

MAURICE, LEE, AND JFK

A ten part series for television

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Episode eight

John Fitzgerald Kennedy was 'probably' murdered as a result of a conspiracy according to the 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 HAVANA HOTEL NIGHT

BEDROOM. The stunningly beautiful former actress turned ABC journalist LISA HOWARD is asleep in bed. She is awakened by a knock on her room door, gets up, dons a dressing gown and walks to the door.

LISA HOWARD  
Who is it?

HOTEL MESSENGER  
*(heavily accented English)*  
I have a message for Lisa Howard.  
The message is urgent.

LISA HOWARD opens the room door. The HOTEL MESSENGER hands her a note which she reads.

LISA HOWARD  
Is this a joke?

HOTEL MESSENGER  
He waits downstairs.

LISA HOWARD  
I---have to get dressed. Tell him  
I'll be down in ten minutes.

The MESSENGER nods, turns and leaves. LISA HOWARD closes the door and leans against it.

LISA HOWARD (CONT'D)  
Jesus!

MONTAGE. LISA HOWARD springs into action. She goes to a mirror and begins to brush her hair vigorously. Now she frantically applies makeup, then rifle's through her wardrobe firing clothes hither and thither till she finds the 'right' dress to wear. Lastly she gathers up and rapidly dons the jewelry that lies on her bedside table. Following a swift glance in the room's full length mirror, she tugs open the room door and is outside before the door has had time to close.

INT HAVANA HOTEL NIGHT

DINING ROOM. The DINING ROOM is deserted save for FIDEL CASTRO who sits alone at a table. His BODYGUARDS sit at a discreet distance. THE MESSENGER also hovers nearby CASTRO looks up, smiles and gets to his feet to greet LISA HOWARD who casually enters the DINING ROOM.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FIDEL CASTRO

*(eyeing her  
appreciatively)*

Miss Howard. I feared I might  
disturb your beauty sleep. But I  
see I have not.

He takes and kisses LISA'S hand.

LISA HOWARD

It was very kind of you to grant me  
an interview, Premier Castro.

FIDEL CASTRO

Please, you must call me Fidel.  
Official titles bring with them an  
air of formality that has no place  
when in the company of a beautiful  
woman.

LISA HOWARD

Well, thank you--Fidel.

FIDEL CASTRO

Now, while we talk, will you join  
me in a drink?

LISA HOWARD

Why not?

FIDEL CASTRO

Only champagne is compatible with  
this late hour, don't you agree?

LISA HOWARD

Oh, assuredly.

FIDEL CASTRO

*(to MESSENGER)*

Champagne. Y dos gafas por favor.

THE MESSENGER leaves and the BODYGUARDS watch the loquacious  
and gesticulating CASTRO as he mesmerizes attentive LISA  
HOWARD. THE BODYGUARDS exchange knowing looks.

EXT OSWALD HOUSE DAY

BACKYARD. LEE HARVEY OSWALD sits at a small table in the  
backyard. He is leafing through the pages of a pile of  
newspapers that he has placed on the table. His wife MARINA  
calls to him in English.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARINA

Lee! George is here.

OSWALD looks to where MARINA has shown GEORGE De MOHRENSCHILDT, into the backyard. He walks to join OSWALD and sits at the table.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

All these newspapers. Are you looking for a job?

OSWALD

No I'm looking for guns.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Guns? What do you want with guns?

OSWALD

Nothing.

*(sits back and explains)*

There's a Senator Dodds in Washington DC who's fretting about guns being ordered through the mail--or something. Our 'mutual friend' Maurice asked me to get involved.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Why you?

OSWALD

What? A dangerous communist who defected to the Soviet Union can get guns through the mail? That has to be stopped. Right?

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Who is selling these guns?

OSWALD

Well, among others, theirs Klein's Sporting Goods of Chicago and Seaport Traders of Los Angeles. These are the two I've to focus on.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

But perhaps being a dangerous communist you'll already be known to those firms.

(CONTINUED)

OSWALD

That's possible. It's also why our 'mutual friend' suggested I use an alias. Would you like to know what it is?

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Very much.

OSWALD

Well you know the famous story about Doctor Jekyll and Mister Hyde?

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Of course. Two personalities in one individual. A fascinating tale.

OSWALD

Right. So I just joined up the names. See.

OSWALD writes on a piece of paper and hands it to DE MOHRENSCHILDT.

OSWALD (CONT'D)

Alec Hidell. Some folks called me 'Alik' in Russia.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

But didn't mister Robert Louis Stevenson spell Hyde with a 'Y' and not an 'I'?

OSWALD

Sure he did. But I don't want to make it too obvious it's an alias now do I?

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

I suppose not. What kind of guns do these people sell?

OSWALD

Klein's do Manlicher Carcano rifles. Italian imports and pretty awful weapons I'm told. Pretty awful as in not very good. With Seaport I'm going after a handgun.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Well, good luck with it all, Lee. And now the purpose of my visit.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DE MOHRENSCHILDT (CONT'D)

I'm having some friends round for a barbecue and was wondering if you and Marina would care to join us?

OSWALD

Well sure.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Excellent. And may I say America seems to agree with Marina, she really is very lovely.

OSWALD

She is also very pregnant.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

No!

OSWALD

That's what I said, but the doctor said different. Said their would be four Oswalds come October time.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Then please except my congratulations, Lee.

INT WHITE HOUSE DAY

ROSE GARDEN. JFK is alone at a garden table sipping coffee. RFK joins him.

RFK

*(re coffee pot)*

My I?

