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## Press Release — April 25, 2005

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### Experts to Speak at LBJ Library, First Three LBJ Volumes Released

On May 13, 2005, from 6:00 – 7:00 P.M., the Miller Center and the LBJ Library will hold a one-hour presentation on the newly released books produced by Miller Center scholars, *The Presidential Recordings: Lyndon B. Johnson, The Kennedy Assassination and the Transfer of Power, November 1963 - January 1964* (published by W.W. Norton). These three volumes—over 2,500 pages—launch a groundbreaking series that will ultimately include the complete recordings of Lyndon B. Johnson, exhaustively transcribed, introduced, and annotated. This covers the first 65 hours of the approximately 843 hours of Johnson recordings.

The May 13 presentation will take place at the LBJ Library in Austin (2313 Red River Street, Austin, TX 78705). Harry Middleton, former LBJ aide and former director of the LBJ Library and Museum, will moderate the event. Volume editors Kent Germany, Robert David Johnson, and David Shreve and series editor Timothy Naftali will play key recordings from the first three months of the Johnson presidency and discuss their significance. The presentation will include:

- airborne communications on the day of the assassination;
- Johnson's attempts to reach out to the Kennedy family, other leaders, and the press;
- Johnson's struggle to put his own imprint on the office while expanding the Kennedy legacy—particularly on civil rights, foreign aid, and tax cuts;
- Johnson's attempts to rebut Republican accusations of a financial kickback scheme; and
- the President's conversations regarding anti-American terrorism in Panama, Cyprus, Zanzibar, and South Vietnam.

To view some of the materials to be part of the presentation, see the "Listen to Samples" on [http://www.whitehousetapes.org/pages/prp\\_lbjvols.htm](http://www.whitehousetapes.org/pages/prp_lbjvols.htm)

The presentation will also be live webcast from the Miller Center's website, <http://millercenter.org>.

## About the Presidential Recordings Program

Directed by historian Timothy Naftali, the Presidential Recordings Program at the Miller Center is an ambitious effort to transcribe, edit and annotate the once-secret White House Recordings of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon. Between 1960 and 1973, these three American presidents from both political parties secretly recorded just under 5,000 hours of conversations and meetings. Offering a unique window into how these presidents exercised leadership in peacetime and in war, the tapes chronicle these presidents' deliberations and decisions during such events as the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Mississippi and Birmingham civil rights crises, the Vietnam War, and the opening to China. The Miller Center is the only institution that has a team of scholars dedicated to making this unique historical record accessible to scholars, teachers, students, and the public. Its work is available on the program's website, [whitehousetapes.org](http://whitehousetapes.org), as well as in print through W.W. Norton and Company.

## About the Miller Center

The Miller Center is a landmark nonpartisan research institution of the University of Virginia that;

- creates new knowledge on the American presidency
- shares that knowledge in innovative ways
- examines issues that affect how our country is governed; and
- fosters public engagement and discussion

For review copies of the *The Presidential Recordings: Lyndon B. Johnson, The Kennedy Assassination and the Transfer of Power, November 1963 - January 1964*, please contact Rachel Salzman at W.W. Norton and Company, at 212-790-4268, or by e-mail at [rsalzman@wnorton.com](mailto:rsalzman@wnorton.com). For more information about the Miller Center and the Presidential Recordings Program, please contact Margaret Edwards at 434-924-7889 or by e-mail at [medwards@virginia.edu](mailto:medwards@virginia.edu). For information about attending the presentation in Austin at the LBJ Library, please contact Robert Hicks at 512-721-0216.

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