

# Doctors Call JFK Photos True Record

## Two Who Performed Autopsy Say Pictures Bear Out Testimony

By John P. MacKenzie  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Two of the three pathologists who performed the autopsy on President Kennedy have concluded that newly available photographs of the examination bear out their testimony before the Warren Commission.

The doctors, Navy Cmdrs. James Humes and J. Thornton Boswell, saw the pictures for the first time Tuesday afternoon, a day after they were turned over to the National Archives, by the Kennedy family.

If the doctors' evaluation of the pictures is correct, the pictures bolster their official autopsy report and—although the Commission did not see the pictures—support the Commission's conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald alone killed the President.

The Commission concluded that President Kennedy and Texas Gov. John B. Connally, who were riding with their wives in a Dallas motorcade, were wounded by the same bullet which passed through the President's neck before striking the Governor.

The single-bullet theory, vigorously attacked by Commission critics who suggested a second assassin and other rifle shots from another direction, explained how the President and Governor could have been wounded during the same 2-second interval.

Critics faulted the Commission for relying on the doctors without insisting on seeing the autopsy pictures. Some hinted that the failure to use and publish the pictures was part of an elaborate plot to frame Oswald as a cover up of an assassination conspiracy.

Reached by telephone yesterday, both doctors stressed that their live testimony four months after the Nov. 22, 1963, murder was still the best evidence of where the wounds were.

But Humes, who was senior pathologist at the Naval Medical Center at Bethesda, said "the pictures showed just what we testified to."

His assistant at the 3-hour autopsy, Boswell, said the pictures proved that "the drawing we submitted" to the Commission "was identical with the photographs."

The doctors went to the Archives building for the limited purpose of identifying and authenticating 65 X-rays, color transparencies and black and white negatives that had been in the possession of the Kennedy family for nearly three years. They spent 3½ hours at their task, however, pausing long enough to compare key pictures with their own recollections.

The Kennedy family, after negotiations with the Justice Department, agreed to donate the materials to the Archives under restrictions against public display or any sensationalized or undignified use of them.

Federal investigators of the assassination were given unlimited access, but any non-governmental access will require the approval of the family representative, former Assistant Attorney General Burke Marshall.

The National Archives received several requests for the materials yesterday. Mark Lane, a New York attorney and one of the Commission's most strident critics, said he was considering filing a lawsuit to compel unrestricted public access to the materials.

Meanwhile, Johnson Administration officials began weighing methods of communicating to the public the meaning of the pictures without violating the Kennedy family restrictions and without making it appear that a full-blown re-examination of the Commission findings was under way.

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- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
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- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
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