

Here and Now 'Real Time' John F Kennedy Assassination Program

Hourly Details (*central time*)

11:00AM

Julian Zelizer of Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School, will talk about the political context of President Kennedy's trip to Texas. Kennedy was thinking about his 1964 re-election bid and he needed Texas' 25 electoral vote. There was a strong vein of anti-Kennedy sentiment in Texas. Kennedy spoke at two events in Fort Worth that morning and left Fort Worth for Dallas at 12:30 EST.

12:00PM

Boston University Social Sciences Professor Thomas Whalen about the political aspects of the Texas trip and the first reports of the shots being fired at the Kennedy motorcade which left Love Field in Dallas right around 1 pm EST, passing the Texas School Book Depository at 1:30 EST. The first United Press International bulletin saying shots had been fired at the president's motorcade cleared the wire at 1:34 EST.

1:00PM

History Channel Scholar In Residence and University of Oklahoma History Professor Steve Gillon about the story that was breaking in Dallas during this hour on November 22, 1963. Reporters were hearing from sources that Kennedy was dead. When that was finally confirmed Walter Cronkite delivered the news to a national TV audience at 2:38 EST. Gillon is an expert on Lee Harvey Oswald and at this hour on November 22nd 1963 the world didn't know his name but the cashier at the Texas Theater in Dallas reported a man acting suspiciously had just entered the theater. It was Oswald.

2:00PM

Larry Sabato, director of the University of Virginia's Center for Politics will join us from Dallas. Sabato is the author of "The Kennedy Half Century: The President's Assassination And The Lasting Legacy of John F. Kennedy." During this hour on the day Kennedy was killed, Lyndon Johnson was sworn in as the nation's 36th president on Air Force One. Then the plane carrying the new president and former president's casket left Dallas for the flight back to Washington. This hour we will also speak to Boston Globe Columnist Kevin Cullen about Kennedy's Massachusetts roots and how his death resonated in the community where he was born.