

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 19 1969

TELETYPE

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| Mr. Tolson | |
| Mr. DeLoach | |
| Mr. Mohr | |
| Mr. Bishop | |
| Mr. Casper | |
| Mr. Callahan | |
| Mr. Conrad | |
| Mr. Felt | |
| Mr. Gale | |
| Mr. Rosen | |
| Mr. Sullivan | |
| Mr. Tavel | |
| Mr. Trotter | |
| Tele. Room | |
| Miss Holmes | |
| Miss Gandy | |

FBI WASH DC

FBI NEW ORLS

7:30PM URGENT 2/19/69 OLP

TO DIRECTOR (62-109060) AND DALLAS (89-43)

FROM NEW ORLEANS (89-69) 11P

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO, NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE.

MISC. - INFO CONCERNING. OO: DALLAS.

ACCORDING TO THE RED FLASH EDITION OF THE NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM NEWSPAPER FOR FEBRUARY NINETEEN INSTANT, THE MORNING SESSION OF THE CLAY L. SHAW TRIAL FOR FEBRUARY NINETEEN INSTANT STARTED WITH THE PROSECUTION CONTINUING TO QUESTION THEIR WITNESS IDENTIFIED AS DR. JOHN M. NICHOLS OF KANSAS UNIVERSITY. DR. NICHOLS HAD BEEN TESTIFYING WHEN THE AFTERNOON SESSION OF THE TRIAL WAS RECESSED ON FEBRUARY SEVENTEEN LAST.

ACCORDING TO THIS ARTICLE, DR. NICHOLS HAD TESTIFIED ON FEBRUARY SEVENTEEN LAST THAT IT IS HIS OPINION THAT THE FATAL BULLET WHICH STRUCK PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS FIRED FROM THE FRONT AND HE BASED THIS OPINION ON HIS STUDY OF COLOR SLIDES TAKEN FROM THE ZAPRUDER FILM. HE HAD ALSO PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED THAT BASED ON HIS STUDY OF THE SLIDES IT WAS HIS

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OPINION THAT HE BELIEVED THE PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR CONNALLY SHOWED PAIN REACTION FROM DIFFERENT BULLETS.

DR. NICHOLS SAID HE HOLDS THE POSITION OF ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PATHOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS. HE HAD PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED AS TO HIS EXAMINATIONS OF THE COLOR SLIDES OF THE ASSASSINATION AND CONTINUOUSLY DURING THIS TESTIMONY THE DEFENSE HAD OBJECTED BUT WAS OVERRULED ON EACH OCCASION.

THIS ARTICLE REVEALED THAT NICHOLS TESTIFIED ON FEBRUARY NINETEEN INSTANT THAT IF THE FATAL SHOT HAD HIT THE PRESIDENT FROM THE REAR THE PRESIDENT'S HEAD WOULD HAVE MOVED FORWARD.

UPON CROSS-EXAMINATION BY THE DEFENSE, DR. NICHOLS TESTIFIED THAT HE HAD LITTLE FORMAL TRAINING IN THE FIELDS OF PATHOLOGY OR FORENSIC MEDICINE BUT IS LARGELY SELF-TAUGHT. THE DEFENSE THEN SOUGHT TO WEAKEN DR. NICHOLS WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY QUALIFIED AS AN EXPERT WITNESS. UPON FURTHER QUESTIONING, NICHOLS STATED HE WAS NOT IN DALLAS ON THE DAY OF THE ASSASSINATION. HE WAS ALSO QUESTIONED IN DETAIL BY

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PAGE THREE

THE DEFENSE AS TO HOW HE WOULD CONDUCT AN AUTOPSY. AMONG OTHER THINGS DR. NICHOLS SAID HE WOULD TAKE X-RAYS OF THE BODY AND EXAMINE THEM CAREFULLY AND ADMITTED THAT HE HAD NEVER EXAMINED ANY EX-RAYS OF THE PRESIDENT'S BODY.

HE TESTIFIED THAT HE HAD SENT COMMUNICATIONS TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES REQUESTING THAT HE BE ALLOWED TO EXAMINE THE X-RAYS OF THE PRESIDENT.

