ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY **NOVEMBER 22, 1963** DALLAS, TEXAS

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O. I understand that the Warren Report on the assassination of President Kennedy is filled with many errors and contradictions. I am told the leading contradiction involves the bullet wounds. Can you explain this so that it makes sense? — Henri Wales, Hepipstead, N.Y.

A. The Warren Commission Report concludes that three shots were fired at the late President but that only two bullets caused all the wounds suffered by both President Kennedy and Governor Connally. Several forensic pathologists doubt this. One basic contradiction involves the bullet hole in the front of the President's neck. At one point the report refers to this bullet hole as a wound of entrance, at another as a wound of exit. The physicians at Parkland Memorial hospital in Dallas interpreted the wound as one of entrance. The Navy physicians who performed the autopsy interpreted it as a wound of exit. This has given rise to a whole series of suppositions and conjectures on who fired what from where.

Had the physicians been more experienced in forensic pathology, perhaps there would have been no doubt as to which wounds were caused by bullet entry and exit. Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy as the widow, was given two choices as to where the autopsy should be performed: the Army's Walter Reed Hospital or the Naval Medical School in Bethesda, Md. Since her husband had served in the Navy, she chose the Naval Medical School whose pathologists performed what is now considered a controversial autopsy, which in turn is responsible for the controversial Warren Report.

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