

# Dallas readies to honor JFK for the last time

**United Press International**  
DALLAS — Services marking the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, which have drawn lukewarm local response in recent years, have piqued media interest worldwide as the 20th anniversary approaches, Democratic party officials said.

The ceremonies Tuesday, shunned by members of the Kennedy family and national figures, mark the last time the Nov. 22, 1963, shooting is to be officially commemorated in Dallas.

County Democratic Party officials said beginning next year, services would mark the slain president's birthday, rather than his death.

"The attention of the world is on Dallas," said County Democratic Party chairman Robert Greenberg.

The attention of the world has been on Dallas whenever the assassination has come up. Known for its reactionary politics at the time of Kennedy's death, Dallas has spent the past 20 years living down its "City of Hate" image.

"In the long run, we were not

what we were labeled, and that has come through," said former Mayor Erik Jonsson.

The services are scheduled to begin at noon Tuesday at Kennedy Memorial Plaza about one block from the assassination site, with music from Eastfield Community College choir and Dallas Civic Opera singer Edward Coker.

The only speaker of approaching national stature is former U.S. Sen. Ralph Yarborough, who anchored the liberal wing of the Democratic Party during the early 1960s.

Yarborough nearly missed being included in the ceremonies altogether, following a misunderstanding over invitations. Kennedy's only surviving brother, U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., declined an invitation to attend, as did Kennedy's widow, Jacqueline Onassis.

The speaker of the Massachusetts house, State Rep. Thomas McGee, also was scheduled to address the assembly.

"I am extremely satisfied," said Greenberg. "It is one of the most positive things we have as a

people in many, many years."

The event has drawn interest "from as far away as Sydney, Australia," said Greenberg's press secretary Marsha Hooker.

More than 100 reporters and film crews from Europe and across the United States have been shooting footage of the assassination site in preparation for the memorial, officials said.

The sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository, where accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald allegedly fired the shot that killed Kennedy and wounded then Gov. John Connally, has been sealed since the shooting.

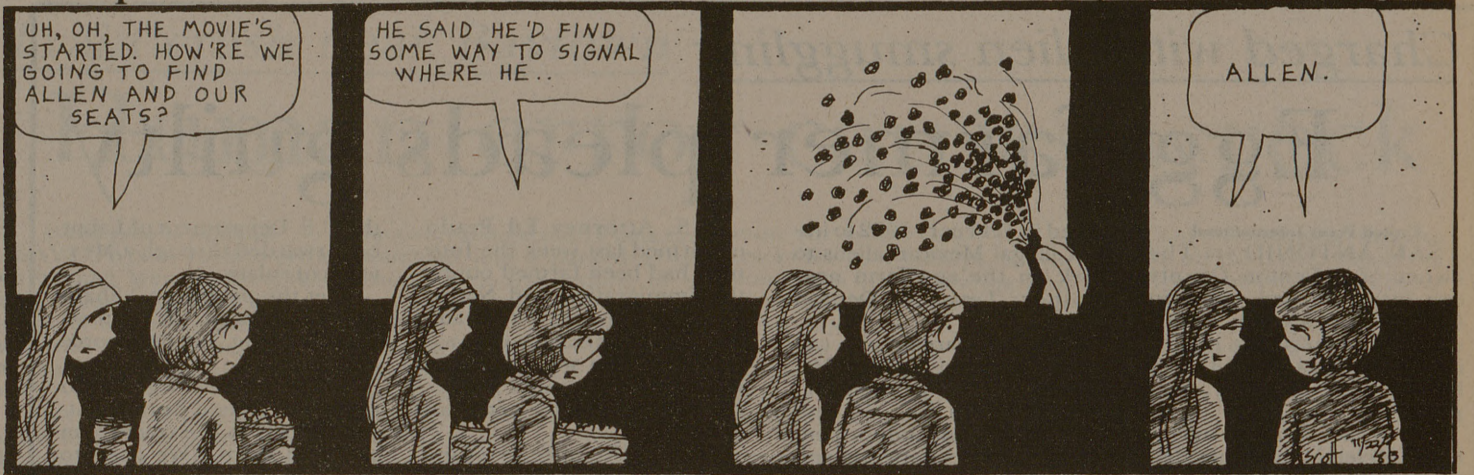
It was reopened for journalists preparing background for the memorial, and Dallas County Historical Foundation plans to convert it to a museum within the next two years.

"It was strange," said Oklahoma University journalism student Ellen Knickmeyer, who came to Dallas to report on the services for her college newspaper.

"I could almost see a skinny, beady-eyed little guy in that room," she said.

## Warped

by Scott McCullar



## R.I.

by Paul Dirmeyer



# White's opposition to PCB burn draws loud support

**United Press International**  
BROWNSVILLE — While about 500 people cheered their approval, Gov. Mark White Monday told Environmental Protection Agency officials that Texans do not trust the agency's assurances that incineration of PCBs and other toxic wastes in the Gulf of Mexico could be done safely.

"No one ever believed that the titanic could be sunk," White told EPA hearing examiners who have given tentative approval for Chemical Waste Management Inc. to burn 300,000 metric tons of toxic chemicals at a site 180 miles off the Texas Coast.

White accused the EPA of trying to "herd" through the proposal without sufficient public input and said the agency's tactics had engendered "public mistrust, ill-faith and lack of confidence."

He questioned whether selecting the burn site off the Texas Coast might not be a political decision such as the alleged tampering of former EPA Administrator Ann Gorsuch Burford and fired EPA official Rita LaVelle in California politics.

White charged the former EPA officials "tried to channel funds to Texas to help (former Republican Texas Gov. Bill) Cle-

ments' gubernatorial campaign" and "stalled assistance to California to damage Jerry Brown's campaign."

"If it (offshore incineration) is just for politics, we can handle that, but I have grave concerns about this proposal," said White, interrupted numerous times by applause from opponents of the ocean incineration project.

White noted that officials of the Texas Air Control Board, Texas Department of Water Resources and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department also were opposing granting the burning permits for up to 100 shiploads of toxic wastes over a three-year period.

"It appears that the EPA has more interest in automobile pollution in Houston than the possible contamination of the entire Gulf of Mexico," White said.

White also charged that the National Maritime Administration's guarantee of millions of dollars in loans to build incineration ships amounted to a "conflict of interest" for the federal government. He accused the NPA of trying to "turn our merchant marine fleet into chemical garbage skows."

White's remarks were the most dramatic of a long list of speakers who condemned the EPA's ocean incineration plan as potentially dangerous to the sea-

food industry, tourism and population centers along the Texas Coast.

While Congressmen Kika de la Garza and Solomon Ortiz and numerous environmentalists spoke against the proposal, people in the audience waved "Ban the Burn," signs and shouted their agreement.

Members of the audience often interrupted the testimony by shouting out questions, ignoring pleas for decorum from Jack Ravan, the EPA's new administrator for water who will make the decision early next year to grant the permits to Chemical Waste Management.

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