NICHOLS SAID HE HAD "A DEGREE OF KNOWLEDGE" IN THE FIELD OF BALLISTICS; HOWEVER, ADMITTED HIS FORMAL TRAINING IN THIS FIELD CONSISTED OF A ONE-HOUR LECTURE IN MEDICAL SCHOOL, RECOVERING BULLETS, TESTIFYING IN COURT AND CONDUCTING EXPERIMENTS.

WHEN ASKED BY THE DEFENSE ABOUT HIS TRAINING IN PHOTOGRAPHY, NICHOLS TESTIFIED THAT HE DID NOT HAVE A MINUTE'S FORMAL TRAINING BUT THAT HE HAD BEEN USING CAMERAS SINCE THE AGE OF TEN TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS OF BODIES FOR AUTOPSIES.

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PAGE FOUR

NICHOLS TESTIFIED THAT HE IS PRESENTLY SUING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN AN ATTEMPT TO EXAMINE THE CLOTHING WORN BY THE PRESIDENT ON THE DAY OF THE ASSASSINATION.

HE FURTHER TESTIFIED HE IS ALSO SUING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO LOOK AT THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PRESIDENT TO SEE FOR HIMSELF THE ENTRANCE OF THE BULLET. HE TESTIFIED THAT THE BEST WAY TO DETERMINE DIRECTION OF A BULLET WOULD BE THAT "THE SOFT TISSUE IS SMALLER THAN THE TRACK THE BULLET WOULD MAKE. THE SPEED OF THE BULLET WOULD MAKE A BURN ON THE SKIN. WHEN YOU STUDY THE BULLETHOLE IN THE MICROSCOPE YOU CAN SEE A LITTLE RIM OF BURN."

DR. NICHOLS TESTIFIED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW THE SPEED OF THE PRESIDENTIAL VEHICLE AT THE TIME THE SHOT WAS FIRED AND THAT IN HIS OPINION A POSSIBLE SUDDEN ACCELERATION OF THE VEHICLE DID NOT CAUSE THE PRESIDENT'S HEAD TO BE THROWN IN A BACKWARD POSITION.

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PAGE FIVE

HE SAID IN HIS OPINION THAT THE SPEED AND DIRECTION OF THE WIND WOULD BE IN INSIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN THE PRESIDENT'S HEAD MOVING IN A BACKWARD DIRECTION.

THE PROSECUTION THEN CALLED MRS. ~~JESSE PARKER OF NEW ORLEANS~~ TO THE STAND.

MRS. PARKER TESTIFIED THAT ON DECEMBER, FOURTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTYSIX, SHE WAS EMPLOYED AS A HOSTESS AT THE EASTERN AIRLINES VIP ROOM AT THE NEW ORLEANS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. SHE TESTIFIED THAT SOMETIME BETWEEN TEN A.M. AND NOON SHE SAW A MAN, WHOM SHE IDENTIFIED IN THE COURTROOM AS SHAW, ENTER THE VIP ROOM WITH ANOTHER MAN. SHE TESTIFIED SHE OBSERVED SHAW GO OVER AND SIGN THE GUEST REGISTER BUT THE OTHER MAN DID NOT SIGN. THERE WERE NO OTHER INDIVIDUALS IN THE VIP ROOM AND SHAW AND THIS OTHER MAN THEN LEFT AFTER A FEW MINUTES (AND SHE THEN WENT OVER TO LOOK AT THE REGISTER.

SHE TESTIFIED SHE OBSERVED THE NAME CLAY BERTRAND HAD BEEN WRITTEN THEREON AND THE DATE WAS DECEMBER FOURTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTYSIX.

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PAGE SIX

UNDER CROSS-EXAMINATION BY THE DEFENSE, SHE TESTIFIED SHE WAS CONTACTED BY THE DA'S OFFICE AFTER THE PRELIMINARY HEARING FOR SHAW IN MARCH, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN. SHE SAID THAT WHEN SHE OBSERVED SHAW AT THE VIP ROOM IN DECEMBER, NINETEEN SIXTYSIX, SHE DID NOT KNOW HIS NAME BUT THAT SHE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE SIZE AND THE "PRETTY GRAY HAIR" OF THE INDIVIDUAL. SHE TESTIFIED THAT LATER ON SHE OBSERVED SHAW ON TELEVISION AND ALSO HEARD THE NAME CLAY BERTRAND AND THAT IS HOW SHE WAS ABLE TO ATTACH BOTH NAMES. SHE TESTIFIED SHE COULD NOT RECALL JUST WHEN SHE FIRST SAW SHAW'S PICTURE ON TELEVISION AND THE REASON THAT SHE DID NOT GO TO THE FBI WAS BECAUSE "SHE DID NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED."

