



FROM LEFT: JUDITH CAMPBELL IN 1960; SINATRA & KENNEDY AT THE INAUGURAL BALL; GIANCANA UNDER ARREST IN CHICAGO IN 1957



SENNET—CAMERA 8

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

SCANDALS

J.F.K. and the Mobsters' Moll

As a West Coast party girl in the early 1960s, blue-eyed raven-haired Judith Immoor Campbell was known to swing in high places. Mobster John Roselli squired her to Miami, Palm Springs and other expensive watering holes. She was frequently with Roselli's friend and boss, Chicago Mafia Don Sam ("Momo") Giancana. By her own description, she had a "close personal" relationship with an even more powerful figure: John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the U.S. "To me he was Jack Kennedy," she said last week. "He wasn't the President."

Roselli, on the other hand, was very well aware that Kennedy was the President, and may even have been proud of his indirect connection with the White House. TIME has learned that a federal listening device once recorded him telling Mob associates openly about his moll and her trysts with the President.

CIA Contract. Kennedy broke off with her in 1962, and his close associates soon forgot about her; after all, she was only one of many pretty women who drifted into the President's orbit (see following story). Recently, however, details of the affair became known publicly, and last week Judith Campbell, now Mrs. Daniel Exner, 41, and something of a look-alike for Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, ended her discreet silence. At a press conference in San Diego, she admitted that the President had once shared her affections with two mobsters. But she declined comment when bluntly asked whether she and Kennedy had ever had sexual relations.

What flushed Mrs. Exner into public view was the Senate Intelligence Committee. As part of its CIA probe, the committee investigated Roselli's and Giancana's other federal connection: their contract with the CIA to assassinate Cuban Dictator Fidel Castro. The

Senators wanted to know whether Kennedy could have learned about the plot from Judy.

Before Giancana could be questioned, he was murdered in his Oak Park, Ill., home on orders from the Mafia high command; for one thing, the bosses thought that he had been telling a grand jury about gangland activities (TIME, June 30). But committee members interrogated Roselli, who now spends most of his time fighting the Government's efforts to deport him, and committee lawyers questioned Mrs. Exner. They turned up no evidence to contradict her claim that she had never known about the plot to kill Castro. Nor were they able to challenge her statement that she had never told Kennedy about her mobster friends.

Persuaded that the affair was irrelevant to their investigation, the committee voted unanimously to describe her in their report only as a "close friend" of Kennedy's, not even disclosing her sex. Some committee staffers considered this a whitewash, however, and leaked the story to several newspapers. But it did not become a national scandal until last week, when New York Times Columnist William Safire accused the committee of a "cover-up." Committee Chairman Frank Church called the charge "preposterous." Said he: "We had no evidence to suggest that she was a conduit of any kind. We had no evidence that she was used to get a hold on the President. Had we such evidence, we certainly would have included it." John Tower of Texas, the committee's vice chairman and its senior Republican, backed Church fully.

Church argued that the committee was only trying to avoid needlessly blackening Kennedy's reputation. For similar reasons, ex-Kennedy staffers either claimed to have no recollection of



JUDITH WITH HUSBAND DANIEL EXNER

Judith Campbell or insisted that she had never been involved with the President. His former secretary, Evelyn Lincoln, recalled Judy as a campaign volunteer who later "became quite a pest." Said Mrs. Lincoln: "She'd call and call and call, [but] as far as I know he never did talk to her when he was President."

Intimate Lunches. Provoked, Mrs. Exner called a press conference to set the record straight. Said she: "Statements to the effect that I was a 'campaign worker for Kennedy' are entirely contrived. My relationship with Jack Kennedy was of a close personal nature and did not involve conspiratorial shenanigans of any kind." She said she met Kennedy in Las Vegas in 1960 at a party given by "a friend." The friend was Singer Frank Sinatra; one former Kennedy aide understood that Sinatra and J.F.K.'s brother-in-law, Peter Lawford, owned a piece of a nightclub where Judy once worked as a hostess. A month after she met the President, Sinatra brought her together with Giancana, who later introduced her to Roselli. Both

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gangsters knew of her affair with Kennedy, but she insisted that neither of them tried to encourage or make use of it.

