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## The Professional Car

## **Issue Number 151**

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-THE CARS OF CAMELOT:

JOHN F. KENNEDY'S ILL-FATED LINCOLN PARADE LIMOUSINE MRS. KENNEDY'S 1961 LINCOLN BUBBLETOP CONVERTIBLE

-TRUMAN'S 1950 WHITE HOUSE LINCOLN LIMOUSINES

-OWNER'S PRIDE: KENNETH HOWE'S 1950 HENNEY LINCOLN

-THE ASSEMBLED PROFESSIONAL CAR - BY TOM McPHERSON

-REMEMBERING THE A.M.A. - BY WALT McCALL

**COVER PHOTO** – With a nation's hopes on his shoulders, President John F. Kennedy waves to cheering crowds from the wide-open rear compartment of the U. S. Secret Service's custombuilt 1961 Lincoln Continental Presidential limousine built for his use by Hess & Eisenhardt, a once familiar sight never seen again after the tragic events of November 22, 1963.

**CENTERSTRETCH** – PCS Member Kenneth Howe is the proud owner of one of ten custom-bodied 1950 Lincoln limousines ordered by President Harry S. Truman. Both Ken – and Harry – hail from Missouri.

**BACK COVER** – A rear view of the government-owned bubbletop Lincoln limousine built for First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy by professional-car maker Hess & Eisenhardt (builders of S&S professional cars) – the same firm that also built JFK's parade phaeton.

**EDITOR'S NOTES** – If any issue of *The Professional Car* could be called historic this one surely can. Never before have we produced an issue to coincide with a major national observance — the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas, Texas on November 22, 1963. Contributing Editor Tom McPherson has provided us with a scholarly, in-depth *never-before-published* history of the *Cars of Camelot*, the one-of-a-kind limousines designed and custom built by Cincinnati's Hess & Eisenhardt Co. for both JFK and First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy. Much of the proprietary data and many of the photos used to illustrate his article came from Hess & Eisenhardt files in the 1970s, at a time when most of the H&E executives associated with these cars simply didn't want to talk about them. Tom rounds out his truly remarkable story with a companion piece on the ten 1950 Lincoln limousines (all but one built by Henney) constructed for the Truman White House. Kenneth Howe's *Owner's Pride* is just the frosting on this tall cake. While our focus is on the *cars* rather than the slain President and the other immortal personalities and events of November 22, 1963, we earnestly believe this issue of *TPC* deserves its own pride of place among the many historical tributes that will undoubtedly be published to mark this history-changing event.

- Walt McCall, Editor

**COMING UP IN OUR NEXT ISSUE:** Our first issue of the new year will be the *Milwaukee International Meet Review Issue*, which we purposely delayed to make way for the time-sensitive JFK piece, and to give us some extra time to process the voluminous words and photos from that meet. Watch for it.