

THE NATION

'Beyond any question, the conspiracy can be proved'

- Robert Groden, optics expert, and author of two conspiracy books

# Conspiracy theories refuse to die

By Mark Potok  
USA TODAY

DALLAS — For 30 of her 40 years, Rosemary Roach has lived trapped inside a few grainy frames of film, a little girl in a red, checked dress perpetually running across Dealey Plaza.

"I will never forget it as long as I live," Roach says of the day three decades ago when she watched the assassination of John F. Kennedy, and was captured running alongside the motorcade in a famous home movie of the tragedy. "It was the most frightening experience I ever had."

But Roach says she saw more than just the shot that killed Kennedy as his limousine passed the old Texas School Book Depository. She says she saw the gunsmoke of a second gunman — evidence of a conspiracy.

Thirty years after the assassination — and hundreds of books, movies and documentaries on the subject — conspiracy theories abound, undiluted even by a spate of new analyses that agree with the Warren Commission that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, killed the president.

Even in the week before Monday's anniversary, new theories were emerging. Fueled by the recent release of thousands of previously classified documents, there is a huge grab bag of proposed solutions to the mystery.

Conspiracy theorists — more than 600 of whom are meeting in Dallas for the third consecutive year this weekend — blame the CIA, the FBI, Lyndon Johnson, the military-industrial complex, the right, the left, and the Mob.

## 30 years later: Remembering JFK



Thirty years after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, debate continues about who killed him and why. Hundreds of books, a grand jury, Congress, newspapers, magazines and TV specials have re-examined the official Warren Commission finding that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone. Images and opinions on the events that took place in Dallas in 1963:



By J.W. Allgens via AP

**KENNEDY SHOT:** President Kennedy slumps in back seat as Jacqueline Kennedy and Secret Service agent move toward him Nov. 22.



By Capt. Cecil Sloughion via AP

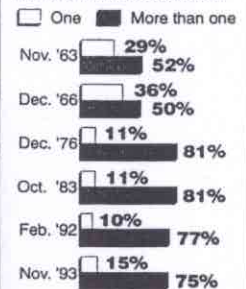
**JOHNSON SWORN IN:** Vice President Lyndon Johnson is given oath of office Nov. 22 aboard presidential plane.



Copyright by Bob Jackson, Dallas Times-Herald via AP

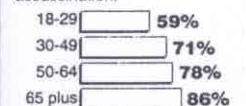


How opinion has changed on how many people were involved in the assassination:



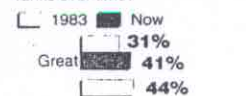
**More older Americans believe in conspiracy**

Breakdown by age group of those saying more than one person was involved in the assassination:



**JFK's ratings improve**

When Kennedy was assassinated, 58% of Americans approved of the way he was handling the presidency. How Kennedy ranks over time?



**THE FUNERAL:** John F. Kennedy Jr. salutes his father's casket Nov. 25 at St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington.