As doctors worked desperately to revive John Kennedy in a Dallas emergency room on November 22, 1963, the dying President regained consciousness long enough to utter his dramatic final words — "Castro did this . . . we have the proof."

That blockbuster information is revealed by author William Shannon in his shocking new book, *Death in Dallas*.

Shannon has acquired a copy of a top-secret recording of Kennedy's final moments. The never-before-released tape had been locked in a Secret Service vault in Washington for nearly 33 years.

"The recording was made by a Secret Service agent who was present in the emergency room while doctors tried to save President Kennedy," Shannon said. "You can tell by the doctors' conversation that"
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they knew Kennedy was not going to make it.

"But in the final seconds before he died, President Kennedy used all his strength to order anyone who killed him do so. If the tape you can barely hear his weakened voice it was Castro did this... we have the proof.

Shannon says a stunned silence fell over the room after Kennedy's statement. 'Just for a moment the doctors stopped everything they were doing,' Shannon said. 'Then you hear a Secret Service agent yell, 'Keep working. Save him.'"

Seconds later Kennedy was dead.

Much of Shannon's book concerns his research into what happened to the secret tape and why it had been hidden from the public for so many years.

'It is still unclear who heard the tape in the days and weeks after the assassination,' he said.

"There is strong evidence that high-ranking American officials confronted Castro with the information through a greenhouse and engaged in some tense, top-secret discussions concerning Kennedy's statement and other factors that involved him."

Shannon said U.S. officials were afraid of taking military action against Castro.

"He believes President Lyndon Johnson's military advisor determined that an offensive against Cuba would have resulted in a war being fought across the United States." Shannon added.

"Pentagon officials finally were afraid of any action it is highly doubtful they ever would have concluded that Oswald was the lone gunman," he said. "The coverage of the Kennedy tape clearly changed the course of American history.

Shannon refused to disclose how he got a copy of the emergency room tape, "Someone who had heard about it for a long time helped me obtain it," he said.

"I also had permission to play it for a university professor who is an expert in voice analysis. He said me there is no question that it is indeed Kennedy.

"He tested it against tapes of JFK's speeches and it matched out with more than 19 percent certainty."

PRESIDENT Kennedy was warned that Cuban leader Fidel Castro had targeted him for assassination.

HAPPY Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev meets with a triumphant Fidel Castro several months after President Kennedy was assassinated.

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