JFK

Sure.

As RFK pours he notes he brother's reflective expression.

RFK

Something wrong?

JFK

Do you know how it comes down?

RFK

*(bemused)*

What comes down?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JFK

Nuclear fallout. Do you know how it comes down?

RFK

No.

JFK

In the rain. Can you imagine that? In the rain. The very thing our lives depend upon and we're poisoning it with these --damn nuclear tests.

JFK sits up and turns to face RFK.

JFK (CONT'D)

I think we should kick start negotiations on the Test Ban Treaty.

RFK

They've been dragging on since the fifties. The Reds will not have on-site verification. Without that how can we know that any treaty is being properly observed.

JFK

All of that was before Cuba, Bobby. If that fucking episode achieved anything it was to concentrate minds on the dangers facing this planet. I say we drop all preconditions and go for broke.

RFK

Well, you are the man, Jack.

JFK resumes his former position. RFK watches him before speaking.

RFK (CONT'D)

Lisa Howard.

JFK

A fine looking woman.

*(quickly faces him)*

But one I have not laid a finger on despite anything you may have heard, dear brother.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

RFK

*(laughs)*

I haven't heard anything. At least not about you and that lovely lady.

*(beat)*

But about her and mister Castro, I have heard some things.

JFK

Things?

FLASHBACK

INT HAVANA HOTEL NIGHT

BEDROOM. FIDEL CASTRO, still in his uniform, lies on the bed and watches as LISA HOWARD begins to undress.

RFK (V.O.)

Apparently she and that bearded bastard talked way into the wee small hours when she was down there.

OUT OF FLASHBACK

EXT WHITE HOUSE DAY

ROSE GARDEN. With JFK and RFK.

RFK

He wants to parley, Jack. Castro. Wants to normalize relations with the US.

JFK

Is she sure? I mean, he must know I won't talk as long as he keeps stirring up trouble in this Hemisphere.

RFK

He knows that. He says we can put it on the agenda. He says he's willing to discuss the presence of Soviet personnel and military hardware on the island-- as well as compensation for expropriated American land and investments.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JFK

What do you think?

RFK

I think he's mighty pissed with the Soviets for pulling their missiles out. I think he might want to get out of their orbit.

JFK

Someone should tell the Joint Chiefs about that. That my 'appeasement' might actually achieve something positive.

*(thoughtful)*

I sense an opportunity here, Bobby. But how to proceed?

RFK

I say very quietly. We start by easing back on Mongoose. We have to show some sign of good faith. And we lay the groundwork informally, I'm sure he'll understand that has to be the case. Then, when our second term comes around--we do the deal. We prove that what we did over the missiles down there paid dividends.

JFK

Do you suppose he'd maintain contact with Lisa Howard?

RFK

*(pointedly)*

Maintain contact? Absolutely.

FLASHBACK

INT HAVANA HOTEL NIGHT

BEDROOM. On the bed we see TWO PAIRS OF FEET , one male, one female, in the MISSIONARY POSITION. The FEMALE FEET are bare while the MALE FEET are BOOTED.

RFK (V.O.)

And who knows, next time he might even take his boots off.

OUT OF FLASHBACK

EXT WHITE HOUSE DAY

ROSE GARDEN. With JFK and RFK.

JFK

He kept his boots on? You're kidding.

RFK

No. Must be some kind of Latin thing.

EXT DE MOHRENSCHILDT HOUSE DAY

THE BBQ is in progress. DE MOHRENSCHILDT, who is cooking, Spots LEE and MARINA OSWALD and their daughter JUNE arriving.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

*(to wife: in English)*

Jean, darling, could you take over?

His wife complies and DE MOHRENSCHILDT walks to greet the OSWALDS.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT (CONT'D)

*(in RUSSIAN)*

Lee, Marina, welcome.

*(to JUNE)*

And welcome too young miss.

*(to adults)*

As you can see the food is not yet ready, so come, there is someone I want you to meet

DE MOHRENSCHILDT takes the OSWALDS to meet RUTH PAINE 30.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT (CONT'D)

*(in English)*

Ruth Paine this is Lee and Marina Oswald and their daughter June.

RUTH PAINE

*(shakes Lee's hand)*

I'm so very pleased to meet you Lee. George has told me all about you.

OSWALD

*(eying De Mohrenschildt)*

Really? All?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Ruth is a very great patriot Lee.  
We need have no secrets from her.

RUTH PAINE

*(in Russian)*

Marina. How lovely it is to meet  
you.

*(she kisses MARINA'S  
cheeks)*

And little June.

*(she bends and kisses the  
child, then speaks to  
MARINA)*

She is beautiful like her mother.

MARINA

Thank you.

RUTH PAINE

I have two of my own. They're with  
their father just now.

OSWALD

*(looking about)*

Where? They can play with June.

RUTH PAINE

*(in English)*

Oh they're not here. They're with  
Michael, my husband, we're living  
apart at the moment.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Lee, why don't we let the girls get  
better acquainted. Would you like a  
drink?

OSWALD

A coke would be nice.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT guides OSWALD to a drinks table and gets him  
a coke. They look back to where MARINA and RUTH PAINE are  
happily engaged in conversation.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

She will be good for Marina, Lee.  
She can help her with her English.

OSWALD

*(mock suspicion)*

Really?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

OSWALD (CONT'D)

Or maybe some people still have doubts about Marina, and want Mrs Paine to keep an eye on her----she being a great patriot and everything.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Does it matter? She will be good for Marina nevertheless. Besides, I may have to leave Dallas soon , Ruth can be my stand-in.

