

or even the stretcher of some totally unrelated patient. Remember, many people had access to the hospital that day: even Jack Ruby was there, according to two reliable witnesses, including Scripps-Howard newsman Seth Kantor, who testified that he talked to Ruby there. The Commission, of course, disregarded his testimony.

PLAYBOY: Do you think Ruby—or someone else—planted this bullet on the stretcher to incriminate Oswald?

LANE: That certainly is a possibility that should be examined, since it would account for a lot of baffling things about Exhibit 399—including the pristine condition of the bullet after supposedly smashing the bodies and bones of two men.

PLAYBOY: Couldn't there be a more innocent explanation for the contradictions surrounding this bullet than that it was deliberately planted as part of a conspiracy to frame Oswald?

LANE: Perhaps. But none seems apparent. The more I've studied the whole question of Exhibit 399, the more fantastic it becomes. For example, two declassified FBI autopsy reports, dated December 9, 1963, and January 13, 1964, were recently discovered in the National Archives in Washington. They state flatly that the bullet in question entered President Kennedy's *back*—not his neck, mind you, as the Commission claims—and did *not* continue through his body. The FBI agents who attended the autopsy reported that Commander Humes said then—whatever he may have since claimed to the contrary—that there was "no point of exit": that the bullet penetrated the President's back a very short distance. The two FBI agents, James W. Sibert and Francis X. O'Neill, who were present during the autopsy at Bethesda Naval Hospital, said that Dr. Humes probed the back wound with his finger and determined that the bullet had traveled "a short distance, inasmuch as the end of the opening could be felt with the finger." Since no bullet was in the President's back and "there was no point of exit," the agents said Humes was puzzled as to the whereabouts of the bullet. After being informed that a bullet was "found on a stretcher" at Parkland Hospital—presumably the President's stretcher—and that the President had been subjected to external cardiac massage there, "Dr. Humes stated that the pattern was clear that the one bullet had entered the President's back and had worked its way out of the body during external cardiac massage." This explanation appears to be corroborated by Coloael Finck, another physician present at the autopsy, who was quoted by Secret Service agent Roy Kellerman, also present during the autopsy, as having said, "There are no lanes for an outlet of this entry in this man's shoulder." Perhaps this explains why Commander Humes

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