

OPINIONS

The assassination of JFK

by Paul M. Marini
Columnist

Most people have conspiracy theories on how President Kennedy was assassinated. These would involve everything from the Mafia to the Grassy Knoll, to a Cuban firing a "fourth shot".

Most conspiracy theories make Lee Harvey Oswald the mob's patsy, and Jack Ruby the man hired to silence Oswald. Well, conspiracy theories are absolutely ludicrous.

First of all, what the stories' conspiracy "witnesses" claim changes over the years. Secondly, there is no hard evidence to support any JFK assassination theory. And all of the hard evidence we do have says one thing: Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in the assassination of President Kennedy.

First, let's take a look at who Oswald was. He was a loner, drifting in a young age in "Dallas, Texas". He had great natural intelligence, but was very well educated, having had a Master's degree in Russian. Oswald was a

megalomaniac, which is a neurotic condition characterized by gross self-importance.

At age 17, Oswald joined the Marines, but because he had a violent temper, he was court-martialed twice.

He later defected to the Soviet Union. The Soviets, considered Oswald "dangerous" and sent him to Minsk to work in a sheet metal factory. That's where he met his wife Marina, with whom he defected back to the U.S.

While in the States, Oswald would be a loner. In turn, Marina would be a loner. They were both loners. They were both loners. They were both loners.

Finally, let's take a look at the assassination itself. The only JFK assassination conspiracy is the one Oliver Stone caused. The truth is that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone when he shot President Kennedy. Any other "theory" is a crock based on circumstantial evidence and false stories.

Nov. 19 --- 3 days before the assassination.

And yes, Oswald could have shot Kennedy from the sixth floor of the building.

First, he was an expert marksman, having been trained in the Marines.

Second, he was proficient with



the M-1 rifle that killed Kennedy, up to 200 yards without a scope.

Finally, now computerized studies of the Kennedy film show that Oswald was the only person who could have fired the shot that hit Kennedy in the back of the head, shattering his career. This would be a nonconventional shot, firing his body to the right and the bullet out the window of the Texas School Depository.

Yes, there were only 3, not 4, shots. The first shot didn't do anything; it hit a branch of the oak tree opposite the depository, ricocheted, and chipped the curb.

The second shot, known as the "magic" or "pristine" bullet hit Kennedy and then Texas Gov. John Connally.

What happened was that the bullet entered JFK's back, grazed his sixth cervical vertebrae, exited his throat, and entered Connally's shoulder. The bullet exited under Connally's right nipple, and because he was turning to his right, entered his forearm breaking his radius bone. The bullet came to rest in Connally's hand.

Finally, there was the third shot - the one that killed Kennedy. The shot, in panic, ricocheted off the Texas School Depository building.

Oswald fired the third shot, hitting Kennedy in the back of the head, shattering his career. This would be a nonconventional shot, firing his body to the right and the bullet out the window of the Texas School Depository.

The bullet then exploded, hitting a jet engine, which blew Kennedy's head into the

opposite direction of the bullet's path.

Both facts explain why Kennedy's head snapped back instead of forward when he was shot from behind.

Finally, who was Jack Ruby? The \$2 answer was that he was a Jewish night club owner originally from Chicago.

After the assassination, Ruby was angry because an anti-Kennedy ad that the newspaper ran that day was signed by a Jewish surname. He thought that the Jewish community would be blamed for Kennedy's death.

Also, Ruby never planned to kill Oswald. In fact, he always carried a .38 caliber with him. What set him off was, on the day he shot Oswald, Ruby saw the "little S.O.B." with "a smirk on his face." The rest is history.

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Shopping for menswear

by Dave Barry
Syndicated Columnist

You men will be relieved to learn that fashion designer Donna Karan has come out with a list of menswear items that you must have. This is a big load off my mind. I HATE making my own menswear decisions. I hate everything about buying menswear.

