

Auckland, 01/08/93

Dear Harold,

Herewith the copies you wished to see of the article in this morning's "Sunday Star". I am sending one complete issue of the paper so you will get an idea of what sort of newspaper the "Star" is. It sells throughout NZ on Sundays, some copies go out to the Pacific Islands and a few airlifted copies are sold across the Tasman on the eastern Australian seaboard.

I see now that the photo Donna Chisholm dug out of their photo library is indeed Dealey Plaza, but a very faint print. When I first looked at it I did not recognise it as a view looking out over one of the packing cases set up on the window sill.

I am also enclosing for your information a copy of the final version I submitted to Donna Chisholm early last week, along the lines she had asked me to rewrite it- cutting out the partisan comments and making it more like a book review with explanatory references to the wider questions raised by the Warren Commission Report. But as it turned out, she did not have enough space to print the whole thing so it was cut down even further. I tried and tried to get the part of the text referring to the removal of the sample from the lead core restored but she was adamant, it was not new material and there was not enough space.

If you would like to drop a short note of thanks to Jenny and to Donna, I think they would appreciate it. They took the time to listen to me, and then stuck their necks out a bit in deciding to print the story. Jenny Wheeler is the Editor, and Donna Chisholm is the Features Editor. They are very interested now in taking an article from me later in the year to mark the 30th anniversary of the assassination. If you can help me with any other photos from your own collection, especially a side view of the magic bullet, a copy of the Altgens photo, and the Mary Moorman polaroid shot, it would be very useful.

As you can imagine, I have been living this thing almost night and day for the last few weeks. I think Donna Chisholm must be sick of hearing my voice on the phone or getting the message at her desk I had arrived in reception again, either to talk to her or to hand over another version of the story (in all I handed in four drafts, each shorter than the last!).

It has all served to sharpen up my own perceptions of what happened, and I do not regret one second of the time I have spent working on this over the last few weeks.

I think now I have a much clearer idea of what may have happened in Dealey Plaza- minimum of four shots, first one fired from the front, enters JFK's neck above the collar and exits through his back, carries on and goes into the earth in Dealey Plaza, second fired from the Daltex building goes over Kennedy's head and strikes the kerb some 200 feet on, third fired from one of the nearside windows in the TSBD building and hits Connally, fragments

into small pieces in its passage through him, and the last shot is fired by the no.1 assassin who is positioned at the front and who has the job of firing again if Kennedy is not obviously dead. For this reason he now uses a ~~soft-nosed~~ bullet to make doubly sure. I think all shots must have been aimed at Kennedy's head, as the way of ensuring any wound would be a fatal wound. They would have known of the three empty shell cases planted in the TSB building up near the window with the book boxes, and would have assumed their three shots to be enough, one shot each. The no.1 assassin at the front would have been the top marksman, and the one to have had the job of shooting again if it was obvious the three shots had not killed Kennedy. This person must have had a semi-auto rifle with a very good wide angle telescopic sight. He would have had to keep his eye on Kennedy right from the time of the first to the last shot. He could not have taken his eye off Kennedy for one milli-second, and would not have been able to manually reload, and there would be a catcher on the rifle by the breach to hold any spent rounds ejected. This is all speculation I know, but I think this is a plausible scenario. It makes my blood run cold.

A couple of weeks ago I got hold of a library copy of Anthony Summers' new book, "Official and Confidential, The Secret Life of J. Edgar Hoover". I am very disappointed in Summers, in this new book he leans towards the theory that it was the Mafia behind the JFK assassination, with probably some help given by ~~renegade personnel~~ from the US intelligence gathering community, most likely the CIA. There is very little in the book I could recommend to you, save for one reference which I found significant (it is on p.370 if you wish to check it). Summers mentions that when Nixon took office Hoover warned him the phones in the White House were not secure, i.e. they were bugged, and also told Nixon that the presidential communications run by the US Army Army Signals Corps were not safe either, and that if he talked on those lines his calls would likely be monitored. If this was so in 1969, with Richard Nixon in the White House, how much more likely was it that Kennedy's phone lines and communications networks were bugged too?

