The Assassination of President Kennedy

On November 22, 1963, President Kennedy and his wife, First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy were traveling in a presidential motorcade in Dallas, Texas. Texas Governor John Connally and his wife, Nellie Connally, were riding in the presidential limousine with the Kennedys. At approximately 12:30 p.m., the limousine neared the Texas School Book Depository on Elm Street. As they passed by the building, the President was shot in the upper back. He was shot again seconds later, this time in the head. President Kennedy was taken to Parkland Memorial Hospital, where he was pronounced dead a short time later. Governor John Connally was also struck by a bullet and was critically injured, but survived. Neither Jacqueline Kennedy nor Nellie Connally were harmed in the attack.

Lee Harvey Oswald, a twenty-four-year old employee at the Texas School Book Depository, was arrested approximately an hour and 20 minutes after the assassination for killing a Dallas police officer named J.D. Tippit. Later that night, he was also charged with killing President Kennedy. Oswald denied shooting anyone, and his case was never tried. Two days after his arrest, on November 24, 1963, Oswald was shot and killed by nightclub owner Jack Ruby while being transferred to the Dallas County Jail.
There was much speculation as to what had actually occurred on the day of the assassination. Many believed that the assassination was the result of a conspiracy against President Kennedy and that Lee Harvey Oswald did not act alone in the killing. On November 29, 1963, President Lyndon Johnson, who succeeded President Kennedy upon his death, established the Warren Commission to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy. After a ten-month investigation, the Warren Commission, headed by U.S. Chief Justice Earl Warren, concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in the assassination of President Kennedy and that Jack Ruby acted alone in the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald.

There is still much doubt and controversy surrounding the details of President Kennedy's assassination today.