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Subject: UPI Story on James Files

I picked this up off of the wire and thought I would pass it along to you. We have been aware of the claims made by inmate Files for some time. The promoter of the video that contains Files' "confession" first contacted us in 1994. As the article indicates, the FBI rejects Files' claims as not credible. Copyright 1996 United Press International. All rights reserved. The following news report may not be republished or redistributed, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of United Press International. (ED: complete writethru - adding details on confession release) Tape: Inmate confesses to JFK murder By MARCELLA S. KREITER CHICAGO, June 9 (UPI) -- A convicted cop-killer alleges he and reputed mob hit man Charles "Chuck" Nicoletti were the two gunmen responsible for the assassination of John F. Kennedy and Lee Harvey Oswald's role was merely to confuse the evidence. James E. Files, in a confession due to be released on commercial video this week, says he worked as a driver for Nicoletti and that Nicoletti asked him on the day of the assassination if he would act as a back-up shooter. The videotaped confession, obtained Sunday by United Press International, has been rejected by the FBI as not credible. Files is serving a 50-year prison sentence for the murder of a Joliet, Ill., police officer and is incarcerated at Joliet State Prison. The interview was given March 22, 1994, to associates of a private detective who had tracked Files down and won his confidence. Files, who appeared nervous throughout the questioning, said Nicoletti was the main gunman and that Chicago mob figure Johnny Rosselli also was involved. He said Nicoletti got his orders from mob chieftain Sam "Momo" Giancana but that Giancana likely got his orders from Anthony "Big Tuna" Accardo. "I have no idea who ordered his assassination....I don't think it was something Giancana would have engineered on his own," Files said. Files, who said he was a former member of U.S. Special Operations forces in Laos, said he developed a dislike of Kennedy because of the Bay of Pigs fiasco. He said he had helped train the commandos and was upset when Kennedy failed to provide air support for the invasion, leading to its failure to oust Fidel Castro. "I had never liked Kennedy since he backed down," Files said. Files said he arrived in Dallas a week before the assassination, picked and tested the weapons to be used and cased Dealey Plaza. On the morning of November 22, 1963, the day Kennedy was murdered, Files said he drove Rosselli, whom he described as the mob's liaison to the CIA, to a restaurant where he met with Jack Ruby and collected an envelope with a map and "Secret Service identification." Files said he positioned himself at the stockade fence separating the motorcade route from a rail yard and that Nicoletti was in the Dal-Tex building -- one of three buildings police zeroed in on immediately after the shooting. Files said he was not supposed to fire his weapon unless Nicoletti failed to make a head shot. He said Kennedy was hit in the body but not the head as the limousine

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