You have not told me why you lean to the idea that it was US Military Intelligence behind the assassination. Was it because of what you can see through the period of the cover up, say from the time of the autopsy at Bethesda and onwards? Or was it something earlier? If you have the time, and the inclination, to talk to me about it I would be very interested to know what you think.

I accepted the very lowest figure Donna Chisholm said she could offer me for the article in the "Star", only \$NZ300, which equals \$US160, and I will send you a half share of this figure when I receive it.

bye for now,

with love and best wishes,

Jan.

COVER UP!

*This is the final draft  
Donna worked from  
last week!*

When John Connally, former Governor of Texas, died recently the subject of the assassination of John Kennedy in Dallas on 22nd November 1963 hit the news again. John Connally received a number of gunshot wounds while riding in the presidential limousine with Kennedy and he carried bullet fragments in his wounds for the rest of his life. If these fragments had been recovered and scientifically tested- weighed, measured and subjected to neutron analysis- some of the very disturbing question marks hanging over the official version of the assassination would have been answered.

The official government enquiry ordered by President Johnson was entrusted to a Commission headed by Earl Warren, then Chief Justice of the United States. The Commission concluded that one lone assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, had fired three shots at Kennedy and Connally from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository Building. The Warren Commission acknowledged the existence of only three bullets and deciding where these bullet ended up was crucial to its findings. One bullet missed completely, hitting a kerb 200 feet away. A second bullet was the fatal shot that struck the President in the brain. This left only the third bullet to account for all non-fatal wounds, a total of seven gunshot wounds, to Kennedy and to Connally. And herein lies the problem, to believe the Commission's report one must accept the theory of a 'magic bullet', so called by critics because of its apparently amazing variable trajectory. Most critics of the Warren Commission's findings highlighted evidence of other gunmen in Dealey Plaza, in what was a classic crossfire as the President moved down Elm Street. Any clues to support this possibility (which if proved would constitute a conspiracy) have long since gone, missed or passed over at the time. Critics now focus their attention on what contemporary evidence still survives in official records, and examining the role of government in suppressing any evidence that undermines the the official version, which after all this time is still the Warren Commission Report.

There has been a wealth of material published criticising the Commission report, the most telling being that which analysed in detail the Commission's work and the evidence behind its report. Other books have had authors attempting their own investigations or resorting to speculation in trying to resolve the many mysteries surrounding the assassination. Critics of the official report have been hampered from day one by the simple fact that the crime was not ever properly investigated. Right from the time Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested, accused of gunning down a Dallas police officer within an hour of Kennedy's assassination, it was accepted by those in authority, and hence in a position to influence the

investigation, that Lee Harvey Oswald was the lone assassin. Responsibility for investigating the assassination was given by President Johnson to the FBI, itself already implicated by early evidence that Oswald had been working for the FBI. Leads pointing to a conspiracy were not followed up, and the FBI along with the Commission concentrated its attention instead on any information that implicated Oswald. The failure to thoroughly investigate the crime, the glaring contradictions and inaccuracies in the official report, and the unwillingness of successive US administrations to answer criticism of its official report, point in the eyes of critics to a continuing coverup by the US Federal Government.

Foremost among those calling on the US government to remove the bullet fragments from Connally's body was Harold Weisberg, American author and leading critic of the Warren Commission report. Weisberg is well known in the USA as the individual who took on the might of the Federal Government through the courts in a number of lawsuits lodged under the Freedom of Information Act for access to secret documents relating to the assassination. So far he has managed to obtain copies of some third of a million once secret records, from minutes of secret sessions of the Warren Commission to files from the FBI. In one of his many lawsuits (for the recovery of the records of the assassination from the FBI's Dallas and New Orleans offices) the FBI acknowledged in court that Weisberg knew more about the assassination than anybody in the FBI, truly unique credentials for a private individual. Weisberg has just finished his eighth book on the subject, Never Again! The Government JFK Assassination Conspiracy, which is due soon for release in the USA.

This book touches on among other things evidence obtained by Weisberg under the Freedom of Information Act, including close up photos of the president's tie which are published for the first time, and the possible reason why bullet fragments were not taken from Connally's body.

