

Anthony Galluccio Oral History Interview – JFK#1, 4/14/1964
Administrative Information

Creator: Anthony Galluccio
Interviewer: Al Benjamin
Date of Interview: April 14, 1964
Place of Interview: Boston, Massachusetts
Length: 15 pages

Biographical Note

Galluccio, (1917 - 1980), campaign worker, John F. Kennedy's first Congressional campaign, Cambridge, Massachusetts (1946), discusses JFK's political aspirations, working in Cambridge on the campaign in 1946, and JFK's personality and college days, among other issues.

Access

Open.

Usage Restrictions

According to the deed of gift signed May 10, 1968, copyright of these materials has been assigned to the United States Government. Users of these materials are advised to determine the copyright status of any document from which they wish to publish.

Copyright

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship, or research." If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excesses of "fair use," that user may be liable for copyright infringement. This institution reserves the right to refuse to accept a copying order if, in its judgment, fulfillment of the order would involve violation of copyright law. The copyright law extends its protection to unpublished works from the moment of creation in a tangible form. Direct your questions concerning copyright to the reference staff.

Transcript of Oral History Interview

These electronic documents were created from transcripts available in the research room of the John F. Kennedy Library. The transcripts were scanned using optical character recognition and the resulting text files were proofread against the original transcripts. Some formatting changes were made. Page numbers are noted where they would have occurred at the bottoms of the pages of the original transcripts. If researchers have any concerns about accuracy, they are encouraged to visit the Library and consult the transcripts and the interview recordings.

Suggested Citation

Anthony Galluccio, recorded interview by Al Benjamin, April 14, 1964, (page number), John F. Kennedy Library Oral History Program.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE

Gift of Personal Statement

By ANTHONY GALLUCCIO

to the

John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library

In accordance with Sec. 507 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (44 U.S.C. 397) and regulations issued thereunder (41 CFR 101-10), I, Anthony Galluccio, hereinafter referred to as the donor, hereby give, donate, and convey to the United States of America for eventual deposit in the proposed John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library, and for administration therein by the authorities thereof, a tape and transcript of a personal statement approved by me and prepared for the purpose of deposit in the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library. The gift of this material is made subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Title to the material transferred hereunder, and all literary property rights, will pass to the United States as of the date of the delivery of this material into the physical custody of the Archivist of the United States.
2. It is the donor's wish to make the material donated to the United States of America by the terms of the instrument available for research in the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library. At the same time, it is his wish to guard against the possibility of its contents being used to embarrass, damage, injure, or harass anyone. Therefore, in pursuance of this objective, and in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 507 (f) (3) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (44 U.S.C. 397) this material shall not, during the donor's lifetime be available for examination by anyone except persons who have received my express written authorization to examine it. This restriction shall apply to and include employees and officers of the General Services Administration (including the National Archives and Records Service and the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library) engaged in performing normal archival work processes.
3. A revision of this stipulation governing access to the material for research may be entered into between the donor and the Archivist of the United States, or his designee, if it appears desirable.
4. The material donated to the United States Pursuant to the foregoing shall be kept intact permanently in the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library.

Signed Anthony Galluccio

Date May 8, 1968

Accepted James B. Rhoads
Archivist of the United States

Date May 10, 1968

Anthony Galluccio – JFK #1

Table of Contents

<u>Page</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	John F. Kennedy's [JFK] political aspirations
3	The 1946 congressional campaign
5	Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr.
6	Campaign organization
7	JFK's personality and college days
9	Working in Cambridge on the campaign in 1946
10	Other participants in the campaign
11	JFK's leadership development
12	The 1958 senate campaign
13	Commenting on JFK's effectiveness as president
14	The assassination

J

Oral History interview

with

Anthony Galluccio

April 14, 1964

Boston, Massachusetts

By Al Benjamin

For the John F. Kennedy Library

BENJAMIN: Tony, when did you first meet John F. Kennedy?

GALLUCCIO: I met him at college. I'd say 1940.

BENJAMIN: How did he impress you at that time?