By her account, she visited Kennedy at the White House more than 20 times, usually for intimate lunches. The Senate committee learned that on one occasion, while she was staying with Roselli and Giancana at Miami Beach's Fontainebleau Hotel, she made a side trip to Palm Beach to spend time there with Kennedy. Judy claimed that she received countless telephone calls from him, and she seemed to dial his number quite often as well. White House logs show that during a 54-week period in 1961 and early 1962, she telephoned Kennedy 70 times from her home in Los Angeles, Oak Park and other spots.

Last Call. She declined to talk about her own background—how she was raised in Los Angeles as one of five children (two brothers, two sisters) of an architect; how she was married at 18 to a movie actor named William Campbell; or how, after her divorce about four years later, she managed to support a plush life-style that included a Los Angeles-area apartment and a Malibu beach house ("I was always financially able to take care of myself"). Eight months ago, she married a San Diego golf pro and now lives in a mobile home.

The end of her friendship with Kennedy apparently came when FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, whose sleuths learned of the affair during their investigation of Giancana and Roselli, had lunch with Kennedy at the White House on March 22, 1962. No one knows what the two discussed during the time that they were alone. But Hoover had made a point of being briefed beforehand about Judith Campbell's disconcerting friendships with both gangsters and a President. And according to White House logs, the last known telephone call between J.F.K. and Judy came only a few hours after the luncheon.



PRESIDENT KENNEDY GREETING WOMEN AT THE SPRINGFIELD, ILL. AIRPORT IN 1962

Jack Kennedy's Other Women

When Judith Campbell Exner said last week that she had "a close personal" relationship with Jack Kennedy, she was only confirming what had long been a matter of open and widespread speculation: that even after he entered the White House, the handsome and fun-loving Kennedy never stopped pursuing attractive women—nor they him. His privacy guarded by discreet Secret Service agents, his wife often away on vacations, his duties affording frequent travel, and the aura of his office proving nearly irresistible, Kennedy as President found the catching all the easier.

Inevitably, a legend of prodigious sexual activity would enwrap as romantic a figure as the wealthy, glamorous young President. Kennedy, moreover, seemed to enjoy the image. He never hid his fondness for attractive women, seeking them out for special attention

as he moved into crowds to shake hands or spotting a comely campaign worker among his wide-eyed supporters. Once he startled two proper Britons, Prime Minister Harold Macmillan and Foreign Minister R.A.B. Butler, during a 1962 conference in Nassau by casually confiding that if he went too long without a woman, he suffered severe headaches.

Plenty of Fire. The eagerness of many women to cure his headaches may have stretched the legend beyond reality. Insists one woman who moved in Kennedy's show-business social circle: "If all women who claimed privately that they had slept with Jack had really done so, he wouldn't have had the strength left to lift a teacup." Yet under all that smoke, there was apparently plenty of fire.

At least two well-known beauties told close friends about their affairs with Kennedy. Before her accidental death in 1967, Actress Jayne Mansfield claimed to have carried on a three-year intimate and intermittent romance with Kennedy. There is little doubt that Marilyn Monroe also had a sexual relationship with the President. Show-biz Chronicler Earl Wilson claims without qualification in his book *Show Business Laid Bare*: "Marilyn Monroe's sexual pyrotechnics excited the President of the United States." According to Wilson, their intimate relationship began about a year before her death and was pursued in New York's Carlyle Hotel, the Beverly Hills Hotel, Peter Lawford's Santa Monica home, the White House, and even in Kennedy's private plane, *Caroline*. Once, Wilson relates, Monroe returned from a meeting with the President and confided to a friend: "I think I made his back feel better."