The Warren Commission maintained the bullet that went through Connally had first entered Kennedy's neck from a point high on the back, virtually the base of his neck, and exited through the front of his neck, going through the knot of the tie and the shirt collar as it did so. The angle made by connecting these entry and exit points was aligned by the Commission with the sixth floor window where the shots were supposed to have come from. Anything that contradicted this line of fire would mean an altogether different angle and therefore some other position for the assassin. Unfortunately, any path made by the bullet through Kennedy's neck was not established by the autopsy surgeons who failed to 'track' it by dissecting the outer wounds and the area in between. This inexplicable omission placed more importance on other evidence put forward by the Commission, such as the bullet holes it claimed were in the shirt collar and the tie.

Weisberg's book also uses close up photos taken by the FBI showing the collar of the president's shirt, photos which the FBI did not show to the Commission. What these photos reveal are not bullet holes but two slits Weisberg claims are scalpel cuts. Weisberg points out they do not coincide as bullet holes would, and are not even the same length. He states they were made by a nurse with a scalpel as she cut Kennedy's tie away.

Paul Carrico, the only doctor in Dallas who had seen Kennedy's body before his clothing was cut away, was asked by Allen Dulles (former head of the CIA and one of the Commission members) to describe the location of the wound to the front of Kennedy's neck. Dulles asked Carrico twice, just to make sure. Each time Carrico told him it was above the shirt collar. Dulles repeated Carrico's own words put as a question, "above the shirt collar?" Carrico agreed. Reference to this evidence was left out of the Commission's report, like a lot of evidence that did not fit with the 'lone assassin' theory.

When Weisberg interviewed Carrico he not only confirmed that the President's tie had been cut off in what was a normal emergency procedure, he demonstrated it using his own tie. Carrico pulled the tie away from his body with his left hand and using an imaginary scalpel in his right hand he slashed at a point right next to the knot, first one cut upwards and then a second downwards to sever it. One of the two nurses working under Carrico in Trauma Room 1 at Parkland hospital did just that with Kennedy's tie, and on each cutting stroke the shirt immediately below the tie knot was nicked by the razor-sharp tip of a scalpel.

The commission also claimed the bullet had passed through the tie knot, and referred to a hole in the tie as proof this was so. What Harold Weisberg found when he obtained close up photos of the tie, and was able to examine the tie which is now in the US National Archives in Washington, were two nicks, neither of which were bullet holes and neither of which had penetrated the tie. One nick to the knot was made by the nurse's scalpel, in the extreme top left hand corner as it was worn, and the other was made by the FBI who removed a sample of tie material for spectrographic analysis. This was in itself no great secret, the FBI's spectrographic analysis had confirmed no traces of a bullet had been found on either shirt collar or tie (though spectrographic analysis had confirmed the passage of a bullet in other holes consistent with Kennedy's wound in the back). The commission lawyer who wrote up this part of the report, Arlen Specter, left out any mention of the FBI spectrographic analysis and instead referred to the slits in the shirt collar and the hole in the tie as evidence of a bullet exiting at that point.

That the FBI tampered with the evidence is plain, they undid and re-knotted the tie with their own hole (made when the sample piece was cut out) moved closer to the centre and

photographed to make it look more like a bullet hole. (This is apparent by looking at an earlier photo showing the tie in a composite photo of all Kennedy's clothing.) In a black and white photo one cannot tell the white background under the 'hole' is the intact white lining material inside the tie.

The importance of the bullet fragments still in Connally's body is that they have a lot to say on the theory of the so-called 'magic' bullet. This near pristine bullet was held responsible for all seven non-fatal wounds to Kennedy and Connally. The 'magic' bullet was found by a Dallas hospital engineer on a theatre trolley in a corridor long after the events in the emergency rooms. No evidence was ever produced that connected this particular trolley with Connally (or with Kennedy either), yet the bullet had to have come from Connally to fit the theory of the 'magic' bullet. When the FBI examined this almost unmarked bullet they found it had been wiped clean of any surface residues of human blood and tissue or traces left by fibres from clothing material, something never explained. This one bullet was supposed to have gone through the President's neck high up on his right shoulder without touching any bones, exiting through his collar and tie, then at a speed greater than sound executed manoeuvres like nothing in science or mythology, turning sharply downwards and to the right to enter Connally's chest under his right armpit and smashing four inches of his fifth rib before coming out under the right nipple, from there dipping sharply downward to smash the heavy bones in his right wrist, after which partially exhausted it penetrated his left thigh just under the skin where it came to a stop after about three inches.