GALLUCCIO: 1940 - actually, I'm wrong. It goes back to about 1936.

BENJAMIN: 1936? Undergraduate days?

GALLUCCIO: Undergraduate days, right. I met him by playing jayvee football. He was a quiet, reserved, shy but attractive young fellow when I knew him.

BENJAMIN: Did he look to you as a potential athlete at the time?

GALLUCCIO: No, anything but a potential athlete or potential politician.

BENJAMIN: Did he show signs in 1936 through '40 as a politician?

[-1-]

GALLUCCIO: No, he never showed any such signs in college. Just another fellow on the campus with a nice personality: a nice boy to play football with and chum around with.

BENJAMIN: When did you get actively engaged with Jack Kennedy - I'm sure you called him Jack - in terms of politics?

GALLUCCIO: Well, actually, it started when I met him on the street one day after World War II. He was still in his Navy uniform. He had remembered that I came from Cambridge. He told me that he was thinking of running for Congress and would I help him. I said I knew a lot of people in Cambridge, and I would be glad to help him.

BENJAMIN: You said he was thinking of running for Congress. Did you help him bring it out of the thinking stage and into an active candidacy?

GALLUCCIO: Yes, he was also debating whether he should run for lieutenant governor at the time. I think Tobin [Maurice J. Tobin] wanted him to run. But we had quite a few discussions about it, and I know I put in my oar for his running for Congress. I thought that was the best place for him to run.

BENJAMIN: Do you recall at the time that he did not live in the congressional district?

GALLUCCIO: This is true. He lived over here at 122 Bowdoin Street.

BENJAMIN: But you looked upon this as not being a liability of any sort?

GALLUCCIO: No, I was just another young fellow who couldn't even spell the word politics, and I think this was typical of the Kennedy movement. We all had just come fresh from the war. We had ideas of what we wanted to do in terms of leadership and being active participants after we had come back from the foreign scene. So we were actually making our own way in what was a new field to us.

BENJAMIN: Well, what made you think that John F. Kennedy would be a good Congressman? First of all, could win the Democratic primary for Congress.

[-2-]

GALLUCCIO: Well, in the beginning we didn't even think in those terms. I just knew Jack Kennedy. I didn't even know his opponent, Mike Neville [Michael J. Neville]. I knew who he was. I know Jack, and I knew a lot of other people. Jack was an attractive person just as an individual, and I think we didn't go any further than that. You just thought this fellow would make a good representative, was the kind of fellow you'd like to see in politics, and you wanted to help. You didn't project any further than that because you didn't know that much about politics.

BENJAMIN: In 1946 was John F. Kennedy what you would describe as an outstanding campaigner for office?

GALLUCCIO: Well, no, because, as I said, when I first know him, he was just a congenial, attractive young fellow. And I know he didn't know anybody in Cambridge. I was about the only person he knew there, and I took him around and introduced him to people like John Droney [John J. Droney], Joe Healey [Joseph P. Healey], and so forth. But the thing was that as you observed him in the course of his actions, you saw that he had a very good handshake, he know how to smile at people, he remembered people's names. He could well himself very readily. Everybody that you introduced him to liked him as a person, liked him as an individual. This is the way you first thought of him. You didn't think of him as a politician because none of us really knew too much about politics and politicians.

BENJAMIN: Were you satisfied with the conduct of the 1946 congressional campaign which started John Kennedy on his way?

GALLUCCIO: Well, to explain this, actually Jack Kennedy came upon the scene at a time, not detracting anything from Jack Kennedy, but he came upon the scene when the people were looking for a new type of politician. He was a forerunner of what I call a political revolution which is now in full ferment. He came upon the scene when people were subconsciously looking for a new type of a candidate. And Jack fitted into this. He had the naive appearance, he had the shock of hair that fell over his forehead. He was a multi-millionaire who was very humble. As people would say, this fellow is not the kind of a fellow who would steal. So

[-3 -]

subconsciously people were looking for this new type of candidate, and Jack fitted into this concept. This I think was the very beginning of this political revolution in Massachusetts. Jack Kennedy fitted into this pattern. The rest he did with money, with his ability to make friends, with his tremendous capacity for work. The one thing I will say about Jack Kennedy, because he didn't have to work as a lot of people do, didn't have to earn a living, but he did utilize his time every minute of the day going where you wanted him to, getting out and meeting people. In the beginning he didn't know anybody, and by the time he got through, he knew a lot of people.

