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# Warren Findings on Kennedy Backed by Autopsy Photo Study

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The only outsiders to view secret autopsy photographs have confirmed the Warren Commission findings that President John F. Kennedy was struck by two bullets fired from above and behind him when he was assassinated Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas, the Justice Department disclosed Thursday.

Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, with the approval of a representative of the Kennedy family, released the report of a four-man panel of doctors he appointed to study the photographs, X rays and clothing sealed in the U.S. archives in 1966.

Release of the report was connected with a court case in which New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison is seeking release of the autopsy photographs and X rays. Garrison has challenged the Warren Commission findings and has alleged that the Kennedy assassination was the result of a conspiracy.

Because of the path of the two bullets, the Warren Commission concluded that the President was killed by one man, Lee Harvey Oswald.

## Garrison Doesn't Agree

Garrison has contended that the autopsy material would prove President Kennedy was shot by more than one man and that the fatal head wounds resulted from shots fired from in front of the President.

So far as is known, no one but the naval doctors who performed the autopsy and the naval medical personnel at Bethesda Hospital who took the photographs and some members of the Warren Commission had ever examined this material. At the request of Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, the President's widow, the material was ordered sealed in the archives at least until 1971.

"Examination of the clothing and of the photographs and X rays taken at autopsy revealed that President Kennedy was struck by two bullets fired from above and behind him, one of which traversed the base of the neck on the right side without striking bone and the other of which entered the skull from behind and exploded its right side," the physi-

cians said in their report.

The report was released by the attorney general along with a statement from Burke Marshall, the former assistant attorney general in the Kennedy Administration who has acted for the Kennedy family since October, 1966, on all matters concerning autopsy material.

Marshall said, "I concluded that the report simply confirmed the autopsy report and saw no reason to concern members of the Kennedy family and did not do so."

Marshall visited Clark early Thursday. In his statement, he said he saw no reason to object to release of the report.

"I have since informed Mrs. Onassis and Sen. Edward Kennedy of this matter and they have both asked me to say that they will have no comment to make on the report or its release," Marshall said.

Clark released the report to General Sessions Judge Charles Halleck in reply to the judge's order for the director of the national archives to appear in his court today. Halleck ordered the director, Dr. James B. Rhoads, to explain why he should not cooperate with Garrison's investigation of an alleged conspiracy in the assassination.

The Justice Department asked the District of Columbia court to refuse to compel Dr. Rhoads to attend the conspiracy trial of Clay L. Shaw, a New Orleans businessman. Garrison has accused of conspiracy in the assassination. Shaw's trial is scheduled to begin Tuesday in New Orleans.

The department said the examination of the secret material was made Feb. 26 and 27, 1968, and the 16-page medical report written in April 1968.

The four doctors named by Clark to make the investigation were:

William H. Carnes, professor of pathology, University of Utah; Russell S. Fisher, professor for forensic pathology, University of Maryland, and chief medical examiner of Maryland; Russell H. Morgan, professor of radiology, Johns Hopkins Uni-

versity, and Alan R. Mor-

itz, professor of pathology, Case Western Reserve University.

Their report disclosed for the first time that X rays were not made of the entire body of the President, as stated in the official autopsy report.

"The panel's inventory disclosed X-ray films of the entire body except for the lower arms, wrists and hands and the lower legs, ankles and feet," the report said.

The panel said its joint examination supports the following conclusions:

"The decedent was wounded by two bullets, both of which entered his body from behind.

"One bullet struck the body of the decedent's head well above the external occipital protuberance. Based upon the observation that he was leaning forward with his head turned obliquely to the left when this bullet struck, the photographs and X rays indicate that it came from a site above and slightly to his right.

"This bullet fragmented after entering the cranium, one major piece of it passing forward and laterally to produce an explosive fracture of the right side of skull as it emerged from the head."

"The panel concluded that the absence of metallic fragments in the left cerebral hemisphere (of the brain) or below the level of the frontal fossa on the right together with absence of any hole in the skull to the left of the midline or in its base and the absence of any penetrating injury of the left hemisphere eliminate the possibility of a projectile having passed through the head in any direction other than from back to front."

"The other bullet struck the decedent's back at the right side of the base of the neck between the shoulder and the spine and emerged from the front of his neck near the midline," the panel said. "The possibility that this

bullet might have followed a pathway other than one passing through the site of tracheotomy wound was considered. No evidence for this was found."

tracheotomy performed on the President at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, where he was taken immediately after being shot.

The attorney general also made public a letter from one of the Navy doctors who performed the autopsy expressing the wish that an impartial board of experts examine the original autopsy findings.

The letter, dated Jan. 26, 1968, was from Dr. J. Thornton Boswell, who at the time was a commander in the Navy Medical Corps, and Chief of Pathology at the Naval Medical School.

"As you are aware," Boswell wrote, "the au-

topsy findings in the case of the late President John F. Kennedy, including X-rays and photographs, have been the subject of continuing controversy and speculation."

Boswell said that he and Dr. James J. Humes, who was in charge of the autopsy, "have felt for some time that an impartial board of experts, including pathologists and radiologists, should examine the available material."