

Connally Ruled Out As Oswald's Target

Washington Bureau of The News
WASHINGTON — The Warren Commission Sunday ruled out the theory that Lee Harvey Oswald wanted to kill Gov. John Connally—not President Kennedy—when he fired at the car in which they were riding through Dallas Nov. 22.

The commission said Mrs. Marina Oswald, the assassin's widow, told it three weeks ago that she thought her husband "was shooting at Connally rather than President Kennedy."

Mrs. Oswald said she could not think of any reason why the 24-year-old assassin would want to kill President Kennedy.

But, she said, he felt he was treated unjustly when the Marine Corps gave him an undesirable discharge from its Reserve after he went to Russia.

Gov. Connally served as secretary of the Navy before resigning

to seek the state office. The Navy Department has control over the Marine Corps.

The commission said it found that, while Oswald harbored "general hostility" because of his discharge, he "knew that Gov. Connally was never directly concerned with his discharge and must have known that President Kennedy had nothing to do with it."

It noted that Mrs. Oswald stated her husband "never had anything against" President Kennedy and "spoke well" of Gov. Connally, even going so far as to say he would vote for the former Navy secretary.

As a result, the commission concluded, Oswald's resentment over his undesirable discharge resulted in "general hostility against the government and its representatives," rather than hatred directed specifically at Gov. Connally or any other individuals.

If Oswald had wanted to kill Gov. Connally, the commission said, he would "have had other and more favorable opportunities to strike."

Oswald would have opened fire as the limousine in which President Kennedy and Gov. Connally rode approached the Texas School Book Depository building if his target had been the governor, the commission continued.

Once the limousine turned into Elm Street and started toward the Triple Underpass, the commission's report noted, "it would have been almost impossible for Oswald to have hit the governor without hitting the president first" since Gov. Connally sat in front of President Kennedy.

Of 2 Shots, One to Head Killed JFK

Washington Bureau of The News
WASHINGTON—President Kennedy, still alive when he entered Parkland Hospital's emergency area, died from a head wound caused by a 6.5-millimeter bullet fired from behind and above the victim, the Warren Commission said Sunday.

The 35th president could have survived the neck wound he suffered during the motorcade through Downtown Dallas had it not been for the massive head wound, the report said.

Parkland doctors noted that Mr. Kennedy had a heart beat and was making some respiratory efforts when he was brought into the hospital.

But his condition was hopeless, the commission said, when he entered Parkland and "the extraordinary efforts of the doctors to save him could not help but to have been unavailing."

He was pronounced dead by Dr. William K. Clark at about 1 p.m. Nov. 22, 1963, after final rites were administered.

The bullet which killed Mr. Kennedy entered at the rear of the President's skull and exited by tearing away the right side of his head. The exit wound measured about 5 inches in its greatest diameter, the autopsy report showed.

The back neck wound, which was not immediately detected during emergency procedures at Parkland, was located about five and one-half inches from the tip of the right shoulder joint, the report said. The bullet emerged from the front of the neck, which was immediately noted by doctors, ripping the windpipe on its passage and nicking the President's necktie.