BENJAMIN: So, because he did not have to work, he waged essentially a twenty-four-hour-a-day campaign for Congress?

GALLUCCIO: Right. But I think in the background is the element, as I say, of the subconscious desire of people to find a new element in politics. And I think he was a forerunner of this. Without this setting, I don't think, in spite of everything, the money and the work, it wouldn't have happened.

BENJAMIN: Do you think this was the first time after World War II or the first time in Massachusetts political history when we found a distinct departure from the James Michael Curley type of politics to the new era?

GALLUCCIO: Right. I think this is the essence of, particularly stepping into the Senate fight, this was the essence of the Senate fight. As I got around, you could feel this. A lot of people said, "He looks like Abraham Lincoln. He's humble." And you got again, "Well, he's the type of fellow who won't steal." And he fitted into this concept.

BENJAMIN: You described him as being shy. Was this an asset or a liability?

GALLUCCIO: A tremendous asset, because again, this fitted into the converse concept of a James Michael Curley. Here was a politician who appeared rather shy and different. And I think this was a tremendous asset. He wasn't really shy, he just appeared shy.

[-4-]

BENJAMIN: He appeared shy. Do you think that appearance of shyness disappeared as the years went along?

GALLUCCIO: Oh, as he got into politics, as he developed, as he got acclimated to the political scene. And particularly as you watched him as President, you save it rub off.

BENJAMIN: You mentioned that he campaigned around the clock, twenty-four hours a day. Were there any signs that there was a physical problem here, that his physical stamina was suffering because of his war injuries? Did you detect any problem?

GALLUCCIO: Well, that's an interesting point because he definitely was impeded with the injury in his back and with his crutches, and he had this ashen pallor during that Senate fight. But one thing, the amazing thing about Jack to my mind, I think one of his boot qualities was the fact that he'd keep plugging,

plugging, plugging no matter how he felt. So, even on crutches, it was hard to keep up with him. He had a tremendous amount of energy despite all this. Nervous energy or whatever it was, but he had energy.

BENJAMIN: He was campaigning on crutches?

GALLUCCIO: He did, yes.

BENJAMIN: Throughout the congressional campaign?

GALLUCCIO: I've seen him sit down for two or three hours and just answer letters of people that I had visited around the Commonwealth. You'd see that ashen look on his face, but he'd keep writing, writing, writing. The doggedness, I think, is still inherent in Teddy [Edward M. Kennedy] and Jack and the father. It's this tremendous drive. Where it comes from, I don't know.

BENJAMIN: Did you know his father, Ambassador Joseph Kennedy [Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr.]?

GALLUCCIO: I met Joe Kennedy. We had some interesting arguments about the Lodge [Henry Cabot Lodge] fight, too. This is the thing I remember mostly. Joe Kennedy

[-5 -]

kept thinking Jack was going to murder Lodge by about 300,000, and I told him I would give him about a 50-50 shot, and this is all. And interestingly enough, Jack Kennedy didn't like to hear this. He used to say to me, "I'm going to talk to you every couple of weeks." And I said, "Well, this is all I'll give you, 50-50." And I maintain that if Lodge had not hooked up with Eisenhower [Dwight D. Eisenhower]; it's the Taft [Robert A. Taft] people that killed Lodge. If he had stayed out of that fight, I think he would have beaten Jack Kennedy by about 30,000 votes despite the tremendous effort that Kennedy made. People like Basil Brewer down in New Bedford, who got with Jack Kennedy, and Joe Martin [Joseph William Martin, Jr.], the Congressman who was with Jack Kennedy against Lodge. Any number of Taft people who got on Jack Kennedy's bandwagon would have stayed away from helping him, and I think that Lodge would have ultimately beaten him.

