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WEST VIRGINIA MAN SEEKING JFK ASSASSINATION 'TRUTH' AFTER 17 YEARS

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Charles Campanizzi says his loyalty to the United States has been questioned and the government has harassed him during his 17-year quest to unravel the mysteries surrounding President John F. Kennedy's assassination, but the truth will not be deterred.

Campanizzi, 47, is a professor of psychology at West Liberty State College, a small institution in West Virginia's Northern Panhandle. His first interest in the Kennedy murder was sparked in 1965, but only from a psychological standpoint. Campanizzi wanted to probe into the mind of Lee Harvey Oswald, the president's accused killer.

"It wasn't until Jim Garrison, then the New Orleans district attorney, began his investigation as to the possibility of a conspiracy that I began to expand my interest in reading and research," he said.

"It's been a rocky path in several instances, especially prior to Watergate. To even speculate as to the possibility of a conspiracy, one could immediately draw frowns, probably suspicion as to one's loyalty to the good ol' U.S.A."

Campanizzi believes Watergate forced the public to accept the "ugly" and "eerie" side of politics and gave assassination researchers more legitimacy.

"There have been some people over the years who have cast a very cautious eye to my research and my lectures. It smacks at the government in terms of possible involvement," he said.

Campanizzi said two incidents in the late 1970s led him to believe that the government was monitoring his research. The first involved a phone call prior to one of Campanizzi's many public service lectures on the assassination.

"One evening at home, I received a call from a man who initially did not identify himself. He wanted to know where I got my information on the JFK assassination and said he was doing an intelligence check on me."

Campanizzi said he would not name the man but believes he is a CIA "contract man" who lives and works in the Ohio Valley to this day. He has not had contact with him since that time.

The second incident involved a friend's wife who overheard a telephone conversation in which Campanizzi said agents from the CIA, FBI and West Virginia State Police mentioned him by name and said his "efforts would have to be neutralized."

"It wasn't long after that, that the state police did visit me and asked for some kind of help in an investigation on another matter. I never did find out what was going on."

Campanizzi is not unlike most Kennedy assassination researchers. He is convinced it was a well-executed conspiracy.

'It was a hit. There's no doubt that there were four shots. And given the time frame of 5.6 seconds, it was impossible for Oswald to operate the crude weapon he used that day. It was humanly impossible for Oswald to operate that weapon. The nature of JFK's wounds -- the angulation -- certainly points to two assassins. Even the Zapruder film shows Kennedy and Connally hit by separate bullets,' Campanizzi contends.

'The single-bullet theory of the Warren Commission does not hold. That's the so-called magic bullet that hit JFK and Connally and lost two-to-three grams of its original weight, but then they found more metal in Connally's wrist than that.'

Campanizzi believes organized crime was responsible for the assassination and that a complex three-part operation involving planning, implementation and coverup was employed to carry out the murder. The 'beauty' of the plan was that participants of one part 'probably didn't know anything about anybody or anything involving another part of the plan, as it had to be for it to be successful,' he said.

'In the third level, there was direct involvement of various government agencies to destroy or modify information and withhold it. That satisfies thoroughly the coverup,' Campanizzi theorizes.

'When we really find out who killed JFK and why they killed him, perhaps then we'll know who runs America and who controls the government. That's not a piece of original thinking -- it's been echoed by assassination researchers for long time.

'People are curious why I continue this research. They don't see any observable, obvious benefit. Essentially, what we're after here is the answer. I'm not getting rich. That's not the goal -- never was, never will be. We're after the truth and the truth is essential,' Campanizzi said.