SHE TESTIFIED THE NEXT TIME SHE OBSERVED SHAW AFTER THE VIP ROOM WAS ON JANUARY TWENTYONE, NINETEEN SIXTYNINE DURING THE FIRST DAY OF THE JURY SELECTION OF THE TRIAL.

SHE DENIED EVER MAKING ANY STATEMENTS THAT SHAW WAS NOT THE SAME PERSON SHE HAD SEEN AT THE VIP ROOM OR THAT SHE WAS EVER THREATENED TO TAKE A POLYGRAPH TEST, BUT WAS ASKED

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TO TAKE A POLYGRAPH TEST WHICH SHE DID.

THE PROSECUTION THEN ASKED THAT CAPTAIN JAMES KRUBBE,
A POLYGRAPH EXPERT WITH THE NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT,
BE SUBPOENAED TO TESTIFY REGARDING THE POLYGRAPH TEST GIVEN
MRS. PARKER. THE DEFENSE OBJECT BUT WAS OVERRULED. L

KRUBBE TESTIFIED THAT HE HAD GIVEN THE POLYGRAPH
EXAMINATION TO MRS. PARKER WHO HAD SUBMITTED TO THIS TEST
VOLUNTARILY AND WAS IN NO WAY THREATENED.

THE PROSECUTION THEN CALLED AS ITS NEXT WITNESS RICHARD
RANDOLPH CARR OF DALLAS, TEXAS. CARR TESTIFIED THAT ON
THE DAY OF THE ASSASSINATION HE WAS ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR
OF THE NEW COURTHOUSE BUILDING LOCATED AT HOUSTON AND COMMERCE
STREETS, DALLAS, WHICH BUILDING FACES DEALEY PLAZA. HE
COULD NOT RECALL EXACTLY WHAT TIME IT WAS BUT HE COULD SEE
THE PRESIDENTIAL MOTORCADE. HE TESTIFIED THAT AS THE
MOTORCADE PROCEEDED TOWARDS THE TEXAS BOOK DEPOSITORY, HE
SAW A MAN IN THE THIRD WINDOW ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF THAT
END PAGE SEVEN

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*PAGE EIGHT

BUILDING. HE DESCRIBED THIS INDIVIDUAL AS WEARING A LIGHT HAT, HEAVY RIMMED GLASSES, EAR MUFFS AND A LIGHT SHIRT AND A TAN SPORTCOAT.

THEREAFTER HE HEARD WHAT HE BELIEVED AS A SMALL ARMS SHOT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY THREE SHOTS FROM A HIGH POWERED RIFLE. HE TESTIFIED THAT HE BELIEVED THE SHOTS CAME FROM BEHIND THE PICKET FENCE FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE GRASSY KNOLL AND BASED THIS ON THE MOVEMENT OF THE GRASS FROM HIS VIEWING POINT.

HE FURTHER TESTIFIED THAT AFTER THE SHOTS HE OBSERVED THREE MEN EMERGE FROM BEHIND THE BOOK DEPOSITORY BUILDING AND ONE OF THESE THREE MEN APPEARED TO BE A LATIN. HE SAID THE MEN GOT INTO A LIGHT BROWN STATION WAGON PARKED ON THE WRONG SIDE OF ELM STREET FACING NORTH TOWARD THE RAILROAD TRACKS AND THE CAR THEN DROVE NORTH ON HOUSTON ST.

THEREAFTER, HE SAW A MAN HE HAD PREVIOUSLY SEEN IN THE WINDOW OF THE BOOK DEPOSITORY CROSS THE STREET AND APPEARED TO BE IN A BIG HURRY AND TURN TOWARDS HOUSTON AND COMMERCE
END PAGE EIGHT

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JPAGE NINE

STREETS LOOKING BACK OVER HIS SHOULDER AS IF HE WERE BEING FOLLOWED.

CARR THEN TESTIFIED HE HAD TOLD THE FBI WHAT HE HAD SEEN BUT HAD BEEN TOLD BY THE FBI TO "KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT."