BENJAMIN: You mention bandwagons, and this brings me back to 1946 again when you feel that you placed the first wheel on the Kennedy bandwagon. Do you feel that you were benefitted by this in any way? Did your circumstances change from 1946 through 1964?

GALLUCCIO: No. This is an interesting point. I would say it is so that I was the first fellow to my knowledge in the congressional district that Jack Kennedy approached. After I helped him in the congressional fight, I shook hands with Jack. I said, "I've got an offer of a job down in New York with a young multimillionaire. I'm glad I've been able to help you. Maybe I'll see you again someday, and maybe I won't. So long." And Jack said, "Where are you going? Where are you going? I want you to help me when I ran for the Senate." And I said, "Well, maybe you'll see me again someday, and maybe you won't. I'm just glad I've been able to help you." And away I went.

Coming back into the Senate fight which I feel I was the chief architect of in organizing.... Because actually I spent a year and a half organizing the entire State. And with all due credit to Bobby Kennedy [Robert F. Kennedy] and any other people, Bobby came in the last three or four months of the campaign after most of the groundwork had been done. He served a purpose, but the work had all been done at that point. But, anyway, I never approached, never asked Jack Kennedy for anything. The only benefit I've got out of it was the satisfaction

[-6-]

of having introduced many many people into politics that had never been active before. Because one of the things I noticed going around the Commonwealth is that in the Kennedy movement we asked a lot of people to participate in politics that had never been asked by the professional people. And a lot of people all over the State said to me, "You're the first fellow that's ever asked me to be active." So that indirectly I feel a lot of satisfaction. Over and above, I don't consider Jack Kennedy the main contribution, though I think he was a good President. I think that it's the whole effect that through him - this is, I think, the biggest benefit I see in Jack Kennedy - he was able to attract a lot of people to participate in politics who have since stayed active, both as candidates and as general helpers and active people.

BENJAMIN: Today you are an attorney for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. What were you doing in 1946 at the time you were working or helping John Kennedy?

GALLUCCIO: In 1946 I was going to Harvard Law School, at the time I helped Jack.

BENJAMIN: Were you married at the time?

GALLUCCIO: Yes, I was.

BENJAMIN: You're married today?

GALLUCCIO: I am.

BENJAMIN: And how many children do you have?

GALLUCCIO: I have one.

BENJAMIN: One child. During this hard laborious campaign time in the early days of the political career of John F. Kennedy, did you have any moments when you could just relax and let down your hair, if you had more hair at that point?

GALLUCCIO: This was one of the tremendously interesting facets, of course, of Jack Kennedy's personality. He was tremendously flexible, and he could step

[-7-]

out of a campaign speech. This was all like a game to him, like a football game. He could go up to his apartment. He'd be in a sweat shirt and throw the football around. And we'd just chitchat and talk about nothing. He had this tremendous flexibility and the ability to relax on a dime.

BENJAMIN: But you had fun as well as good political experience?

GALLUCCIO: Oh yes. I consider Jack Kennedy, I'd say we were practically as close as brothers. I considered him a friend. As a matter of fact, he's one of the few people that I really helped in politics. The only people I've helped, and not to the degree of Jack Kennedy, is I gave John Collins [John F. Collins] some help and I helped Foster Furcolo [David Foster Furcolo]. Other than that, I have never really given a whole lot of support to anybody after Jack Kennedy.

BENJAMIN: Were you very close to John Kennedy when you were in college, in your undergraduate days?

GALLUCCIO: Yes, I was one of his friends. I wasn't a roommate, but we were close friends.

BENJAMIN: You were not a roommate. This is referring to the many hundreds of thousands of roommates?

GALLUCCIO: That's right. I met him in playing jayvee football and in his public speaking class. But we did become very friendly,

BENJAMIN: You mentioned football and you mentioned it earlier as well. Was he a good football player?