Especially pants. I can never find pants in my size, which is 33-31 (these numbers refer to what are technically known as the "waist" and the "inseam"). I would call this an average size, but for some reason, the pant industry makes only about two pairs of 33-31 pants per year, and they're always gone by the time I get to the department store, leaving me to paw through the Mutt and Jeff Designer Clothing Collection.

In an effort to find something at least close to my size, I end up trying on a lot of pants in those changing booths with the postcard-sized swinging doors that offer you the same level of privacy as you'd get if you tried on pants while standing on a counter in Ladies' Cosmetics. (Actually, you'd get MORE privacy in Ladies' Cosmetics, because the customers have all

been temporarily blinded by complimentary fragrance samples.) Privacy is a problem, because there are always women lurking around the changing area, making sure their husbands buy pants that fit. They know that their husbands HATE trying on pants, and will, if left alone, purchase the first pair they put on, even if it does not have the correct number of legs.

So the women stand just outside of the changing area, peering in, trying to get Pant News Updates:

WOMAN: Michael? How do they fit?

MAN: They fit fine.

WOMAN: Michael, I want to see them.

MAN: I said they fit FINE.

WOMAN: (barging into the changing area, causing guys in there to scurry, ratlike, around their booths, attempting to cover themselves with shopping bags): LET ME SEE THEM.

I personally consider this kind of behavior to be degrading to the husband. I never shop for pants with my wife. This is why I personally own several dozen pairs of pants that don't fit.

I'd like to buy just one set of clothes, the RIGHT clothes, and never have to buy any again.

That's why I'm so pleased about the new Donna Karan Fashion Essentials catalog of "must-have menswear items." This catalog, according to an accompanying press release, is being distributed "to select consumers."

You will be pleased to learn that the Fashion Essentials catalog does NOT include a skirt. This is good news,



because Donna Karan does sometimes have her male models appear in fashion shows wearing skirts. But for now, at least, you will not be required to purchase one, although this could change; the release states that "Karan will re-evaluate each Essential item to make sure that the product mix remains current."

I was surprised to note that the Essentials catalog also does not include underwear, which most guys I know view as an essential clothing item both for formal occasions and for mopping up beer spills. What the catalog DOES include is a 100 percent Scottish cashmere jogging-suit ensemble, consisting of a "hooded zip-front jogger" for \$1,960 and a "drawstring sweat pant" for \$1,465.

I know what some of you men are thinking. You're thinking that you're not going to spend \$3,425 on a jogging suit unless it also comes with a car. I'm sorry, men, but that is exactly the kind of bad attitude that keeps you off the list of select consumers. This jogging suit is essential, and so are all the other items in the Donna Karan Essentials catalog, including the cashmere crew (\$650), the biker jacket (\$1,200) with cotton mock knit (it doesn't say cotton mock knit WHAT, but whatever it is, it costs \$135), the leather vest (\$495), the balmacaan (\$860), the silk pajamas (\$600) and the cashmere robe (\$1,925). Altogether, the catalog features 25 essential garments, requiring a basic fashion investment of \$18,452.50.

(No, I don't know what a "balmacaan" is. Just shut up

and buy it.)

I am certain that all the essential garments in the catalog are very attractive. Unfortunately, I can't really see them. Most of them are, of course, black, and they have been photographed under dim light against a black background. The catalog is a festival of gloom. In most of the photographs, the only thing you can see clearly is the ghostly, floating face of the model, who, like most male fashion models, has a facial expression normally associated with prostate surgery. He's staring into space, as if thinking: "Hey! I'm not wearing any underwear!"

But that's his concern, men. Your concern is bringing your wardrobe up to minimum acceptable fashion standards. So I want you to sell that extra kidney, go to a store that carries the Donna Karan Menswear line, and start purchasing your fashion Essentials. While you're there, pick me up a size 33-31 balmacaan.

Dave Barry is a syndicated columnist from The Miami Herald. His column appears in The Behrend College Collegian every week.