UPON CROSS-EXAMINATION BY THE DEFENSE, CARR TESTIFIED THAT HE DID NOT LEARN THE PRESIDENT HAD BEEN ASSASSINATED UNTIL ABOUT AN HOUR AND FIFTEEN MINUTES AFTER IT HAPPENED. HE FURTHER TESTIFIED HE COULD NOT TELL IF THE FOUR MEN CAME FROM BEHIND THE DEPOSITORY BUILDING OR OUT A SIDE DOOR. HE TESTIFIED THAT HE DID OBSERVE THE MOTORCADE GATHER SPEED. HE TESTIFIED THAT HE HAD SEEN ONE OF THE SHOTS HIT IN DEALEY PLAZA BUT HE DID NOT ATTEMPT TO RECOVER THE BULLET.

THE COURT THEN RECESSED FOR LUNCH.

FOR THE INFO OF THE BUREAU, RICHARD RANDOLPH CARR WAS INTERVIEWED ON JANUARY FOUR, NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR AT DALLAS AND THIS INTERVIEW IS CONTAINED ON PAGE TWENTYEIGHT AND TWENTYNINE OF THE REPORT OF SA ROBERT P. GEMBERLING DATED JANUARY TWENTYTWO, SIXTYFOUR, BUFILE ONE ZERO FIVE - EIGHT TWO
END PAGE NINE.

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FIVE FIVE FIVE, IN THE CASE CAPTIONED "LEE HARVEY OSWALD". CARR WAS INTERVIEWED WHEN INFO HAD BEEN RECEIVED THAT HE ALLEGEDLY HAD MADE A STATEMENT CONCERNING THE FACT THAT OSWALD DID NOT ASSASSINATE THE PRESIDENT.

THERE IS ALSO SET FORTH IN THE FEBRUARY ELEVEN, NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR REPORT OF SA GEMBERLING CAPTIONED "LEE HARVEY OSWALD", ON PAGES TWENTYFOUR, THROUGH TWENTYSEVEN A SIGNED STATEMENT OBTAINED FROM CARR REGARDING ALLEGED STATEMENTS HE MADE THAT OSWALD DID NOT ASSASSINATE THE PRESIDENT.

THE DALLAS OFFICE ADVISED TODAY THAT NONE OF THE REFERENCES IN THE DALLAS OFFICE TO RICHARD RANDOLPH CARR REFLECT ANY INDICATION THAT A STATEMENT SUCH AS "KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT" WAS MADE TO CARR BY AGENTS.

NEW ORLEANS INDICES CONTAIN NO INFO IDENTIFIABLE WITH MRS. JESSE PARKER MENTIONED IN PREVIOUS PAGES OF THIS TELETYPE.

THE ONLY REFERENCE IN NEW ORLEANS FILES REGARDING DR. NICHOLS IS CONTAINED ON PAGE EIGHT OF NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE
END PAGE TEN.

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PAGE ELEVEN

DATED FEBRUARY SIX, LAST IN CAPTIONED MATTER IN WHICH ACCORDING TONEW ORLEANS NEWSPAPERS DA JIM GARRISON IN HIS OPENING STATEMENT ON FEBRUARY SIX LAST INDICATED THAT THE STATE WOULD OFFER TESTIMONY OF DR. JOHN NICHOLS, A MEDICAL EXPERT IN THE FIELD OF FORENSIC MEDICINE AND PATHOLOGY.

THE RED FLASH EDITION OF THE NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM FOR FEBRUARY NINETEEN INSTANT INDICTES THAT THE DEFENSE HAS REQUESTED SUBPOENAES FOR MARY E. BLEDSOE, DALLAS; COL. PIERRE FINCK OF WASHINGTON, D. C., AND CAPT. J. W. FRITZ OF THE DALLAS PD.

NEW ORLEANS INDICES CONTAIN NO INFO IDENTIFIABLE WITH BLEDSOE OR FINCK, BUT REVEAL THAT CAPT. J. W. FRITZ MENTIONED ABOVE IS PROBABLY IDENTICAL TO CAPT. WILL FRITZ OF THE DALLAS PD WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION FOR THE DALLAS PD IN NOVEMBER, NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE.

NO LHM BEING SUBMITTED.

END...

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