

Why Psychiatrist Believes Oswald Was a Lone Wolf

By MIKE PEARL

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Lee Harvey Oswald never would have taken part in any conspiracy, according to the psychiatrist who examined him 13 years ago in New York.

"Oswald never would have shared with anyone the prestige of being the assassin of the president," Dr. Renatus Hartogs, chief psychiatrist at the Bronx Youth House, said in an interview yesterday.

In 1953, Oswald was living with his mother in the Bronx and because of his chronic truancy in school, the mental examination was ordered by the Bronx Children's Court.

The controversy over whether Oswald was in fact the lone killer of President Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963, was dismissed by Hartogs as the work of "soft-minded, tender-hearted, rumor-mongers."

"Paranoiacs like Oswald are loners," said Hartogs, a witness before the Warren Commission. "They neither need nor want an conspirator to share or dilute the responsibility for their crimes."

'FRIGHTENED MINDS'

"Agitated and frightened minds all over the world quickly had to write articles and books in an attempt to spread thin the responsibility of Oswald's act by means of inventing or suspecting the existence of conspirators," he said.

The very singlemindedness of Oswald's crime, Hartogs feels, has caused many people to seek reassurance in a conspirator theory.

"They want to believe in order, no matter how evil or widespread it may be," Hartogs said. "They are afraid and want to believe in an organization behind all the inconsistencies, the mistakes and the coincidences that have taken place since the assassination."



DR. RENATUS HARTOGS.
Treated Oswald

HAD NOT SEEN HIM

Hartogs, who called Oswald potentially dangerous when he appeared before four judges in Bronx Children's Court in 1953, had not seen him since that time. Some theorists believe that Oswald's personality could have changed in those years.

The doctor compared Kennedy's assassin with the three young men who committed mass murders this year.

"The man in the tower in Texas, the one who killed the nurses in Chicago and the boy who killed the women in the beauty school were alone—they, like Oswald, did not want to share with anyone," he said.

"Yet no one came forward with far fetched theories of conspiracy in these crimes," Hartogs added. "But a presidential assassination staggers the imagination. There is a need for order, a need to understand, to master the contradictions and to make reasonable and rational that which is caused by mental illness or personal inefficiency or outright stupidity."

Hartogs pointed out that the Warren Commission's report, rather than acting as a '26 volume sedative to the American people, had instead mobilized extreme discomfort and anxiety among all these people who tremble in their boots."

RASH OF DISBELIEF

Poorly controlled emotions are responsible for the rash of disbelief in the commission's report, Hartogs feels.

"In my opinion," Hartogs said, "after reading all the books and the report itself, Kennedy's death was not a political assassination designed by a group of conspirators but a brutal murder conceived, planned and perpetrated by the morbid inner-world forces of a single insanely destructive power-operator."

Hartogs also doubts that Jack Ruby, Oswald's killer, could have been involved in any conspiracy.

"Ruby was upset and overwrought by the idea that his hero, a man whose family he very much identified, was removed all of a sudden," the doctor said.

Hartogs has written a book with Lucy Freeman called "The Two Assassins," in which the psychological makeup of Oswald and Ruby are compared and found similar.

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