GALLUCCIO: Well, Jack wasn't too sturdily built a fellow. He was aggressive. I think he did pretty well with what abilities he had. I think we'd confine him to being a pretty good touch football player.

BENJAMIN: The touch football game which has been developed by the Kennedy family?

[-8-]

GALLUCCIO: Right. I think he also had this hero worship of athletes as a result of him not being a tremendous athlete himself. I think this is one of his attractions to people like Torby Macdonald [Torbert H. MacDonald] and Ben Smith [Benjamin A. Smith, II], who played football and maybe Whizzer White [Byron R. White], who eventually became a Supreme Court judge.

BENJAMIN: Was the President a good student as far as you know at Harvard in the undergraduate days?

GALLUCCIO: Well, he was quick. He was a B student. He didn't work too hard. He didn't spend too much of his time studying, but he was quick and fast. This was shown in his public speaking class where he'd walk in without any preparation and get up and give a pretty good impromptu discussion. He was fast, but he wasn't any genius. No, there were many students in school who you would consider excellent, you know, tremendous students, but Jack Kennedy wasn't in that category.

BENJAMIN: All of these attributes, the good speaking, the sharp sense of humor, the ability to come back quickly, these started to show in '46?

GALLUCCIO: Tremendously so in politics. He could maneuver his way through people and get people to help him. Without any problem at all. I've never seen anybody in politics who could get people to aid him. Without his promising anything, just talking and being attracted to his personality.

BENJAMIN: Did you finally end up as his campaign manager in the 1946 congressional campaign?

GALLUCCIO: Well, I wasn't formally his campaign manager, but I did all the spade work in Cambridge. I did the hard core organizational work. I lined up the people. And Jack told me, he told me personally and he told other people, he was more obligated to me than anybody in Massachusetts for winning his Congress fight. And that's not to say anything of his Senate fight because I duplicated the effort in his Senate fight. And, incidentally, along those lines, there's something I'd like to get off my chest. The

[-9-]

organizational work that was done in the Kennedy setup was not thought out by either Jack Kennedy or his father or Bobby Kennedy. The pattern that we used of going into an area and selecting somebody who had not been active in politics and getting solid citizens to join in was something actually that I'll have to take credit for that myself. It may sound like ego. But I set that pattern, and Jack subconsciously went along with this type of pattern because he wanted to stay away from the politicians. He wanted to see them, but he didn't rely on them. He wanted to build his own organization. But when you read the papers later or you read the magazines and the articles, they impress you that all this had been planned from the very beginning. This is not so. It was a spontaneous movement in the Congress fight where we went out and saw people that had not been active in politics and who were well known and liked in the community, and again there was a duplication of this in the Senate fight. Only in the Senate fight it was a definite pattern set up.

BENJAMIN: Besides the president's father, in that early campaign in '46 were there any other members of the Kennedy family participating in the campaign?

GALLUCCIO: '46? Well, Bobby Kennedy, he sat around down in one of the headquarters in East Cambridge. He was just a young boy going to college at the time. He was really more of an observer. The one place that the family did step in was in the tea we had. This was that ladies' tea that I think was Lem Billings' [Kirk LeMoyne Billings] brainchild at which we invited all the women in Cambridge, they got a written invitation to go down to the Commander [Hotel Commander] to meet Jack Kennedy, his father, his mother, and I don't know whether his sisters were there. This had a tremendous impact.

BENJAMIN: Was this the forerunner of all the famous Kennedy teas and coffee hours?

GALLUCCIO: This was the forerunner of all the teas.

BENJAMIN: Who were some of the other people who participated with you in the first campaign?

[-10-]

GALLUCCIO: Well, the foremost fellow was John Droney who helped me line up Cambridge. Mark Dalton was very active in that campaign. He did a lot of the speechwriting and speech advising.

BENJAMIN: Where is John Droney today.

GALLUCCIO: John Droney is presently the District Attorney of Middlesex County, and an aspirant for governor.

BENJAMIN: And Mark Dalton?

