

March 5, 1974

REC-19

62-109060-7114

John Nichols, M.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Pathology and Oncology
School of Medicine
The University of Kansas Medical Center
Rainbow Boulevard at 39th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66103

Dear Dr. Nichols:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter on February 20th, with enclosures, in which you requested certain data surrounding examinations made by the FBI Laboratory during the investigation of the assassination of former President John F. Kennedy.

The "Q and R" items referred to in your letter were all listed and described in FBI Laboratory Reports which were made available to the President's Commission and are available to you for review. In addition, a listing of the "C" items you referred to, also by descriptions, can be found in Commission Document 345 in the National Archives.

Under the same descriptions, the President's Commission assigned exhibit numbers to the items listed above as set forth in the testimony of Special Agent Robert A. Frazier, FBI Laboratory, in Volume III, (beginning at page 370), and Volume V, (beginning at page 58), of the "Hearings Before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy."

When examined in the FBI Laboratory, Commission Exhibit 640 consisted of three metal fragments and this Exhibit was subsequently transferred to the National Archives. No further information is available concerning the present condition of this Exhibit.

- 1 - Office of the Deputy Attorney General in Enclosure
- 1 - Kansas City - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Briggs White - Enclosure
- Attention: Mr. Frazier
- 1 - Bufile 62-115530 (FOI-REPLIES)

JCF:law (8)

- Exec. Dir.
- Dep. AD Adm.
- Dep. AD Inv.
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv.
- Comp. Syst.
- Ext. Affairs
- Files & Com.
- Gen. Inv.
- Ident.
- Inspection
- Intell.
- Laboratory
- Plan. & Eval.
- Spec. Inv.
- Training
- Legal Coun.
- Telephone Rm.
- Director's Sec'y

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

cc Rec'd, 5/22/75
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Handwritten signatures and initials:
JCF
Law
Frazier
White
Briggs

John Nichols, M.D.

Commission Exhibit 842, when submitted to the FBI Laboratory for examination, consisted of one metal fragment which weighed 0.5 grain.

Commission Exhibits 840 and 842 were subjected to analytical studies in which small portions were necessarily consumed. The remaining weights of these Exhibits are not available.

Sincerely yours,

O. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley
Director

NOTE: Dr. Nichols has previously corresponded with the Bureau concerning medical studies he has made which apparently have convinced him that the late President Kennedy was shot at least once from the front instead of only from the rear as found by the Warren Commission. He has brought an unsuccessful suit against the Government under the Public Information Law for the notes and work papers of the FBI Laboratory examiners concerning their spectrographic analysis of the bullets uncovered in the examinations. The "C" items, "K" items and "Q" items are correlated with Commission Exhibit numbers as follows:

CF	Q or K#	CE#	
C1	Q1	399	Bullet from stretcher
C2	Q2	567	Bullet fragment from front seat cushion
C3	Q3	569	Bullet fragment from beside front seat
C4	Q4	843	Metal fragment from the President's head
C5	Q5	843	Metal fragment from the President's head
C6	Q6	543	6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge case from building
C7	Q7	544	6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge case from building

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NOTE CONTINUED:

C8	Q8	141	6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge
C9	Q9	842	Metal fragment from arm of Governor John Connally
C14	K1	139	6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano rifle with telescope sight, Serial No. C2766
C16	Q14	840	Three metal fragments recovered from rear floorboard carpet
C17	Q15	841	Scraping from inside surface of windshield
C38	Q48	545	6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge case from building

The material received and listed above was assigned "Q" and "K" numbers and was later assigned "C" numbers. A list of "C" numbers, bearing the same description as when listed with "Q" or "K" numbers was furnished the President's Commission. The list of "C" items is among the Commission papers in the National Archives, as Commission Document 342. Under the same descriptions, the President's Commission assigned exhibit numbers to the items listed above as set forth in the testimony of Special Agent Robert A. Frazier, FBI Laboratory, in Volume III, (page 390), and Volume V, (page 58), of the "Hearings Before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy." Certain early FBI Laboratory reports referred to these items by "Q" and "K" numbers. These reports were submitted to the President's Commission either by the Dallas, Texas, Police Department, or by the Dallas Office of the FBI. These papers are available for review at the National Archives. Some of the items referred to by Dr. Nichols were subjected to Laboratory examinations which necessarily consumed portions of the items and/or altered their appearance. The residual portions of the items were turned over to the National Archives where they are available for inspection. No attempt was made to record the weights of the minute quantities consumed in the examinations, (spectrographic and neutron activation analyses), or to weigh the material remaining. All of the items were photographed in their original condition. They were delivered to the National Archives where they are presently maintained. This reply coordinated with the Laboratory Division.