Cubans
invading. Patriots trying to retake
their homeland and free it from its
Red oppressors.

HARVE
That's fucking beautiful.

HOWIE
There must be---thousands of Cubans
in Florida.

THE DIRECTOR
(*musings*)
And they're there why? Because they
hate Castro and what he's done to
their country.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

MAURICE

We could arm them. Train them.
Teach them how to fight.

THE DIRECTOR

Now that I can take to the
President----with maybe some frills
added.

EXT PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE DAY

ESTABLISH WHITE HOUSE.

INT WHITE HOUSE DAY

OVAL OFFICE. THE DIRECTOR is with PRESIDENT EISENHOWER and
VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON.

EISENHOWER

How many men were you thinking of?

THE DIRECTOR

Fifteen hundred or so.

NIXON

(skeptical)

To take the whole island?

THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Vice President, can you think
of a people anywhere on the face of
the earth who would willingly want
to live under Communism.

NIXON

No.

THE DIRECTOR

Then surely, when the invasion gets
under way the Cuban people will
rise up and help to overthrow the
dictator. It stands to reason.

NIXON and IKE ponder this.

THE DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

And then there's the timing.

EISENHOWER

Timing?

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

THE DIRECTOR

Let's call it--our October surprise. Can you imagine a Republican candidate going into a presidential election having only just rid this hemisphere of Mr. Castro?

This has been calculated to appeal to NIXON---and we see from his expression that it has worked.

EXT UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SOUTH CAMPUS DAY

A heavily wooded area with a collection of long low buildings scattered throughout (photos extant) MAURICE, HARVE and HOWIE get out of a car and begin to look around.

HARVE

What did they say it used to be?

MAURICE

Some sort of naval air station.

HOWIE

This could be an excellent base.

MAURICE

I agree. Although---much bigger.

HARVE

What about a proprietary name?

MAURICE

Zenith Technological Enterprises.

HOWIE

Well it is part of a university campus. Sounds about right.

INT MIAMI HOTEL DAY

BAR. Sparsely populated. A PIANIST tickles the ivories. MAURICE, HARVE and HOWIE are meeting with two CUBAN EXILES from CASTRO'S regime. They are Called ANTONIO and ELOY

MAURICE

I understand you two gentlemen helped set up Alpha Sixty Six.

ANTONIO

That's right.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ELOY

With the aim of ridding our
homeland of that fucking Communist
Castro.

MAURICE

An admirable intention. And one we
all share.

HARVE

We want to go in there and take the
fucker right out.

ANTONIO

Go in? To Cuba?

HOWIE

That's right.

MAURICE

Our intention is to recruit good
men like yourselves.

INT UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SOUTH CAMPUS

In a building, MAURICE, HARVE and HOWIE watch from a distance
as a CUBAN EXILE is being given a POLYGRAPH TEST

MAURICE (V.O.)

We think their induction should
include a Polygraph---for security
reasons.

EXT GUATEMALAN JUNGLE DAY.

MONTAGE of SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE training CUBAN EXILES in
UNARMED COMBAT , RIFLE PRACTICE, SMALL ARMS FIRE, and the
PLACING OF EXPLOSIVES

MAURICE (V.O.)

And when we're satisfied on that
count, we'll ship them to Guatemala
where they'll be trained to bear
arms and be readied for combat.

INT MIAMI HOTEL DAY

With MAURICE, HARVE, HOWIE, ANTONIO and ELOY

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HOWIE

We also intend to acquire some
planes and train up some pilots

ELOY

We have some people who are pilots.

MAURICE

Excellent.

ANTONIO

You say Guatemala?

HOWIE

That's where we launch our invasion
from.

HARVE

Uncle Sam must be seen to have
clean hands.

(leans forward)

But once this thing gets started---
we'll be right behind you.

HOWIE

Absolutely.

We note the MAURICE pointedly remains silent on this point

INT 1960 DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONVENTION LOS ANGELES

All NEWSREEL FOOTAGE referred to is EXTANT. We open with the
preparation of the venue. We move to the CHAIRMAN calling the
CONVENTION to ORDER. We now move to the INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATES
being commended to the CONVENTION. These are LYNDON JOHNSON,
ADLAI STEVENSON, PAT BROWN, WAYNE MORSE. STEWART SYMINGTON,
HUBERT HUMPHREY, and JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY.

INT LA HOTEL ROOM DAY

An exhausted RFK enters the suits and collapses against the
door. JFK who has been watching events at the CONVENTION on
TV gets to his feet.

JFK

Well?

RFK

I've squeezed every vote we're
going get.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JFK

How would you call it right now.

RFK

(moves into the room)

I won't call it till it's over.

(smile)

Want to say a prayer. Mom says God always answers the prayerful.

JFK

Yes, but the old man says that sometimes the answer is no.

RFK

We're going to win it Jack. There. I'm calling it.

JFK looks closely at his brother and sees he is serious. Now JFK turns to face the TV.

JFK

(whispers to himself)

Goddam!

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

MARY is watching the CONVENTION count on TV. As she watches JFK wins the nomination on the first ballot. But the victory does not seem to move her.

FLASHBACK

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE NIGHT

MAURICE stands before the portrait of JFK.

MAURICE

I rather hope he doesn't get the keys to the White House.

(he turns to face MARY)

He has some, well, unwelcome ideas. I'll see myself out.

MAURICE exits MARY walks to the PORTRAIT.

OUT OF FLASHBACK

INT 1960 DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONVENTION DAY

JFK arrives to make his acceptance speech.

JFK

(through rowdy applause)

Let me say first that I accept the nomination of the Democratic party. I accept it without reservation and with only one obligation, the obligation to devote every effort of my mind and spirit to lead our Party back to victory, and our Nation to greatness.

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

THE DIRECTOR and MAURICE watch the acceptance speech on TV.

JFK

Today our concern must be with the future. For the world is changing. The old era is ending. The old ways will not do. All over the world, particularly in the newer nations, young men are coming to power, men who are not blinded by the old fears, who can cast off the old slogans and the old delusions--

THE DIRECTOR chuckles at this.

THE DIRECTOR

I just do not recognize that world!

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY.

MARY is watching the CONVENTION speech.

JFK

We stand today on the edge of a new frontier; the frontier of the 1960's, the frontier of unknown opportunities and perils. And this new frontier is here whether we seek it or not--

EXT RADIO MANUFACTURING PLANT DAY

LUNCH BREAK/ ERIK is reading the speech to OSWALD from a RUSSIAN NEWSPAPER.

ERIK

(halting English)

As we face the coming great challenge we shall wait upon the Lord and ask that He renew our strength. Then we shall be equal to the test. Then we shall not be weary. Then we shall prevail.

ERIK closes the paper.

ERIK (CONT'D)

It finishes there.

OSWALD

Well I just hope he said it better than you did.

ERIK

It does not say.

OSWALD

I'm only kidding Erik. I can imagine how it went down.

INT DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONVENTION DAY.

JFK accepts the noisy acclamation of the DELEGATES. He smiles broadly and waves. FREEZE FRAME.

END OF EPISODE THREE

(CONT'D)

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