

2727 S. Columbia Place  
Tulsa 14, Okla.

December 2, 1963

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
P. O. Box 167  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Attn: Mr. Delmar Exon

Dear Mr. Exon:

Our mutual friend, Mr. Daniel A. Busch, has mentioned to you a theory which I advanced to him by way of explanation of the actions of President Kennedy's assassin. Since you were interested to some extent, I am sending you a writeup of the idea. I believe that the possibility that the assassin acted through a post-hypnotic suggestion should be considered by the Bureau.

Sincerely,

*Paul L. Lyons*

Paul L. Lyons

*Acknowledged personally  
D. Exon*

The assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963 may be explained as the work of a man obeying a compulsion or post-hypnotic suggestion.

**Fact:** Accounts of Lee Oswald, the assassin, indicate that he operated alone, without a conspiracy, as a single agent.

**Speculation:** Hypnotists are able to suggest that a patient perform certain acts after the trance to which he has been subjected is ended. Such an act is performed compulsively and without remembrance of instructions received during the trance. The only restriction on the magnitude of such an act is that such an act must not violate the conscience of the patient. If a person is capable of murder under normal operation of his mind, he will perform murder under post-hypnotic suggestion.

**Fact:** The assassin was not entirely a lone wolf. He was a member of a Pro-Castro group, and he had been to Russia and had applied for citizenship there.

**Speculation:** Hypnotism is a very potent, insidious, dangerous weapon. It is ideally adapted to plots in which the mission of a group must be entrusted to single agents. The agent of the mission may be an agent without his own knowledge or even consent. This use of hypnotism is quite rightly played down by those who are well versed in its use.

**Fact:** The above use of hypnotism is not without examples. The standard fictional works on hypnotism make use of the device. An actual example occurred in Tulsa, Oklahoma some twenty years ago through the operations of a "hex" woman who had several young women under her control.

**Speculation:** The simplest plot to assassinate would involve the above use of hypnotism. The suggestion may be implanted in the patient's mind at a distance and at a time long preceding the execution of the compulsive act. Further, very little danger of implication exists for the true perpetrator. Either the assassin is killed, or at worst he claims at a trial that he acted as a person under hypnosis, an unlikely event. Even so, it would be regarded as a device to disclaim a sane responsibility for the act.

**Speculation:** Brainwashing is an accepted weapon in the cold war. Could not this also include hypnotism?

The above is submitted entirely as a speculation which can explain many of the aspects of the assassination, including the assassin's denial of implication.

Paul L. Lyons  
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