

FBI INDICATES IT IS CERTAIN OSWALD WAS LONE ASSASSIN

17/10-5
Surgeons at Dallas
Not Questioned
About Wound in
Kennedy's Throat

By RICHARD DUDMAN
A Washington Correspondent
of the Post-Dispatch
WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 — The
Federal Bureau of Investigation
is indicating by its actions that
it has no doubt that Lee Harvey
Oswald was the lone assassin of
President John F. Kennedy.

The possibility that a second
sniper fired simultaneously from
a point in front of the presiden-
tial limousine was suggested by
the description of a wound in
Mr. Kennedy's throat given by
surgeons at Parkland Memorial
Hospital in Dallas. They said that
it was an entry wound, made at
the center of the throat slightly
below the Adam's apple.

Oswald's supposed vantage point
was in a sixth-story window of
the Texas School Book Deposi-
tory building, almost directly be-
hind the President at the time
the shots were fired. Motion pic-
tures taken at the time appeared
to show that the President was
facing forward before the first
shot struck him.

Surgeons Not Questioned
Yet a check with the hospital
last night disclosed that the sur-
geons have not been questioned
by the FBI or any other investi-
gating agency.

The Associated Press reported
last week that a long FBI report
on the assassination, completed
but not made public, identified
Oswald as the lone assassin, and
probably cited ballistics tests
showing that three bullets found
after the shooting had all been
fired by the Italian rifle bought
by Oswald and found afterward
in the textbook warehouse.

Spokesmen for the FBI and the
Department of Justice have de-

nied that either the FBI or the
department leaked the report.
Both called the news story pre-
mature. The Department of Jus-
tice spokesman said, however,
that the Associated Press account
was probably close to the truth.

Key Bits of Evidence

Other government officials dis-
closed today, however, that the
FBI report lists a palm print
and some brown threads caught
on a rifle as the key bits of evi-
dence that point to Oswald as
the assassin.

Sources said that investigators
were able to match with Oswald's
garments some brown threads
caught on the Italian carbine
used in the killing. Investigators
found also a palm print on the
rifle that they know to have
been Oswald's. Latent finger-
prints — also Oswald's — were
lifted from the wrapping paper
that hid the weapon when the
assassin carried it to work in
the warehouse, officials said.

Other circumstances, not yet
explained publicly, that suggest
the existence of a second assas-

sin, are a small round hole seen
after the shooting in the front
windshield of the presidential
limousine and the existence of
four or possibly five bullets, in
contrast with the three said to
have been fired from Oswald's
rifle.

One was found in the floor of
the car, a second was found in
the President's stretcher, a third
was taken from Gov. John B.
Connally's left thigh, and a fourth
is said to have been taken from
the President's body in a post-
mortem examination at the
United States Naval Hospital in
Bethesda, Md.

A fifth, found by Dallas police
a few hours after the shooting,
was in the grass beside the road-
way at the point where the Presi-
dent was shot. Officers said at
the time that they did not know
whether that bullet had anything
to do with the assassination.

The post-mortem report has
not been made public. It is ex-
pected to be incorporated in the
report of the presidential com-
mission, headed by Chief Justice
Earl Warren, that will investi-
gate the assassination.

Could Be Inconclusive

A surgical research doctor here
has told the Post-Dispatch that
the post-mortem examination at
Bethesda could have thrown little
light on the path of the bullet
that caused the throat wound. He
pointed out that the surgeons at
Dallas had made their incision

for a tracheotomy, in an effort
to restore satisfactory breathing,
through the bullet hole, because
it was in the precise place where
a tracheotomy normally is per-
formed. He said that changes in
body tissue would have occurred
in the several hours that elapsed
before the President's body
reached the Bethesda hospital.

The FBI report, likewise, is
expected to be kept secret for
the present and to be made pub-
lic eventually only in so far as
the Warren Commission incor-
porates it in its own report.

President Lyndon B. Johnson
was asked Saturday whether he
thought the FBI report should be
made public.

"That is a matter which I think
would go from the Justice De-
partment to the blue ribbon com-
mission that was appointed, and
it will be a matter for them to
review," he relied.

Report Sent to Panel

The department sent its report
to the Warren commission yes-
terday. Its details were not dis-
closed, but the Associated Press
said that it was known to name
Oswald, beyond the shadow
of a doubt, as the man who
shot Mr. Kennedy, and that it is
expected to conclude that Jack
Ruby, a Dallas nightclub owner,
fatally shot Oswald two days
later, that Oswald and Ruby both

were acting alone, and that they
never knew each other.

The Department of Justice
said that the FBI investigation
is continuing and further facts
uncovered will be reported to
the Warren Commission.

J. Lee Rankin, United States
solicitor general in the Eisen-
hower Administration, has been
appointed general counsel for the
special presidential commission.

Chief Justice Warren an-
nounced Rankin's appointment
today and said that the New York
lawyer already had begun his
new duties.

The New York Times said that
the FBI had given the Secret
Service a Dallas character risk
list in advance of President Ken-
nedy's trip, but it did not include
the name of Oswald.

Reason for Omission

The Times reported that an
official source said that Oswald's
name, like many others in the
Dallas file, was omitted because
the FBI had found nothing in
Oswald's background to mark
him as a potential assassin.

Passing a list of suspicious

characters was a matter of routine co-operation between the agencies.

Oswald was not under surveillance by the FBI at the time because months of checking had indicated that he was not a spy or saboteur. That covered the statutory area of FBI responsibility.

The Times said that Oswald's employment on the route of the President's motorcade apparently was not regarded as significant at the time. "The FBI does not study protective measures," it quoted its source as saying.

A more significant fact apparently was not known to the FBI. That was the purchase by Oswald of a mail order rifle under an alias, the Times said.

Meanwhile, unanimous House action today sent to the White House the measure granting the investigating commission subpoena powers. It came only minutes after the House Judiciary Committee approved the bill. The Senate passed an identical measure yesterday.

In its action today, Congress gave the commission not only the power to compel witnesses to appear before it, but also to deny the witnesses the right to refuse to testify on the ground of possible self-incrimination.

However, under this authority, witnesses would also be immune to future prosecution as a result of any testimony they gave before the commission after claiming the Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination.