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The President of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences said in a magazine article published today that the Warren Commission Report on the murder of President Kennedy is in error in its finding that one bullet struck both the President and then Texas Gov. John Connally.

Writing in the December issue of The Saturday Evening Post, Robert J. Joling, J.D., said that after an exhaustive examination of the evidence, he has concluded "the number and directions of bullets which struck the President were not correctly determined" and that "the President was shot from behind and above."

Joling also said he found that "Procedures that would have been invaluable in locating and characterizing the wounds of President Kennedy were not carried out at all, or were carried out only in part." He asserted that the postmortem examination itself "was carried out under military orders restricting the initial examination to locating 'a' bullet, and under 'orders' not to dissect the President's back/throat wound."

After pointing out that Texas authorities were "unlawfully refused their right and duty to perform the medicolegal investigation and postmortem examination in Texas," Joling went on to say that "film taken by a medical corpsman was seized by a Secret Service agent who then deliberately ruined the film by exposing it to light."

Furthermore, Joling wrote, "The location and pathways of the President's wounds were not properly reported and the measurements given were inept." He also found that "The number and directions of bullets which struck the President were not correctly determined" and the fragments of the bullets found in the presidential limousine might have come from more than one bullet but "it has never been established whether they originated from one or from two separate bullets."

Joling said he found that the Warren Commission declined to examine numerous photographs and X rays taken during the course of the post-mortem examination; that coronal sections through the brain were not made and the description of the left side of the brain is "at best superficial"; and that X-ray examinations alone were relied upon to assert that no bullet fragment had passed in or through the brain.

Turning to other unusual aspects of the Kennedy autopsy, Joling pointed out that:

- (1) "The autopsy team was deprived of the opportunity to review the X-rays and color photographs of the body, some of which had rulers placed in strategic measuring positions. These had been made in order to prepare a thorough autopsy report, but were taken from them before they were even developed."
- (2) "Color photographs were taken of the interior of the President's chest cavity. These photographs are important for determining the path of the bullet which struck the President's upper back. They should be examined in detail."
- (3) "The autopsy team relied upon memory and partial notes in preparing the autopsy report. In addition hypothetical drawings prepared by an artist were used in the giving of testimony before the Warren Commission. These were totally inappropriate, produced by an artist who had never seen the body, the X-rays, or the photographs, and wrongly indicated the pathway of the bullet which struck the President the back."
- (4) "The circumstances surrounding the postmortem examination were most unusual. More than 30 persons were present within the autopsy room, most of them military, and five were Secret Service or FBI agents."
- (5) Despite this presence, "The postmortem examination team failed to dissect the track of the back wound."
- (6) Joling also found unusual "The failure to consult the Dallas physician who initially treated the President." He said this "resulted in failure to recognize the front neck wound until a telephone call was made to Dallas the day after the autopsy had been performed."
- (7) "The report is undated. The doctors performing the postmortem examination testified it was completed on the morning of Nov. 24, 1963. At least one draft of the autopsy report was burned, based on the testimony of one of the pathologists that he destroyed his 'preliminary notes' in the fireplace of his residence on the morning of Nov. 24, 1963."

Joling said that Gov. Connally's right wrist was struck "in such a manner as to cause a shattering of the radius and a partial severing of the radial nerve" as reported in the Warren Commission Report and substantiated by X-rays. Therefore, he said, "It is inconceivable that Gov. Connally would be able to hold onto his Stetson