

He was allowed visits by his wife and two sons, President Truman, and the new Secretary of Defense. However, four people he specifically requested to see, his brother, a friend, and two priests were denied access to him. At approximately 1:50 AM on Sunday, May 22, 1949, his body was found on a third floor projection from the skyscraper-like tower of the hospital building, dressed in pajamas and a bathrobe. The bathrobe cord was wound tightly around his neck and knotted. No evidence was found that the cord had been tied to any room fixture or that it was torn. He had fallen from a window in a galley-like diet kitchen across from his room. The death was almost immediately ruled a suicide.

The similarity between this death and John F. Kennedy's death is, in some respects, uncanny. Two prominent Americans were both dead under very unusual circumstances. The deaths seemed to have affected the future of the United States. Forrestal was an outspoken anti-Communist who challenged many plans for the post World War II world. Kennedy was the young idealist, hoping to change that world for the better. Forrestal died at Bethesda; Kennedy's body was brought to Bethesda for autopsy. Forrestal was reported to have received unorthodox treatment; Kennedy's autopsy was reportedly botched. There were startling discrepancies in the accounts of both deaths, with many of the facts being rigidly suppressed by the government. The naval board of inquiry concerning Forrestal's death entered into deliberations with the preconceived notion that the death was a suicide. The Warren Commission entered into their deliberations with the preconceived conclusion that Oswald was a lone assassin. Both of these inquiries ultimately supported their initial positions. Both families seemed to accept the results. In both cases, some witnesses from the military were told not to speak of what they knew because information about the death was classified, and a few were transferred days or weeks later. A statement written by Simpson about Forrestal's death may apply to both. He wrote that, "this crime may have been secretly masterminded by a Machiavellian group so powerful that it could cover up its crime at the time and continue to suppress the facts even today." (Simpson, p 44)

Simpson claims that Forrestal was killed by "crypto-Communists and pro-Communists." (Simpson, p 66) He went on to conclude, "It was absolutely imperative to the success of the Communist world conspiracy that Forrestal be liquidated." (Simpson, p 96) Why? During his stay at Hobe Sound, Forrestal's