OSWALD

Leave where to?

DE MOHRENSCHILDT

Haiti. On business.

INT JM/WAVE COMPLEX MIAMI DAY

OFFICE. MAURICE is meeting with a worried HOWIE.

HOWIE

Something's wrong down here. Wrong, wrong, wrong.

MAURICE

Go on.

HOWIE

Word comes from the island that two Russian officers want to defect. These guys say there are still missiles on the island and they can lead us to them.

FLASHBACK

EXT CARIBBEAN DAY

An inflatable with TWO ANTI-CASTRO CUBANS aboard pulls away from a yacht named THE FLYING TIGER11. HOWIE is among the people on the yacht watching the departing inflatable.

HOWIE (V.O.)

We sent two guys ashore at Oriente. They were to rendezvous with us two days later. They were never seen again.

OUT OF FLASHBACK

INT JM/WAVE COMPLEX MIAMI DAY

OFFICE. With MAURICE and HOWIE.

MAURICE

They got caught. It's happened  
before. Just bad luck

HOWIE

I know, I know.

HOWIE gets to his feet and starts to pace.

HOWIE (CONT'D)

But the guys are not so sure. They  
say if there are still missiles on  
the island the Kennedy's wouldn't  
want it known.

MAURICE

I'm not buying that. How could they  
pull that off?

HOWIE

That fucker Bobby has eyes and ears  
down here. You know that. Anyway  
there have been--other incidents.

MAURICE

I'm listening.

HOWIE

We had a twin engine Beechcraft  
about to take off for the island.  
It was loaded up with explosives,  
grenades, napalm.

FLASHBACK

EXT DESERTED AIRFIELD DAY

The BEEHCRAFT has begun taxiing. But at that moment CUSTOMS  
VEHICLES race onto the tarmac at speed and block the plane's  
path.

HOWIE (V.O.)

It never got off the ground.  
Customs guys showed up.

OUT OF FLASHBACK

INT JM/WAVE COMPLEX MIAMI DAY

OFFICE. With MAURICE and HOWIE.

HOWIE

They arrested one of our guys and four Cubans.

MAURICE

Arrested?

HOWIE

Oh they let them go later on. But they wouldn't let the plane take off. They said they were acting on orders from--Washington. Do you want to hear more. Because there is more.

MAURICE shakes his head in the negative.

HOWIE (CONT'D)

The guys are angry. You should know that before you meet with them.

INT JM/WAVE COMPLEX MIAMI DAY

A huge NISSAN HUT. MAURICE and HOWIE face one hundred plus sullen ANTI-CASTRO CUBANS.

MAURICE

I understand we have suffered some-- setbacks--- recently.

The CUBANS remain silent.

MAURICE (CONT'D)

I want you to know that there has been no policy change towards Cuba. I want you to know that.

At this a CUBAN gets to his feet. He holds a FLYER in his hand.

CUBAN

I am sure you believe what you say. But if you go out to the straits of Florida, you might think otherwise. Those waters are filling up with new planes and new boats whose aim is to stop us taking back our homeland.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAURICE

We will never give up on Cuba.

CUBAN

You may not. But those Kennedy's will.

*(indicates comrades)*

From where we sit, Kennedy and Castro already co-exist.

A roar of approval from the CUBAN's compatriots. Now the CUBAN waves the FLYER in the air.

CUBAN (CONT'D)

This paper comes from our people in Miami. It's what many there are thinking.

*(he reads)*

Only through one development will you Cuban patriots ever live again in your homeland. And that is if an inspired Act Of God should place a friend of all Latin Americans in the White House!

MAURICE impassively gazes out over the cheering applauding CUBANS.

EXT WASHINGTON PARK DAY

MAURICE and THE DIRECTOR are walking in the park.

THE DIRECTOR

An inspired Act of God? They said that?

MAURICE

It came from some pamphlet put out in the Cuban community in Miami.

THE DIRECTOR

But not 'by' the Cuban community? It was put out by a person or persons from 'outside' the community?

MAURICE

According to the wording, yes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

THE DIRECTOR

*(pointedly)*

An inspired Act of God. Whatever  
can that mean?

MAURICE gives THE DIRECTOR a sideways glance

EXT US POSTAL OFFICE DALLAS DAY

A car pulls up. It is driven by SMITH. OSWALD is in the  
passenger seat.

SMITH

You remember that name I gave you?

OSWALD

The Postal Inspector, sure.

SMITH

Any problems he'll straighten it  
out.

OSWALD gets out of the car and enters the POST OFFICE.

INT OFFICE OF US MAIL DALLAS DAY

LEE HARVEY OSWALD stands at a counter and is approached by a  
US MAIL OPERATIVE.

MAIL OPERATIVE

Yes sir, what can I do for you?

OSWALD

My name is Oswald. I have a PO Box  
and I'm expecting a package. It  
should be in the name of Hidell.

MAIL OPERATIVE

Just a moment please.

OSWALD waits as THE OPERATIVE goes through some paperwork. He  
scans a document.

OSWALD

Is something wrong?

MAIL OPERATIVE

I'm afraid there is, Mr. Oswald.  
There's no Hidell authorized to use  
this PO Box.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OSWALD

May I borrow your pen?

MAIL OPERATIVE

Sure.

OSWALD picks up a slip of paper and writes on it before handing it to the MAIL OPERATIVE.

OSWALD

If you contact this gentleman he should explain things.

The MAIL operative walks to a nearby phone and dials an internal number. OSWALD watches as he speaks into the phone and then hangs up.

MAIL OPERATIVE

I'll go get your package, Mr. Oswald.

OSWALD

Thank you.

INT OSWALD HOUSE DALLAS DAY

OSWALD has unwrapped his package and taken out a MANLICHER CARCANO RIFLE.

OSWALD

*(To SMITH who is watching)*

Hey it's even got a scope. And believe me, Mr Smith, if I was ever gonna shoot this thing I would very much need a scope.

SMITH

You're no hot shot?

OSWALD

Not according to the US Marines.

EXT OSWALD HOUSE DALLAS DAY

SMITH, using the IMPERIAL REFLEX DOU LENS CAMERA owned by OSWALD is taking the famous 'BACKYARD PHOTOS' showing OSWALD posing with the MANLICHER CARCANO, a pistol at his hip, and holding TWO 'COMMUNIST' NEWSPAPERS.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SMITH

That oughta do it. Can you get them developed?

OSWALD

Sure

EXT KENNEDY COMPOUND CAPE COD DAY.

TWO SECRET SERVICEMEN patrol the beach. One of the MEN looks up to where JFK is leaning his arm against the wall of the house and looking in through a window.

EXT KENNEDY COMPOUND CAPE COD DAY.

BALCONY. We see that JFK is looking into his father's bedroom. He is focussed on MARY'S portrait of JOSEPH KENNEDY JUNIOR which hangs on the wall. As he thinks, he sees---

FLASHBACK

EXT ENGLISH CHANNEL DAY

A mighty explosion as JOSEPH KENNEDY'S plane explodes above the Channel

OUT OF FLASHBACK

EXT KENNEDY COMPOUND CAPE COD DAY.

BALCONY with JFK looking into the bedroom.

RFK (O.S.)

Hey. What's up?

JFK

Nothing. Just thinking.

*(re newspaper clippings*

*RFK is carrying)*

What have you got there?

RFK waves the wad of cuttings and hands them to JFK.

RFK

All stories from Cuban exiles  
telling how we're clamping down on  
their operations against Castro.

JFK flicks through the cuttings

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JFK

Well, they're all true. So Let's hope Castro reads beyond the baseball scores.

RFK senses that his brother is troubled.

RFK

What is it?

JFK

Vietnam. The intelligence reports coming out are , well, not fucking good, Bobby. This Diem fellow is little better than a tyrant--and a Catholic tyrant at that. He's the best recruiting sergeant the North will ever have

FLASHBACK

EXT SAIGON DAY

Footage of the BUDDHIST MONK THIC QUANG DOC sitting amidst the gasoline flames of his self-immolation.

RFK (V.O.)

I saw those horrible pictures of that Buddhist monk. Horrible. Just Horrible.

OUT OF FLASHBACK

EXT KENNEDY COMPOUND CAPE COD DAY.

With JFK and RFK.

JFK

He was a brave man. Why can't Diem see you don't defeat people like that? You have to reach out to them.

RFK

*(quiet: concerned)*

Jack, the Joint Chiefs know we can't count on Diem rallying his people. It's not hard to guess what's coming next.

INT WHITE HOUSE DAY

CABINET ROOM. JFK is meeting with the JOINT CHIEFS. GENERAL MAXWELL TAYLOR has replaced GENERAL LEMNITZER.

GENERAL LEMAY

Mr. President we need to reassess the situation in Vietnam.

JFK

By reassess you mean increase the number of military advisers we have down there?

GENERAL LEMAY

I think the time has come to go beyond offering advice and training. Diem's military are not up to the job--and that's largely thanks to Diem himself.

JFK

You'll get no argument from me on that count.

GENERAL LEMAY

Then the only solution is to put combat troops in there.

JFK

That's obviously something we've thought long and hard about.

GENERAL LEMAY

And your conclusion Mr. President?

JFK

My brother and I were in Vietnam when the French were still fighting to hold on to their one-time colony.

GENERAL LEMAY

With all due respect, Mr. President, what could a person gain from a flying visit except--- impressions.

JFK

That's right. My clear impression was that the French would lose. And they did.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JFK (CONT'D)

A modern, sophisticated, well armed  
military force--and they lost.

(beat)

I have had discussions with General  
De Gaulle on this subject. He takes  
the view that we could put an army  
of three hundred thousand men into  
Vietnam and lose them in the  
jungles there

GENERAL LEMAY

The French are quitters, Mr.  
President. Their capitulation in  
the last war showed us that.

JFK

I've also taken soundings closer to  
home.

GENERAL LEMAY

Who from?

FLASHBACK

INT WHITE HOUSE DAY

OVAL OFFICE. JFK welcomes GENERAL DOUGLAS McARTHUR into the  
OVAL OFFICE.

JFK

General McArthur. Thank you for  
coming

OUT OF FLASHBACK

INT WHITE HOUSE DAY

CABINET OFFICE. JFK is meeting with the JOINT CHIEFS.

JFK

As you gentlemen are well aware,  
General Douglas McArthur , as well  
as being one of our finest ever  
generals, is not one to run from a  
fight, when a fight is needed. I  
spoke with General McArthur for a  
couple of hours and fully briefed  
him on the situation in Vietnam. I  
asked him about sending combat  
troops into that country.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JFK (CONT'D)

He said if I was ever so advised I should ignore that advice. He said a person would have to be out of his mind to put an army into the South East Asian mainland.

*(beat)*

That's what he said. General Douglas McArthur.

EXT GEORGETOWN TOWN HOUSE DAY

THE DIRECTOR'S HOUSE. GARDEN. MAURICE is with THE DIRECTOR.

