

KENNEDY SLAIN

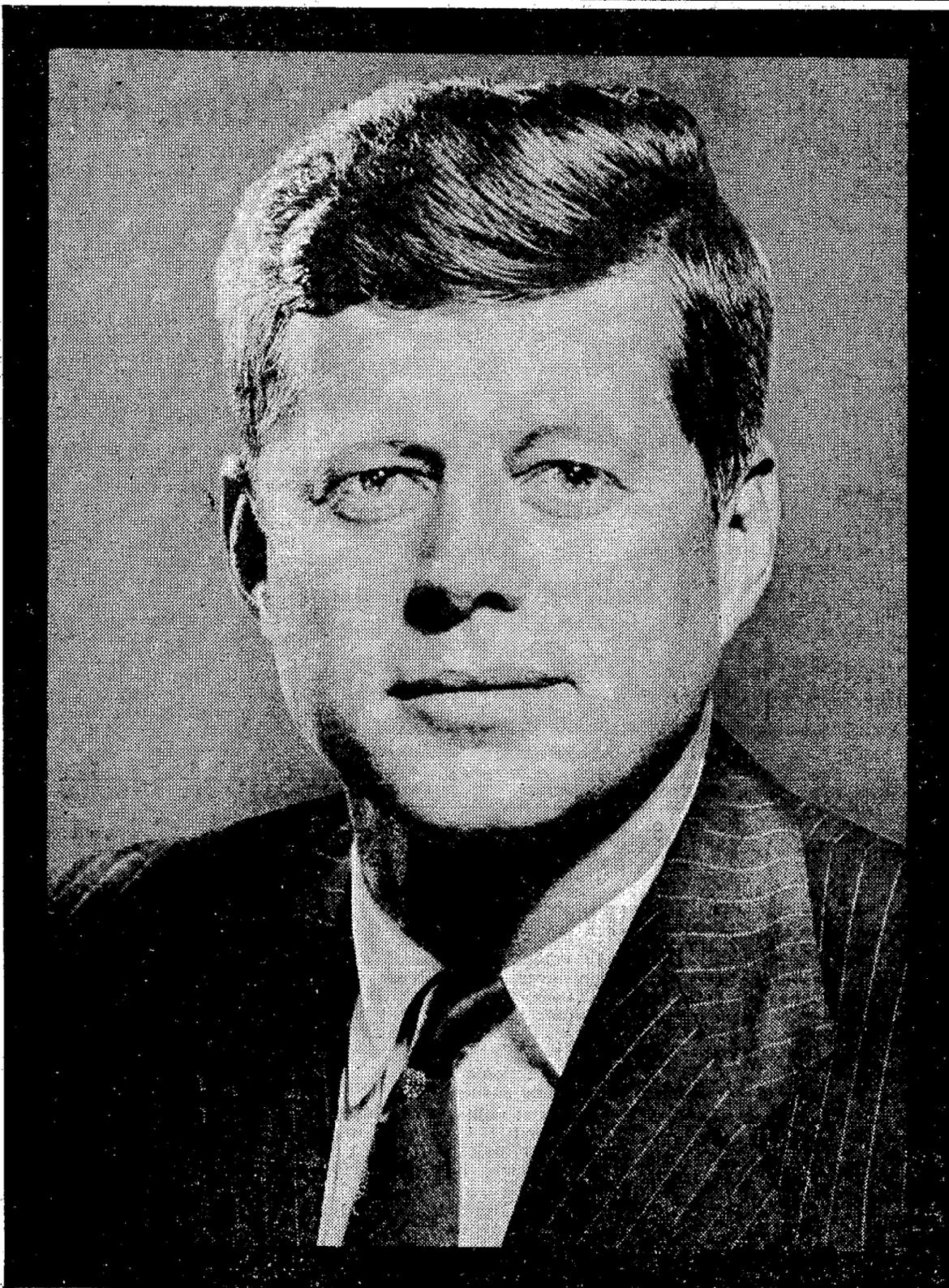
Shot by Sniper in Dallas; Johnson Becomes President

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JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY—1917-1963

DALLAS, Tex. (AP)—A hidden sniper armed with a high-powered rifle assassinated President John F. Kennedy Friday.

Barely two hours after Kennedy's death, Lyndon B. Johnson took the oath of office as the 36th president of the United States.

Kennedy was shot through the head and neck as he rode through Dallas in the presidential limousine in what had been a triumphal motorcade.

When the shots were fired at about 12:30 p.m. and the Chief Executive slumped forward, Mrs. Kennedy turned in the seat ahead of him and cried, "Oh, no," in anguish and horror.

She tried to cradle his head in her arms as the limousine took off at top speed for Parkland Hospital where Kennedy died about half an hour later.

Johnson, who was Kennedy's vice president, automatically succeeded to the presidency.

The new Chief Executive took the oath of office at about 2:39 p.m. For the first time in history, the oath was administered by a woman—U.S. District Judge Sarah T. Hughes.

Johnson was sworn in aboard the presidential jet transport at Dallas' Love Field. He then flew to Washington to take over the government which Kennedy had directed since Jan. 20, 1961.

Kennedy's body was flown to Washington on the same plane.

The same volley of shots that killed the President struck Gov. John Connally of Texas, who was riding beside Kennedy.

Like Kennedy, the stricken Connally was sped to Parkland Hospital and wheeled into surgery for an emergency operation. The Democratic governor was struck in the body and wrist.

It was later announced Connally was in satisfactory condition.

The Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Dallas police swung into action within seconds and launched what was perhaps the biggest, determined manhunt in America's history.

Almost within the same half hour, police had arrested a 24-year-old man following the fatal shooting of a Dallas policeman. They questioned him to see whether he knew anything about the President's death. He was identified as Lee Harvey Oswald, an American who four years ago said he was applying for Russian citizenship. He has a Russian wife.

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BULLETIN

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Congressional leaders pledged bipartisan support for Lyndon B. Johnson Friday night as he assumed the burdens of the presidency. The new president held a mid-evening meeting with House and Senate leaders of both parties.