Other celebrities linked with Kennedy in gossip columns have either de-

"... so then the big guy says, 'Hey, Toots! Ask not what your country can do for you—get this here message to Giancana!'"



BOB WILLOUGHBY



KIM NOVAK (1958)

nied any intimacies with him, refused to talk at all, or in some cases said they had never even met him. They include Actresses Angie Dickinson, Kim Novak, Janet Leigh and Rhonda Fleming.

Sources familiar with the Kennedy White House contend that Kennedy's liaisons were mostly with relatively unknown young women. Most often cited are two women who displayed few secretarial skills but worked on his staff. Bright and charming, they were attractive—but were neither sensational beauties nor sultry playgirls. British Director Jonathan Miller, who once saw them around the White House, claimed that they looked "like unused tennis balls—they had the fuzz still on them."

No Discernible Duties. The two often turned up in the presidential entourage when Kennedy was traveling. Although assigned no discernible duties, they were with Kennedy in Nassau when he met Macmillan to discuss cancellation of the Skybolt missile program, at Yosemite Park when he plugged conservation measures, at Palm Beach when he was vacationing. They usually were assigned quarters near the President and were code-named "Fiddle" and "Fuddle" by the Secret Service.

Somewhat sadly, one young woman who had known Kennedy intimately when he was a Senator had fallen in love with him. Assigned a job on the National Security Council staff when he became President, she was always available. Kennedy's nonchalant attitude toward such encounters—as well as his agility in keeping his outside pursuits from interfering with his official duties—was shown one summer afternoon when the two were interrupted by a knock on the Lincoln Bedroom door. Angered, Kennedy threw the door wide open. There stood two top foreign affairs advisers with a batch of secret cables—and a clear view of the woman in bed. Never bothering to close the door, Kennedy cooled



MARILYN MONROE AT J.F.K. PARTY (1962)

down, read the dispatches, and made his decisions before he returned to his friend.

It was apparently not uncommon for some of Kennedy's closest male friends to send willing young women to the White House. One newspaper columnist was once overheard telling a smashing brunette how to get into the mansion with a note that he wanted delivered to Kennedy. Kennedy later called the columnist back to confirm: "I got your message—both of them." Secret Service agents would pass such casual women under presidential instructions, although they worried about it. More frequent visitors, including a number of airline stewardesses, underwent full Secret Service investigations.

Recent reporting has put one celebrated Kennedy anecdote into a different perspective. Newsmen watching

JANET LEIGH & ANGIE DICKINSON (BOTH 1961)



JAYNE MANSFIELD (1962)

Kennedy's movements on the night before he was nominated as the 1960 Democratic presidential candidate caught him climbing over a backyard fence near his suburban Los Angeles hideaway. Kennedy shouted that he was going off "to meet my father." Reporters have since learned that the stealthy visit was more likely to the nearby home of a former diplomat's wife he had known for some time.

The only book by a former White House employee to delve into Kennedy's sexual activities as President is Traphes Bryant's *Dog Days at the White House*. A temperamental, unreliable source, Bryant was an electrician and kennel keeper at the White House from Truman's days through Nixon's. The gossipy book is selling briskly with tales of backstairs intrigue that are impossible to verify.

Telltale Hairpins. According to Bryant, the housekeeping staff engaged in "a conspiracy of silence" to keep Jack's trysts a secret. Jack would sometimes lounge naked around the White House swimming pool when Jackie was away, and women would arrive, undress, and join him. He also tells of once taking the elevator past the family quarters in the course of his duties after the First Lady had left the mansion. "Just as the elevator door opened, a naked blonde office girl ran through the hall between the second-floor kitchen and the door leading to the West Hall. There was nothing to do but to get out [of the vicinity] fast and push the basement buttons."

The staff always scurried around after a woman had visited Kennedy, according to Bryant, to retrieve telltale hairpins. He also relates a conversation when Jackie allegedly found a woman's undergarment tucked into a pillow slip. She is supposed to have said calmly to Jack: "Would you please shop around and see who these belong to? They're not my size."