

Psychiatrist Who Examined Oswald Finds Sirhan Same Type

Dr. Renatus Hartogs, chief psychiatrist of the Juvenile Center in New York City, is the only psychiatrist ever to have examined Lee Harvey Oswald, the assassin of President John F. Kennedy. Dr. Hartogs warned that Oswald was "explosively dangerous" in 1953 when, at age 13, Oswald was arrested for truancy.

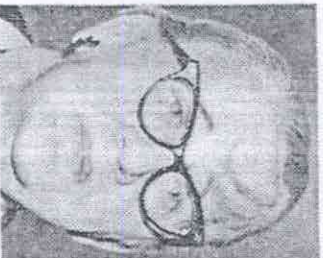
Here, exclusively for **THE ENQUIRER**, Dr. Hartogs analyzes Oswald and Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, held as the assassin of the President's brother, Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

Lee Harvey Oswald and Sirhan Bishara Sirhan were two of a kind: Mental misfits with twisted notions of doing something that would make them great.

That's the judgment of Dr. Renatus Hartogs, the psychiatrist who examined Oswald in 1953 — 10 years before he shot and killed President John F. Kennedy.

Dr. Hartogs pointed out nine distinct similarities between Oswald and Sirhan, the man under arrest as the accused assassin of Senator Robert F. Kennedy:

- Both were loners.
- Both were violently ambitious individuals with deep doubts about



Oswald's Mother



PSYCHIATRIST Dr. Hartogs holds photos of two men he studied — Sirhan and Oswald.

their masculinity.

- They had similar surroundings and influences at home.
- Both were bitterly sensitive about real or imagined rejection.
- Both admired Adolf Hitler.
- There were elements of revenge in both killings.
- Both turned away from people to animals.
- Neither man could convince others he was as brilliant as he secretly believed himself to be.
- Both had confused, love-hate feelings for the Kennedys.

"Oswald and Sirhan were lonely, cut off from other people, rejected," the psychiatrist noted. This does not mean, however, that they could not have been involved with others in a plot.

"Their violence was turned on by political issues, which they took up not so much from real political convictions, but as an outlet for their inner conflicts."

Dr. Hartogs, chief psychiatrist of the Juvenile Center in New York City, noted the parallel in their home lives: "Sirhan's rigid, severe mother resem-

bles Oswald's mother to a striking degree. Both men remained emotionally attached to their mothers — but were disappointed by the mother's coldness.

"Also, both always expected disappointments in their strong ambitions, their fantasy-like dreams of powerful positions of superiority — which they could not achieve in real life."

On their admiration for Hitler, the doctor suggested: "They saw in him a man who, personified the strength and power they were unable to achieve. And by identifying with him, they both hoped to be able to resemble him in power."

"There were elements of revenge in both killings: Sirhan really identified himself with his powerful, punishing father. In killing Robert Kennedy, also a father, he symbolically killed his own father, whom he



Sirhan's Father

hated. The same was true of Oswald, who saw in the late President a father he had never known, but wanted Oswald's father died before he was born."

An additional parallel noted by Dr. Hartogs was that both men turned away from humans, to become fascinated by animals. "Oswald cut school classes in New York to sit outside cages in the Bronx Zoo. Sirhan abandoned his dreams of being a 'great man' to go to work as a stable boy. Both showed a singular inability to get along with people."

Dr. Hartogs felt both men were frustrated in their efforts to make others recognize them as brilliant.

Sirhan was seventh in a class of 16, but he was unwilling to accept this evidence of his lack of brilliance. "Both sought reassurance all the time. Sirhan asked his father, 'Am I

cleverer than my brothers?' Oswald gave up earlier; he felt he could not compete with his brothers in terms of mental achievement or job success."

The emotionally isolated personalities of both made it all the more likely that they should pick as victims men who gave evidence of masculine powers, the doctors said.

"Through elimination of John and Robert Kennedy — men with sexual as well as social power — Oswald and Sirhan symbolically put themselves above the Kennedys."

Dr. Hartogs was chief psychiatrist at New York City Youth House when he questioned Oswald, then 13.

In a report on May 1, 1963, he said of Oswald: "Lee has to be seen as an emotionally quite disturbed youngster who suffers emotional isolation and deprivation; lack of affection, absence of family life and rejection by a self-involved mother."

At the time, he warned that Oswald was "explosively dangerous."

— HARRY ALTSHULER