

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- 1 - O. Kelleher
- 1 - Mr. Silas
- 1 - Mr. Cunningham
- 1 - Mr. Sibert

DATE: 7/28/77

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
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- Adm. Serv. _____
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TO : Mr. Kelleher

FROM : F. D. Silas, Jr.

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS
NOVEMBER 22, 1963
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
OO: DALLAS

PURPOSE: To report the results of the microscopic comparison of the bullet found in the general area of the President Kennedy Assassination in Dallas, Texas, by Richard Harold Lester with the assassination weapon test bullets maintained by the National Archives and Records Service.

DETAILS: The questioned bullet was furnished to the Dallas FBI Office on 12/1/76 by Richard Harold Lester, 1440 Hansboro, Dallas, Texas, telephone 337-0812. Mr. Lester advised he had found the bullet next to railroad tracks above the triple underpass with a metal detector about two years ago and now suspected that this was possibly a bullet relating to the assassination.

The examination of this bullet required that the test-fired bullets obtained from the 6.5 mm Mannlicher-Carcano Rifle, Serial Number C2766 be furnished to the Laboratory by the National Archives and Record Service. These test bullets were fired by the Laboratory in 1963 and are presently maintained by the National Archives and Record Service.

On July 28, 1977, Mr. James Leahy, Archives Technician, National Archives and Record Service, appeared at the Laboratory with the two test-fired bullets. The examination was conducted by SA Robert W. Sibert of the Firearms Identification Unit.

The questioned bullet and the test bullets are 6.5 mm bullets bearing rifling impressions of four grooves, right twist. The questioned bullet is a mutilated 6.5 mm "Jacketed Soft Point" or "Jacketed Hollow Point" (sporting-type) bullet which

- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. Fehl (Attention Mr. George Foster)
- 1 - Mr. Mintz

RWS:blj (8) *

(CONTINUED-OVER)



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F. D. Silas to Mr. Kelleher Memo
Re: Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy
Miscellaneous - Information Concerning

has a solid base and no cannelures. The test bullets, like the original crime scene bullet and fragment, are 6.5 mm "Full Metal Jacket" (military-type) bullets which have an open base and a cannelure near the base. Therefore, the questioned and test bullets are different type bullets of the same caliber.

Both the questioned and test bullets have four groove, right twist rifling impressions. However, the widths of the land and groove impressions vary by approximately .01 inch. The individual microscopic marks (striations) on these bullets were microscopically compared without effecting an identification.

In view of the above, nothing was found to indicate the questioned bullet was fired from the assassination weapon represented by the test bullets.

Following the completion of the examination, the test bullets were returned to Mr. Leahy, who had maintained custody of them during the examination.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information only.

APPROVED:

Director _____	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Asst. Dir. _____	Crim. Inv. _____	Plan. & Insp. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____	Fin. & Pers. _____	Rec. Mgnt. _____
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