THE DIRECTOR

McArthur said that?

MAURICE

And more. He said our defensive line should be Japan, the Philippines and Indonesia.

THE DIRECTOR

And South East Asia? We just forget about that? Or let me guess. We send in even more 'advisers'?

MAURICE

No. Kennedy wants to reduce the number of advisers we already have there.

THE DIRECTOR

I hear what you're telling me. But I'm having difficulty believing it. And the Joint Chiefs?

MAURICE

They're having difficulty believing it also

THE DIRECTOR

I'll bet they are.

THE DIRECTOR gets to his feet and begins to pace.

THE DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

This Kennedy, he is just so bad for this country. So very bad.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAURICE

Well, unless the American people  
come to that view--I guess we're  
stuck with him

THE DIRECTOR

Mmmmm.

MAURICE checks his watch, then gets to his feet.

THE DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

You have to be somewhere?

MAURICE

On a plane to Dallas. I have  
another errand for my young friend  
down there.

INT OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL WASHINGTON DAY

RFK welcomes J. EDGAR HOOVER into his office.

RFK

Mister Hoover, good of you to come  
over, please have a seat.

HOOVER

*(taking seat)*

Thank you.

RFK

Mister Hoover, as you know this  
administration is dedicated to  
restoring freedom to the island of  
Cuba.

HOOVER

Of course.

RFK

That said, the administration is  
also bound by the constraints of  
the Neutrality Act. We cannot  
behave in a warlike way towards a  
country we are at peace with.

HOOVER

I---am fully conversant with the  
Act.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RFK

Sure. Well it's been brought to my attention , that US territory, near lake Pontchartrain in Louisiana to be precise, is being used as a training camp for anti-Castro Cubans.

HOOVER

Brought to your attention?

RFK

*(smiles)*

As I'm sure you're very well aware, Mr. Hoover , I have contacts throughout the Cuban community in this country.

HOOVER does not answer.

RFK (CONT'D)

And not all of them think the law of the land should be broken.

HOOVER

I'm glad to hear that. Did your contacts also mention that the munitions being used in Louisiana were once destined for France? For the enemies of Mr. De Gaulle?

RFK is completely taken aback by this.

HOOVER (CONT'D)

I too have my informants. Mr. Kennedy. Thankfully I did not have to act on that information as Mr. De Gaulle prevailed over his enemies.

RFK

*(quiet)*

Why are you telling me this Mr. Hoover?

HOOVER

Simply to let you know that there are people in the country who won't be bound by the Neutrality Act. In fact they won't be bound by any law.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

HOOVER (CONT'D)

And if they thought we--the  
administration--- were softening  
our stance on Cuba, well, who can  
say how they might respond.

*(beat)*

Do you still want me to act in  
Louisiana?

RFK

Yes.

HOOVER

Very well.

*(gets to his feet)*

Good day Mr. Kennedy.

INT WHITE HOUSE DAY

OVAL OFFICE. RFK is reporting to JFK.

JFK

Weapons to be used against De  
Gaulle? Do you believe him?

RFK

Yes.

JFK

*(enraged)*

Did he say who, Bobby?

RFK

No. He didn't have to.

JFK

*(understanding)*

God dammit I should have smashed  
that outfit up and scattered it to  
the four winds right after that Bay  
Of Pigs fiasco.

RFK

You did what you could.

JFK

If we get a second term we go after  
those fuckers, Bobby. This is a god  
damn democracy we're running here,  
not some banana republic. Jesus  
Christ! The arrogance of these  
people is breathtaking.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RFK

Hoover was giving us a warning,  
John. We should heed it.

JFK

I'm the President of The United  
States Of America, Bobby. I say  
what our foreign policy is, not a  
bunch of fucking cowboys.

EXT PARK DALLAS DAY

MAURICE and LEE HARVEY OSWALD lean against MAURICE'S CAR  
sipping coffee from cardboard cups.

OSWALD

The Fair Play For Cuba Committee?  
Never heard of them.

MAURICE

We think they're a Communist front  
group. And we'd like the American  
people to know that.

OSWALD

Why New Orleans?

MAURICE

Number one, we have people down  
there who can help you get set up.  
Number two, who'd believe that  
someone close to De Mohrenschildt  
and his associates would suddenly  
start canvassing support for  
Castro? You have to leave Dallas.  
Will that be a problem?

OSWALD

I guess not. Marina can stay with  
Mrs Paine till I get settled in  
down there. Hell I was born in New  
Orleans. I'll be going home.

MAURICE

I'll even have an old friend meet  
you off the bus.

EXT BUS STATION NEW ORLEANS DAY

LEE HARVEY OSWALD steps off the bus he is carrying his MARINE  
DUFFLE BAG.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVID FERRIE (O.S.)  
Well look at you.

OSWALD turns to see FERRIE.

OSWALD  
Why Captain Ferrie. It's been such  
a long time, I wonder you even  
recognized me.

FERRIE  
Your name's on the bag, Lee.

OSWALD  
*(looking at bag)*  
Well of course it is.  
*(shakes hands)*  
It's good to see you Captain  
Ferie.

FERRIE  
Likewise, Lee. And since I'm  
familiar with all your exploits I  
figure you've earned the right to  
call me Dave.

OSWALD  
Fine by me--Dave.

FERRIE  
Come on. There's somebody you  
should meet.

EXT NEW ORLEANS STREET DAY

ESTABLISH 544 CAMP STREET/531 LAFAYETTE STREET.

INT 544 CAMP STREET DAY

FERRIE introduces OSWALD to GUY BANNISTER, 55, owner of the  
offices at 544 CAMP STREET/

FERRIE  
Le Oswald this is Guy Bannister. He  
owns this place.

OSWALD  
I'm pleased to meet you sir.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BANNISTER

I've set up an office for you, Lee.  
You let me know if there's anything  
you need. Dave you show Lee around.

INT BANNISTER'S OFFICES DAY

FERRIE shows OSWALD into a tiny office with a hand printing  
press in place.

FERRIE

*(re press)*

To print your pro Castro propaganda  
on.

INT BANNISTER'S OFFICES DAY

FERRIE shows OSWALD into a large STORE ROOM filled with boxes  
of armaments and explosives.

OSWALD

Jeez. What are you gonna do, start  
a war?

FERRIE

Maybe. All this has a history.  
First it was meant for the Bay Of  
Pigs. Then it was for the OAS.

OSWALD

OAS?

FERRIE

Those French guys who wanted to get  
rid of De Gaulle.

FLASHBACK

EXT SCHLUMBUGER WELLS MUNITIONS BUNKET HOUMA NIGHT

FERRIE et al are removing the munitions from the SCHLUMBUGER  
WELLS bunker. (SEE EARLIER EPISODE)

FERRIE (V.O.)

When De Gaulle won out over the OAS  
we decided we would pick up the  
goodies.

OUT OF FLASHBACK

INT BANNISTER'S OFFICES DAY

With FERRIE and OSWALD.

FERRIE

We use them to supply our training camp out at Lake Pontchartrain. I'll show you around there some time, but right now what are your plans Lee?

OSWALD

Set up a New Orleans chapter of this Fair Play For Cuba Committee, put out some hand bills and get myself prominent.

FERRIE

We have people who can help you get prominent.

INT WHITE HOUSE DAY

OVAL OFFICE. JFK is at his desk reading when RFK enters.

JFK

Bobby. Thanks for coming over.

RFK

You mentioned something about good news?

JFK

The Nuclear Test Ban Treaty? I'm told that the other parties seem-- amenable.

RFK

That is good news.

JFK

I want to keep the pressure on Bobby. Make a--declaration of intent, if you will.

RFK

How and when?

JFK

In a speech to the American University on June 10.

EXT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY JUNE 10 1963 DAY

JFK delivers what will become known as the PEACE SPEECH in which he essentially calls for co-existence with the Soviet Union, calls for arms control/reduction, calls for a nuclear weapons Test Ban Treaty.

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

MARY'S HOUSE. She watches JFK on TV.

INT OSWALD HOUSE NEW ORLEANS DAY

LEE HARVEY OSWALD, who has now been joined by MARINA and BABY JUNE. Watch JFK on TV

OSWALD  
(to MARINA in RUSSIAN)  
This is a great speech. He's  
calling for world peace.

EXT PENTAGON DAY

Establish PENTAGON with JFK VO.

INT PENTAGON DAY

The JOINT CHIEFS watch JFK in silence.

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

THE DIRECTOR'S HOUSE. He and MAURICE are watching JFK on TV

THE DIRECTOR  
Someone should give that man a  
white flag to wave.

INT JM/WAVE COMPLEX MIAMI

HOWIE and some CUBANS are watching JFK on TV.

CUBAN  
And they say this man was a war  
hero?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HOWIE

Oh yes. I'm told they're even making a movie about Mr. Kennedy's war.

INT MOVIE THEATRE NEW ORLEANS NIGHT

LEE HARVEY OSWALD and MARINA sit in the darkened movie theatre and watch actor CLIFF ROBERTSON play JFK in the war movie "PT109". The movie paints an heroic picture of JFK and his crew during the war in the Pacific.

EXT MOVIE THEATRE NEW ORLEANS NIGHT

The OSWALDS are among the MOVIE AUDIENCE exiting the theatre.

MARINA

*(in RUSSIAN)*

Was that really a true story?

OSWALD

*(in Russian)*

Of course it was true.

MARINA

*(in RUSSIAN)*

He was very brave, your President.

OSWALD

*(in Russian squeezing her and laughing)*

When they put on a uniform all Americans are brave.

MARINA laughs at this self-reference.

INT 544 CAMP STREET DAY

OSWALDS OFFICE. He is printing off handbills supporting the CASTRO regime in CUBA when he hears shouting coming from BANNISTER'S OFFICE

INT 544 CAMP STREET DAY

BANNISTER'S OFFICE. OSWALD enters to see BANNISTER listening to an enraged DIVID FERRIE.

(CONTINUED)

FERRIE

Those fuckers! Those fucking FBI  
cocksuckers! Don't they know what  
we're trying to do here! Those--  
those motherfuckers!

BANNISTER

Did they arrest anyone?

FERRIE

No. No one. Just took every gun,  
every bullet, every fucking bomb,  
every fucking thing. What do they  
expect us to fight Castro with,  
fucking sticks!

*(notices OSWALD)*

Would you believe that! Would you  
believe it!

OSWALD

I--don't know what's going on.

FERRIE tries to calm himself. He begins to pace.

FERRIE

Our training camp out at the lake?

OSWALD

Yes.

FERRIE

They fucking raided it.

OSWALD

The FBI?

FERRIE

Yes! The FBI!

FLASHBACK

EXT ANTI-CASTRO CUBAN TRAINING CAMP DAY

Near LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN. FERRIE watches as CUBANS engage in  
rifle practice. Suddenly a half dozen cars appear and armed  
FBI men spill out.

FERRIE (V.O.)

I tell you it was all I could do  
not to shoot those bastards.

EXT ANTI-CASTRO CUBAN TRAINING CAMP DAY

FERRIE and the CUBANS can only watch as the FBI men load their armaments onto trucks

FERRIE (V.O.)

Those sons of bitches wouldn't tell us nothing! Not who sent them or why, nothing!

OUT OF FLASHBACK

INT 544 CAMP STREET DAY

BANNISTER'S OFFICE. With BANNISTER, FERRIE and OSWALD.

BANNISTER

Hoover sent them.

FERRIE

*(skeptically)*

Hoover?

BANNISTER

I spent years in the Bureau. Orders for a raid like that have to come from the top.

OSWALD

J. Edgar Hoover is a friend of Castro?

BANNISTER

No. He must have been given orders by Robert Kennedy. Must have.

FERRIE

What the fuck are those Kennedy's playing at?

BANNISTER

Maybe it's some kind of ploy? Castro lets his guard down, then bam! We go all out and invade! That has to be it.

EXT CANAL STREET NEW ORLEANS DAY

FOOTAGE EXTANT. LEE HARVEY OSWALD hands out 'HANDS OFF CUBA' leaflets whilst wearing a crude placard that reads 'VIVA FIDEL.' Some CUBANS led by a man named CARLOS BRINGUER approach. BRINGUER grabs and scatters OSWALD'S leaflets.

BRINGUER  
What are you doing you fuck!

OSWALD  
*(whispers)*  
Hit me Carlos. Hit me.

BRINGUER  
*(to passers by)*  
This man is a Communist. He wants  
Communism here in the United States  
just like in Cuba.

BRINGUER and OSWALD start pushing and shoving each other.

INT COURTROOM DAY

OSWALD is in the dock.

JUDGE  
Mister Oswald I'm finding you  
guilty of disturbing the peace.  
*(slams gavel)*  
Fined ten dollars.

INT 544 CAMP STREET DAY

BANNISTER'S OFFICE. BANNISTER, FERRIE and BRINGUER are congratulating OSWALD.

BANNISTER  
You did a good job Lee.

OSWALD  
He should've hit me like I said.

BRINGUER  
I can hit you now if you want.

FERRIE  
One thing Lee. Don't be putting  
this address on any more handbills

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OSWALD

I'm sorry about that Mister  
Bannister.

BANNISTER

We'll let that slide this time.  
Now, how would you guys like to be  
on TV?

INT TV STUDIO DAY

EXTANT FOOTAGE. OSWALD and BRINGUER debate CUBA. BRINGUER  
lands a killer blow when he reveals that OSWALD had  
'defected' to the USSR and so is a Communist.

INT. INT OSWALD HOUSE NEW ORLEANS DAY

MARINA, with baby JUNE are watching OSWALD on TV.

MARINA

*(in Russian)*

Look at your papa. See how clever  
he is.

EXT PARK AVENUE NEW YORK NIGHT

A CAR is parked opposite the apartment of TV reporter LISA  
HOWARD. In the car are MAURICE, SID, and a man we will come  
to know as SANCHEZ. He is a big man with the look of a  
MEXICAN/INDIAN about him. As the three watch LISA HOWARD  
appears and waits on the sidewalk.

SANCHEZ

Is she really fucking Castro?

SID

Maurice?

MAURICE

Yes.

SANCHEZ

I suppose that's how she got her  
interview with him.

SID

That should never have been shown.  
It made the fellow seem almost  
human.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

At this a CAB pulls up at the sidewalk and LISA HOWARD get's in.

SANCHEZ

There she goes.

INT LISA HOWARD'S APARTMENT NIGHT

From inside we watch as MAURICE, SID and SANCHEZ enter. Armed with flashlights, they stand on the threshold and take in their surroundings. Then SANCHEZ goes and closes the drapes and SID switches on the lights. SID then lays the small case he is carrying on a table and opens it. It contains bugging equipment. He takes out a bug and hands it to SANCHEZ.

SID

Put that in the phone.

(to MAURICE)

The rest go into power sockets.

Help yourself.

MAURICE does as he is bid and also takes a screwdriver from the case.

EXT KENNEDY COMPOUND CAPE COD DAY.

JFK and RFK are walking on the beach and being shadowed by SECRET SERVICE PERSONNEL.

JFK

I was thinking of making an informal approach to Castro.

RFK

I think we should. Got anyone in mind?

JFK

Bill Atwood. He knows Castro.

RFK

He's also working at the UN--on our payroll.

JFK

We can't have that. We have to get him off the books before any approach is made.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RFK  
I can see to that.  
(beat)  
Jack----?

JFK  
What?

RFK  
This is a big step----bearing in  
mind what Hoover had to say.

JFK  
(re *SECRET SERVICEMEN*)  
Yeah, well, I've got those fellows  
watching my back.

RFK  
(quietly)  
Right.

EXT GEORGETOWN TOWN HOUSE DAY

THE DIRECTOR'S HOUSE. GARDEN. MAURICE arrives at the garden  
table just as JAMES is pouring THE DIRECTOR a coffee.

JAMES  
Coffee, sir?

MAURICE  
No thank you James.

When JAMES exits, MAURICE leans close to the director.

MAURICE (CONT'D)  
Lisa Howard.

THE DIRECTOR  
You should wash your mouth out at  
the mention of that woman. Did you  
see that interview with Castro?

MAURICE  
Saw it and thought it prudent to  
act upon it.

THE DIRECTOR  
Oh?

