

Introduction

This is an article I wrote for my Writing School a while back. It is a critique of a John F. Kennedy Assassination Book.

Yes, I am a JFK Assassination Buff, with a huge library of books, articles and videos.

JFK / Triangle of Death; That Dog Don't Hunt

“From Dallas, Texas – the flash apparently official, President Kennedy died at 1 pm Central Standard Time, 2 o'clock Eastern Standard Time, some thirty eight minutes ago.”

Walter Cronkite spoke these famous words on November 22nd, 1963. It was the day the world stood still, the day that changed America, and the day that took away our country's innocence.

I was born one month before Kennedy was killed. I was baptized on November 24th 1963 the day Jack Ruby killed Lee Harvey Oswald in the underground garage of the Dallas Police Department. Thus began my personal link to what many describe as the crime of the century.

My christening prevented my godparents from witnessing Oswald's murder, which was broadcast on live television. I have been reminded of this fact many times over the years, which helped raise my interest about the assassination. At forty-one I am officially a JFK assassination junkie. I became hooked over twenty years ago when I read my first book on the subject, called *Contract on America*, by David Scheim. I still cannot read or watch enough material on the subject. My personal library consists of over one hundred articles, books and videos. I have spent two days in Dealey Plaza walking every inch of the grounds, the motorcade route, and the schoolbook depository. I continue to read, watch and search for the newest evidence, hoping that the missing pieces to this incredible puzzle will fall into place.

For assassination buffs, in search of the truth, our expectations rise as time goes on. We tire of the same old information and off-the-wall theories. We crave new evidence like the

unsealing of government documents. We expect that forty-two years after the crime of century, no author or journalist who writes about the assassination will publish anything unless it leads us closer to solving the crime. We hope that these new theories will at least include undisputed evidence that is considered common knowledge to even the occasional reader.

Recently, I discovered a new book that raised my hopes of finding the truth. The write-up gave the impression that the murder had been solved. The book was titled, *Triangle of Death*, by Brad O’Leary and L.E. Seymour, two highly touted JFK assassination researchers. The pitch read, “The Shocking Truth About the Role of South Vietnam and the French Mafia”.

The theory of the book was based on a foundation that stood on two conclusions. First, the wife of the former President of South Vietnam created the plan for the assassination and executed it by partnering up with the French Mafia. Revenge created her motive in the form of vengeance for the assassination of her husband and the dismantling of a major drug traffic ring involving France, South Viet Nam and the United States. Second, the entire coup was pulled off with no involvement by any U.S. Government agencies.

The authors do provide enough evidence to make this theory feasible. There is no denying the fact that the South Vietnamese Government became an enemy of JFK. Support lies in countless books, tapes and articles produced for over forty years. Sufficient evidence also exists indicating the French Mafia, who had ties with Viet Nam, the Italian Mafia, the CIA and the FBI, could have played a role in the actual shooting. Although motive and the possibility of involvement by the French existed, the means to pull off this coup is lacking.

For JFK Assassination aficionados, this theory simply does not make sense. Obvious and well-known facts are ignored, and too much emphasis is put on facts that are irrelevant. When scrutinized the theory can be considered borderline irresponsible. *Triangle of Death* suggests that

agents from South Viet Nam and the French Mafia secretly infiltrated the circles of our government agencies. This premise is so far off track you really have to wonder what the authors were thinking. These two organizations simply could not have accomplished this without anyone noticing or without some kind of evidence appearing over the years. To my knowledge there is no such proof anywhere indicating this was accomplished.

A believable JFK Assassination theory must provide a solid motive and necessary means to carry out a complete conspiracy. Historical facts prove JFK had many enemies each motivated enough to see him eliminated. The list includes: Cuba, the Italian Mafia, Russia, North Viet Nam, South Viet Nam, the CIA, Oil Moguls, J. Edgar Hoover, military contractors, and the US military complex. Who could have planned, executed and covered up a murder committed in broad daylight with thousands of witnesses so successfully that after forty-two years we still cannot figure out the guilty parties?

Substantial evidence tells us that there had to be involvement of several U.S. Government agencies in order to successfully plan, execute and cover-up this coup. No other country or organizations had the resources. No other country had the greatest means of all, control and power. You simply have to ask yourself who could have possibly executed such tasks like: change the motorcade route, leave windows open in surrounding buildings, slow down the limo right at the headshot, cover up evidence, fix the autopsy, destroy evidence, lose a brain, kill witnesses and so on. Several government agencies were present and directly involved with the entire day including the chain of custody of evidence.

With that said, are we to believe O'Leary and Seymour's claim that South Viet Nam and the French Mafia infiltrated our government to the point of being able to do all of these things themselves? With confidence I can tell you it is just not possible. They did not have the means.

On top of that, to introduce the idea that revenge of a supposed assassination and a destroyed drug traffic ring created more of a motive than all others is preposterous.

Not only is this theory off the wall, some of the data provided as evidence is simply not true. For example, the authors state that only four shots were fired in Dealey Plaza. There are enough facts available to state with certainty that there were at least seven shots if not more. Two perhaps three shots missed the target completely. One deflected off the curb under the underpass and grazed a bystander. One landed in the chrome lining of the windshield near the rearview mirror and another landed in the grass to the left of the limousine. Two maybe three shots hit Governor Connally in order for him to receive the amount of wounds he did. Three shots hit Kennedy, one in the throat, one in the back and of course there was the fatal headshot.

In closing, Triangle of Death is disappointing. It presents a weak theory that does not hold any credence, during a time where we expect more. O'Leary and Seymour, supposed experts in the field, proved that they do not know anymore than a casual JFK Assassination reader. Either that, or their desire to sell books superceded their desire to accept the thousands of truthful facts surrounding the crime of the century. I cannot think of a more appropriate way to conclude my thoughts regarding the book Triangle of Death, than with a line from Oliver Stone's movie JFK. Walter Mathau who played Senator Russell Long when referring to the Warren Commission investigation said, "That dog don't hunt".