

The Plot Against Kennedy: Why it Matters in the Era of Trump

Global Research News Hour episode 199

By [Michael Welch](#), [Paul Zarembka](#), and [Ray McGovern](#)
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Region: [Latin America & Caribbean](#), [Russia and FSU](#), [USA](#)

Theme: [GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR](#), [History](#), [Media Disinformation](#), [US NATO War Agenda](#)

“Our collective denial of the obvious, in the setting up of Oswald and his transparent silencing of Ruby, made possible the Dallas cover-up. The success of the cover-up was the indispensable foundation for the subsequent murders of Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, and Robert Kennedy by the same forces at work in our government – and in ourselves.” – James W Douglass [1]

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Fifty four years ago, this week, at 12:30pm on November 22, 1963, [John F Kennedy was shot](#) while riding in a presidential motorcade in Dealey Plaza in Dallas, Texas.

According to the commission of inquiry [launched to investigate the assassination](#), the blame for the murder officially [lay solely with Lee Harvey Oswald](#). Public opinion polls have consistently revealed [wide-spread skepticism about this explanation](#). Speculation of a conspiracy of some kind involving multiple accomplices flourished. A popular alternative view was that Oswald, who was later shot while in police custody by Jack Ruby, was used [to divert attention away from the real assassin\(s\)](#).

Multiple books on the assassination have been released over the last five decades. Persistent doubts about the official JFK narrative drove Congress to call a [House Select Committee on Assassinations in 1976](#). The [final report](#) concluded that “President John F. Kennedy was probably assassinated as a result of a conspiracy” albeit without specifics relating to the identities of other conspirators or the extent of said conspiracy.

In 1991, [JFK](#), a blockbuster movie by Hollywood director Oliver Stone detailed many of the anomalies in the official story of the Kennedy assassination. The interest generated rekindled the JFK controversy and [led to the passage](#) of the [President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Act of 1992](#) with the goal of collecting at the National Archives all known records of the assassination and eventually making them publicly available.

According to the [terms of the 1992 Act](#), every assassination record was to have been disclosed in full “no later than the date that is 25 years after the date of enactment of this

Act, unless the President certifies, as required by this Act, that continued postponement is made necessary.”

Yet in spite of [President Trump's earlier comments](#) suggesting he would not block the release of the remaining records, he apparently [succumbed to pressure](#) from the CIA, FBI and other federal agencies and delayed the full release of documents.

Despite their differences in temperament, policy and popular acceptance, both President Kennedy and President Trump appear to have one characteristic in common: a foe in the CIA and other elements within the US intelligence apparatus.

If John F Kennedy was assassinated by this ‘Deep State’, a commonly held belief, then what are the implications for democracy-aspiring citizens in 2017, and a president who may have the audacity to believe that he can ‘take charge’? This question forms the core focus of this week’s JFK anniversary edition of the Global Research News Hour.

James W. Douglass is a longtime peace activist and writer. He is author of one of the most celebrated works on the subject of the assassination, [JFK and the Unspeakable: Why it Happened and Why it Matters](#). In a twenty minute conversation with the Global Research News Hour. Douglass talks about Kennedy’s turn toward peace as a motive for the assassination, the role played by Lee Harvey Oswald, and the significance of the crime in providing direction for a new president and a new generation seeking to avoid being consumed by the ‘Unspeakable.’

Ray McGovern is a former CIA analyst with 27 years in the field. He is also a co-founder of the group [Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity](#). McGovern is convinced that there is likely very little to be gleaned from the new releases of JFK documents (there have been three since the October 26th deadline.) In this interview with the Global Research News Hour, McGovern explains that the real story is in what is being withheld from scrutiny, and how [the delay suggests another front](#) in the Deep State’s siege against a sitting president.

Paul Zarembka is Professor of Economics at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He has been General Editor since 1977 of the annual hardback *Research in Political Economy*, published by Emerald Group. He edited the 2006 work: [The Hidden History of 9/11](#), and in 2015, [authored a paper](#) about the weaponization of the term ‘conspiracy theory’ in relation to the Kennedy assassination, 9/11, and similar alleged ‘state crimes against democracy.’ In the final interview of the program, Zarembka accounts for the resistance of some on the Left, including Marxists, to confront the very notion of government conspiracies, and addresses the dilemma of misinformation not only within the mainstream but also within supposed ‘alternative’ news sites.

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Notes:

1. James W Douglass (2008),p. xvi, “JFK and the Unspeakable: Why He Died and Why It Matters”, published by Orbis Books, Maryknoll, New York

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