

Specimen Q188 was fired from a barrel rifled with four lands and grooves, right twist. Mannlicher-Carcano rifles of the type used in the assassination of President Kennedy (described as specimen K1 in Laboratory report PC-78243 BX) are among those which produce general rifling impressions such as were found on specimen Q188.

Because of the extreme mutilation and distortion of Q188 and because the individual microscopic marks left on bullets by the barrel of the K1 rifle could have changed subsequent to the time Q188 was fired, it was not possible to determine whether or not Q188 was fired from K1.

There are no specimens presently being maintained in the National Unidentified Ammunition File which could have been fired from the K1 rifle or which logically should be compared with Q188. Further, no bullets or rifles which logically should be compared with specimen Q188 have come to the attention of the FBI Laboratory since March, 1963.

The copper jacket and the lead core of the Q188 bullet were determined to be slightly different in compositions from the copper jackets and lead cores of the Q1 and Q2 bullets.

Although the differences in composition between the Q188 and the Q1 and Q2 bullets were small and do not indicate that these bullets represent two different types of bullets, it was not possible to determine if these bullets came from the same box. It is to be noted that there is no assurance in the fabrication of ammunition that all the ammunition ending up in one box possesses bullets from the same batch of metal, that is, with the same composition.

The bullet, Q188, is being temporarily retained in the Laboratory for comparison with any additional bullets which may be received.