GALLUCCIO: Mark Dalton is a practicing attorney. He's an attorney for the teachers' union presently.

BENJAMIN: Who were some of the other leaders in '46?

GALLUCCIO: In '46? Well, Joe DeGuglielmo [Joseph A. DeGuglielmo] was the only politician who ever came out to Jack Kennedy's support in '46. As a matter of fact, I still remind Senator Danny O'Brien [Daniel F. O'Brien]: when I went in to see Danny O'Brien to help Jack Kennedy, Danny gave me quite a laugh about it and he said, "This kid's going to be a Congressman? We might let him beat Mike Neville's secretary!" I still remind Danny O'Brien of those words. So Joe DeGuglielmo was the only - he was a City Councilman, and he did some work in the East Cambridge - was the only politician. The other people were rank amateurs in politics and, as a result, very effective. You know, young fellows who had just come back from the war and, as a matter of fact, I was fairly careful to select people who hadn't been active in politics. This formed the nub of his organization.

BENJAMIN: When did you feel that the real molding of the man took place, and the real qualities of leadership and the John F. Kennedy as the world remembers him began to emerge? Did this take place before he became President or after he assumed the office of the Presidency?

GALLUCCIO: Well, that's a very interesting question. On looking at Jack Kennedy in perspective, despite the fact that he was a tremendous worker and so

[-11-]

forth, I personally never would have thought that Jack Kennedy was going to be a tremendous world leader or President. As a matter of fact, even though he was very attractive and very able and quick and all these qualities, I didn't think in anticipating his becoming President, I didn't think that possibly he would make too good a President, I didn't think he had the executive ability, he hadn't had the executive experience. So I think that actually the only way you can explain Jack Kennedy is that he had these latent qualities within him, and as he assumed these responsibilities - and I suppose this is true of many people, you can't find out what's inside a person until you push him to what he has to do - then these qualities came out. But if anybody had told me that Jack Kennedy was going to make a tremendous president in '46 or '50, I would have disagreed.

BENJAMIN: You've mentioned the '46 campaign, you've mentioned the '52 Senatorial campaign. Did you participate in the '58 Senatorial campaign? Against Vincent Celeste?

GALLUCCIO: No, I didn't.

BENJAMIN: Why were you out of that?

GALLUCCIO: Well, that's a long story.

BENJAMIN: Did you have a falling out in any way?

GALLUCCIO: Well, not with Jack but with some of the people around Jack. Let's put it that way without naming any names.

BEMJAMIN: Well, you mean the amateurs that you recruited at one point became professionals, and the wall went up?

GALLUCCIO: Yes, some of the amateurs became professionals, and a very solid wall went up. And actually, so far as I was concerned, anyway, I helped Jack Kennedy because I liked him, him as a person. I wasn't looking for anything. The only thing actually I've ever looked for from Jack Kennedy was for him to help me as a candidate if I should

[-12-]

want to run for Congress or something else. But I think definitely that a wall went up around the candidate as, Al, you know, goes around most of the candidates for governors or Presidents. Somehow some of the amateurs become pros, and lots of things change after these fellow get to hold office.

BENJAMIN: And therefore some of the founding fathers, so called, of the candidate are closed out?

GALLUCCIO: Right. I could tell you some stories about that. One of the prominent people around Jack Kennedy, very prominent, he's writing a book about him now. I remember meeting him in the 1946 campaign.

BENJAMIN: Which author is this?

GALLUCCIO: Well, that would be, do you want me to name the name?

BENJAMIN: Absolutely.

GALLUCCIO: Well, it would be Arthur Schlesinger [Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr.], I remember going to Arthur Schlesinger's house and asking him to help Jack Kennedy in '46, and he berated, oh, Joe Kennedy. He was just a profiteer and this and that, and I mean it's just interesting to watch how some of these fellows wind up on their feet later on aiding and abetting the candidate. The same people that are knocking them in the beginning.

BENJAMIN How do you think Jack Kennedy was doing as the President of the United States?

GALLUCCIO: Oh, I think Jack Kennedy was doing an excellent job as President of the United States. The only quarrel I might have had with him is that I thought the whole effort was an extremely calculated effort. I thought they were doing too much projection of what the people wanted then, instead of letting the policies go that way. I think one of...The civil right issue was a prime example of this. I think that there was a projection that they felt that the people might want civil rights, and then they found out that they had gone too far. But I think where Jack Kennedy operated on spontaneity, I think he was

[-13-]

effective. There was too much of a machine set up around him, too much sounding out constantly of the public as to what they think. Not that I don't advocate this because we did this in the Senate campaign. But I think it was just, where Jack Kennedy used his initiative and ingenuity as he did in the Cuban situation when the actual crisis arrived, frankly, I think he was tremendous, and I think if he relied more on those innate abilities and intuitiveness, I think he would have been better off. But the whole effort, to me, was still a bit too calculated in its efforts. I don't know if I make myself clear. Leaders should lead people not just give them what they want.

BENJAMIN: Did you vote for him for President?

GALLUCCIO: Yes, I did.

BEJAMIN: Were you preparing yourself to vote for him for reelection in 1964 if he had lived?

GALLUCCIO: Well, I probably would have voted for him since I'm basically a Democrat. I would have weighed the opponent. I can't see any of the opponents. I never could see Nixon [Richard M. Nixon] in the prior year, and I can't see any of the present opponents. If it came between him and Rockefeller [Nelson A. Rockefeller], I don't know.

BENJAMIN: Where were you and what was your first reaction when you heard of the President's assassination?

GALLUCCIO: Well, that's a good point. I was, actually, I was at Igo's Restaurant in Cambridge across from Porter Square. I have a research company over there, and I'd stepped over there - actually, a business conference with somebody at the restaurant. My inventor who was in the research company called me on the phone. He has a radio in the place, an intercom radio. And he heard it on the radio. And he said, "Jack Kennedy's been killed." He said, "I'm not too sure, but that's the way it sounded. He's been killed." And I was kind of amazed at it. And I happened to mention to somebody in Igo's and he called me back and said, "It's definite. He's been killed." Of course, actually the shock didn't sink in for a while. I have a very, maybe

[-14-]

Latin attitude about things. Anything can happen in this world and does constantly. But the shock sunk in about two or three hours later.

BENJAMIN: Did you attend the funeral in Washington?

GALLUCCIO: No, but I did in spirit. I did along with many, many other people, watching it on TV.

BENJAMIN: Were you invited by the family?

GALLUCCIO: No.

BENJAMIN: The preceding interview has been with Attorney Anthony Galluccio of Cambridge. The interviewer was Al Benjamin, WXAC Radio and TV, Boston. The interview took place on April 14, 1964, in the State House in Boston, Massachusetts.

[END OF INTERVIEW]

[-15-]

Anthony Galluccio Oral History Transcript – JFK #1
Name List

B

Billings, Kirk LeMoyne, 10
Brewer, Basil, 6

C

Celeste, Vincent J., 12
Collins, John F., 8
Curley, James Michael, 4

D

Dalton, Mark J., 11
DeGuglielmo, Joseph A., 11
Droney, John J., 3,11

E

Eisenhower, Dwight D., 6

F

Furcolo, David Foster, 8

H

Healey, Joseph P., 3

K

Kennedy, Edward M., 5
Kennedy, John F., 1-14
Kennedy, Joseph P., Sr., 5,13
Kennedy, Robert F., 6,10

L

Lincoln, Abraham, 4
Lodge, Henry Cabot, 5,6

M

MacDonald, Torbert H., 9
Martin, Joseph William, Jr., 6

N

Neville, Michael J., 3,11
Nixon, Richard M., 14

O

O'Brien, Daniel F., 11

R

Rockefeller, Nelson A., 14

S

Schlesinger, Arthur M., Jr., 13
Smith, Benjamin A., II, 9

T

Taft, Robert A., 6
Tobin, Maurice J., 2

W

White, Byron R., 9