MAURICE  
We sprinkled her place with some of  
Sid's gadgets.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

THE DIRECTOR  
Pick up anything interesting?

MAURICE  
Oh yes.

FLASHBACK

INT LISA HOWARD'S APARTMENT NIGHT

GUESTS start arriving for a drinks party. LISA HOWARD is introducing the CUBAN AMBASSADOR to the UN CARLOS LECHUGA to KENNEDY secret envoy WILLIAM ATWOOD.

MAURICE (V.O.)  
Howard recently gave a dinner party. Among her guests were Bill Atwood and the Cuban ambassador to the UN Carlos Lechuga.

OUT OF FLASHBACK

EXT GEORGETOWN TOWN HOUSE DAY

THE DIRECTOR'S HOUSE. GARDEN. With MAURICE and THE DIRECTOR. MAURICE lays a large brown envelope on the table.

MAURICE  
These are transcripts of conversations between Atwood and Lechuga.

THE DIRECTOR  
*(lays his fingers on the envelope.*  
Why don't you precis the contents for me?

MAURICE  
There's no doubt about it. Kennedy wants to normalize relations with Cuba. It'll all be done in his second term.

THE DIRECTOR  
Maybe he won't get a second term.

MAURICE  
The poles say he will. They say he's a certainty.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

THE DIRECTOR

*(rashly)*

Who cares what the poles say.

MAURICE is thrown by this remark. He watches THE DIRECTOR closely as he sips his coffee.

THE DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

*(deflecting)*

This is excellent coffee. You really should try some.

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

MARY'S HOUSE. MORNING. HALL. Wearing a dressing gown, MARY goes to remove the morning paper from the letter box.

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE DAY

MARY'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. MARY sips a coffee and opens the paper. She is struck by a headline 'KENNEDY'S LOSE CHILD.'

MARY

Oh God.

EXT GEORGETOWN TOWN NIGHT

MARY'S HOUSE. TWO SECRET SERVICEMEN ARE IN A CAR PARKED OUTSIDE.

INT GEORGETOWN HOUSE NIGHT

MARY'S HOUSE. She is seated opposite a stricken JFK who sits with his head bowed.

JFK

You would think, being just two days old his death wouldn't mean so much, would you not?

MARY does not answer.

JFK (CONT'D)

I tell myself he's with his uncle Joe and his aunt Kathleen, now.

MARY

How is Jackie?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JFK

Not god. Not good at all.

*(he looks at MARY)*

I uh---that's why I came round,  
Mary. Jackie-----

MARY gets to her feet, walks to him, and extends her hands.  
He takes hold of them and stands up.

JFK (CONT'D)

I'm sorry.

MARY

Don't be. She needs you now.

THEY embrace gently and MARY strokes his her.

MARY (CONT'D)

Maybe----in time. We can pick it up  
again. In time.

EXT GEORGETOWN TOWN NIGHT

We see the SECRET SERVICE car pull away. Now we see we have  
been watching it from the POV of MAURICE who stands in the  
shadows.

EXT OAK PARK DISTRICT OF CHICAGO DAY

ESTABLISH THE HOUSE OF SAM GIANCANNA. Expensive cars roll up  
outside. MAFIOSI'S SANTO TRAFFICANTE, gets out of one, and  
CARLOS MARCELLO another. From a third, not so grand, car  
MAFIOSI JOHNNY ROSELLI gets out, as does HARVE.

INT GIANCANNA HOUSE DAY

LOUNGE. The men are seated round a large table.

ROSELLI

Santo, Carlos, Sam. You all know my  
friend Harve who got sent to Italy  
thanks to that cocksucker Bobby  
Kennedy.

GIANCANNA

How was it out there?

HARVE

Fucking awful. Too many fucking  
Italians.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Smiles at this joke by HARVE.

ROSELLI

He don't mean that.

TRAFFICANTE

We know that. He's still breathin'  
ain't he.

SMILES at this joke too.

MARCELLO

You have news for us Harve?

HARVE

Bad news, Mr Marcello. As things  
stand you can forget getting back  
into Cuba. Ever.

GIANCANNA

As things stand? They can be  
changed? These things?

HARVE

Some people think they could. Think  
they should.

GIANCANNA

I agree with these people. I'm sure  
we all do.

GIANCANNA looks at his fellow MAFIOSI'S . They don't speak.  
They don't have to. The expressions say it all.

EXT A BAYOU PICNIC AREA NEW ORLEANS DAY

MAURICE and LEE HARVEY OSWALD are seated across each other at  
a picnic table. Children and other members of the public mill  
round about.

MAURICE

Lee, I've never known you to refuse  
a service to your country.

OSWALD

No sir.

MAURICE

Lee, do you think you could kill a  
man? In the service of your country-  
---and for a substantial reward,  
also, I may say?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OSWALD

Well, I joined the Marines didn't  
I? Marines kill America's enemies.

MAURICE

I can take that as an affirmative,  
then?

OSWALD

Well, I guess. But who am I  
supposed to kill?

At this MAURICE shows OSWALD a photograph , whose image we  
cannot see.

MAURICE

This is the man.

OSWALD

Jesus.

MAURICE

I know. It sounds---impossible. But  
if I can figure out a way, a way to  
get the job done and to get you off  
the hook for doing it, will you? Do  
it?

OSWALD

We could pull that off? I'd be in  
the clear?

MAURICE

Yes.

OSWALD

Then I guess, I could do it.

END EPISODE EIGHT

(CONTINUED)

Maurice, Lee, JFK ep 8.  
CONTINUED:

42

(CONT'D)

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