

of bullet impact "seemed plausible to me." This Commission attorney commented: "I have no recollection that anybody considered what happened to the sign, or that anybody was aware of the fact that the frames were omitted, or that there were peculiar marks on the back of the sign." He understood the significance of the stress marks quite clearly, for he added: "Since Oswald could not have fired fast enough to have hit the sign with one shot at frame 208 and the President with another shot before frame 225, when the President came out from behind the sign, the notion is that someone else must have been firing at the President, too." Mr. Redlich's reply was typical: "All of the evidence which we have indicates quite conclusively that no shots were fired from the front." In other words, since we start with the immutable presumption that Oswald was the lone assassin, firing from the rear, all contrary evidence must be dismissed.

PLAYBOY: Is there any evidence that some shots could have come from other locations, such as the railroad overpass?

LANE: Some shots may have originated from other locations. My only point is that it's impossible to conclude there was a lone assassin, Oswald or anyone else, after we determine that even one shot originated elsewhere. But I don't see how shots could have been fired from the railroad overpass without attracting the attention of the numerous witnesses there. They would have seen and heard someone firing a rifle, since there is no easy place to hide on the overpass. But I do believe shots came from both the front and the rear. It's possible that some shots from the rear originated in the building housing the Dallas sheriff's department—as at least one eyewitness, Charles Brehm, told me he thought at the time. But let me make clear that to say shots might have come from that building is not to imply a sheriff or policeman fired them—any more than the Commission's conclusion that shots came from the Book Depository Building implicates any publishing firms with offices there. Let's just say that Dallas law-enforcement officers would hardly be eager to investigate the possibility that the President of the United States was shot from one of their own buildings.

PLAYBOY: Are you charging, in effect, that the Warren Commission lied—by ignoring all evidence to the contrary—when it concluded that the President was shot only from the sixth-floor window of the Book Depository?

LANE: "Lied" is not my word. After all, as news media have assured us for three years now, the members of the Warren Commission are all honorable men. But concerning Oswald's presence in that window, there is one piece of crucial evidence that could prove fairly conclusively whether he was there or not. A few seconds before the first shot hit the

President, a Polaroid photograph was taken of the Presidential limousine. It was developed on the scene, and shows the sixth-floor window of the Book Depository moments before the shots were fired. The picture was taken by a Dallas resident named Mary Moorman. The 26 volumes contain a report from a Dallas deputy sheriff, John Wiseman, who requisitioned the picture from Miss Moorman. On November 23, Wiseman reported to the Dallas sheriff's department that he had looked at the picture—but he was never asked what it showed. His affidavit does state that the photo shows the window where the gunman was alleged to have been firing, but it doesn't mention whether anyone is in the window. This picture was turned over by the Dallas deputy sheriff to agents of the Secret Service. It has never been published. No one will say where it is. It is not available in the National Archives. Presumably, the Government has it somewhere, but nobody is talking. I think it's safe to assume that if this photo, taken a few seconds before the shots were fired, showed Lee Oswald or anyone else shooting at the President from the Depository window, it would probably have been published on the cover of the Warren Commission Report. Certainly it would have been published *somewhere* as irrefutable proof of Oswald's guilt—and the origin of at least some of the shots. In light of the picture's suppression, you can draw your own conclusions as to what it did or did not show.

PLAYBOY: Did the nature of President Kennedy's wounds shed any light on the origin of the shots?

LANE: That's a key question. Remember at the moment the first shot was fired, President Kennedy was facing to his front and to his right—toward the grassy knoll. Even the Commission concedes this. Now, if the bullet that struck his throat came from the knoll, then the wound would have to be an entrance wound. On the other hand, if the bullet came from the Book Depository Building, behind the Presidential limousine, then it would have to be an exit wound. Every doctor at Dallas' Parkland Hospital who examined the wound in President Kennedy's throat and made a statement to the press on the day of the assassination said the throat wound was an *entrance* wound. That means the bullet entered from the front. As I said, the Commission itself concedes that the President was looking in the general direction of the knoll at that moment. Thus, the medical evidence supports the eyewitness testimony of people in Dealey Plaza that some shots—at least this shot—came from the grassy knoll.

PLAYBOY: But the Warren Commission later concluded that the throat wound was, in fact, an exit wound, supporting their conclusion that the shots came

from the Book Depository.

LANE: Sure they did. But just saying it's so doesn't make it so, even when it's said by—as I think you called them—"some of the most distinguished figures in American life." The fact is, the Commission's conclusion that the wound was an exit wound was as questionable as the rest of their findings. They reached it because they had to: otherwise their whole case against Oswald as the lone assassin would fall apart. And to make their exit-wound conclusion stick, they conveniently disposed of—or ignored—all the embarrassing contradictory evidence.

PLAYBOY: If the throat wound was an entrance wound, what happened to the bullet? None was found in the President's body.

LANE: Whether or not a bullet remained in the President's body can best, perhaps only, be determined by an examination of the autopsy X rays. But that evidence—constituting at law "the best evidence"—has been suppressed, and we are left with the opinions of military physicians. The medical authorities who conducted the autopsy at the Bethesda, Maryland, Naval Hospital took one roll of 120 film, 22 color photographs, 18 black-and-white prints, and 11 X rays of the President's body. Those photographs and X rays could answer the question of where the bullets came from. Naval Commander J. J. Humes, the doctor at the Naval Hospital who had the photos taken to assist him in determining the path of the bullet through the President's body, testified they were taken from him by agents of the Secret Service before they were even developed. The X rays and photographs have never been seen by any member of the Warren Commission, nor by any of its attorneys. This incredible fact is reluctantly corroborated by former Commission Counsel Arlen Specter, in an interview in the October 10, 1966, issue of *U.S. News & World Report*. You'll recall that the whereabouts of the photos was unknown until early last November, when, according to *The New York Times* of November 2, the Justice Department "disclosed that photographs and X rays taken of President Kennedy's body at the autopsy after his assassination were turned over to the National Archives . . . by the Kennedy family." It's comforting to learn that the photos haven't disappeared, but no non-Government investigator will be able to examine the material for at least five years. Anyway, the main point is not what the photos and X rays show, but why the Warren Commission never tried to secure them in the first place. The Commission's failure to examine them epitomizes their inadequate investigation. If they had done everything else perfectly, this one vital omission would still be enough to discredit their work.

PLAYBOY: Why didn't the Warren

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