This bullet, showing almost no distortion in profile, lost little weight in its passage through two bodies. This is where the bullet fragments in Connally's body would figure today. Their combined weight alone could destroy the evidence used to produce the 'magic' bullet theory. The FBI testified the total weight loss (compared to its unfired state) was a mere "two and a half grains". The miniscule amount at issue here can be understood if one realises it takes 480 grains to make one ounce. Thus the 'magic' bullet lost about the weight of a postage stamp. A 1968 panel of medical experts who looked at Kennedy's autopsy film and X-rays reported there were bullet fragments in Kennedy's neck. There were as well fragments left in all of Connally's wounds, where they still rest today. In addition to what remained in Connally's body, there were bullet particles washed out of his smashed wrist in the first emergency treatment and not kept. What was recovered later in surgery was kept and handed over to the FBI who dispute the quantity and weight of fragments Parkland Hospital staff claim they passed over. If just the weight of fragments still in Connally's body by themselves were greater than the two and a half grains the FBI calculated had been lost from the 'magic' bullet, then it would point to another bullet being involved.

There is now no chance to compare the fragments still in Connally's body with specimens removed from him in surgery in 1963 and kept by the FBI for analysis, because the original fragments have all disappeared. This was revealed in 1978 when the House of Representatives Committee set up to investigate the JFK and Martin Luther King assassinations was hearing testimony from Dr Vincent Guinn, an expert in neutron activation analysis. In answer to a question put to him by Floyd Fithian, a committee member, Dr Guinn admitted that the bullet fragments he was given by the US National Archives for testing, identified as the fragments removed from Connally's wrist in Parkland Hospital, did not match those fragments originally tested by the FBI in 1964. He said, "the fragments which the FBI tested in 1964 have all disappeared.....where they are I have no idea."

Harold Weisberg has one possible explanation for the mystery of where the pieces given to Dr Guinn may have come from, and he explores the implications of this theory in his new book. When Weisberg examined the 'magic' bullet in the National Archives he found the only visible loss of mass was from the open face of the lead core at its base (see photo), the result of the FBI cutting out a piece for testing. These tests were carried out by FBI Special Laboratory Agent John F. Gallagher, a ballistics expert. The amount of lead core removed was far more than was ever needed for testing, as Gallagher admitted in court when he was deposed by Weisberg in a 1975 civil action. What happened to the larger part of the bullet removed but not needed for testing? It is not known. Weisberg asks the question, were the samples given to Dr Guinn in 1978 taken from the missing piece of the 'magic' bullet cut out by the FBI in 1964.

The terrible questions surrounding the assassination of John F. Kennedy remain with us. For many years US public opinion polls have shown the great majority of Americans do not accept the findings of the Warren Commission. What this means is that most Americans believe there was a conspiracy to kill the President of the United States, and that this crime remains unsolved. It means most Americans accept there was, and has been ever since, a coverup orchestrated by the government to protect the identities of those involved in the conspiracy to assassinate the President of the United States. The most recent episode in this long history of coverup has been the failure to recover the bullet fragments from the body of John Connally. More chillingly, if this scenario is true, it means that for years now there must have been many Americans in positions of trust who have either become accomplices in the coverup or who have remained silent as part of a policy ensuring what has been called the crime of the century will not be investigated. The last word belongs to Harold Weisberg who says, "that awful crime of silence, when men must not be mute."

by Dal McGuirk, Auckland Military Historian and Teacher who shares Harold Weisberg's interest and concern over the implications of the JFK assassination, has studied the assassination for the last two years and carries on a correspondence with Harold Weisberg on the subject.

PHOTO CREDITS:

1. FBI Photo
- 2/3 US National Archives

Captions:

1. The bloodstained shirt worn by President Kennedy showing the two slits caused by a nurse cutting off the tie with a scalpel
2. Base of the so-called magic bullet showing the cavity left after the FBI removed a larger sample than it needed for scientific testing
3. The President's tie showing the nick in the top corner made by the nurse's scalpel, and the larger hole made by the FBI when they removed a piece of material for spectographic analysis.





# COVER-UP

## JFK mystery far from over

When former Texas Governor John Connally died recently, the last remaining evidence of President John F. Kennedy's assassination was buried with him. But Auckland military historian Dal McGillik, who has studied the case for the last two years, reveals re-examination of existing evidence may yet shed light on what really happened on November 22, 1963.

**M**ORE evidence to disprove the official version of the Kennedy assassination will be revealed in a new book soon to be released in the United States.

The book, *Never Again: The Government JFK Assassination Conspiracy*, is by American author Harold Weisberg, a leading critic of the Warren Commission's findings and a man acknowledged by the FBI to know more about the assassination than anyone in the FBI itself.

So far, Weisberg has obtained about 330,000 once secret records, from minutes of secret sessions of the Warren Commission to FBI files, through law suits lodged under the Freedom of Information Act.

The Warren Commission maintained the bullet that went through Connally had first entered Kennedy's neck from a point high on the back, virtually at the base of his neck, and exited through the front of his neck, going through the knot of the tie and the shirt collar as it did so. Weisberg contends the entry wound was at the front of the neck, the exit wound in the back, between the shoulderblades.

The angle made by connecting these entry and exit points was alleged by the commission with the sixth floor window from where Lee Harvey Oswald allegedly fired the shot.

Anything that contradicted this line of fire would mean an altogether different angle and therefore some other position for the assassin.

Unfortunately, any path made by the bullet through Kennedy's neck was not established by the autopsy surgeons who failed to "track" it by dissecting the outer wounds and the area in between. This neglectable omission placed more importance on other evidence put forward by the commission, such as the bullet holes it claimed were in the shirt collar and tie.

What Weisberg found when he obtained close up photos of the tie, and was able to examine the tie which is now in the US National Archives in Washington, were two nicks, neither of which were bullet holes and neither of which had penetrated the tie. One nick was made by the nurse's scalpel, in the extreme top left corner, and the other by the FBI who removed a sample of the material for spectrographic analysis.

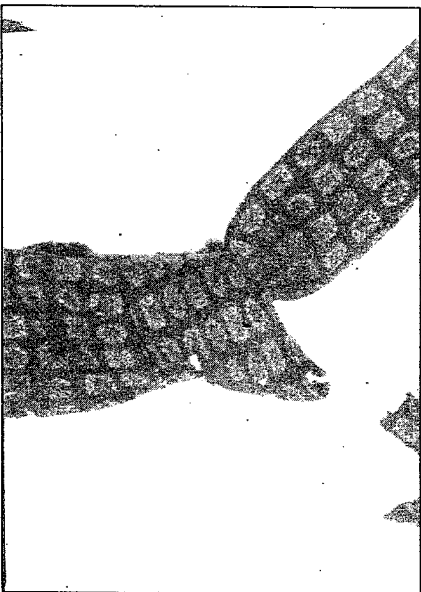
That analysis confirmed no traces of a bullet had been found on either shirt collar or tie. The commission lawyer who wrote up this part of the report, left out any mention of the spectrographic analysis, instead referring to the slits in the collar and tie as "evidence of a bullet exiting at that point."

Weisberg's evidence proves the bullet that went through Kennedy's neck could not have been fired from the sixth floor sniper's perch where Oswald was supposed to have fired from.

That the FBI tampered with the evidence is plain. They undid and re-knotted the tie with their own hole (made when the sample piece was cut out) moved closer to the centre and photographed it to make it look more like a bullet hole.

The bullet fragments still in Connally's body have a lot to say on the theory of the so-called "magic bullet". This near pristine bullet was held responsible for all seven non-fatal wounds to Kennedy and Connally.

The "magic bullet" was found by a Dallas hospital engineer on a theatre trolley in a corridor long after the events in the emergency room. Weisberg says, "This one bullet was supposed to have gone through the president's neck high up on his right shoulder without touching any bones, exiting through his collar and tie, then at a speed



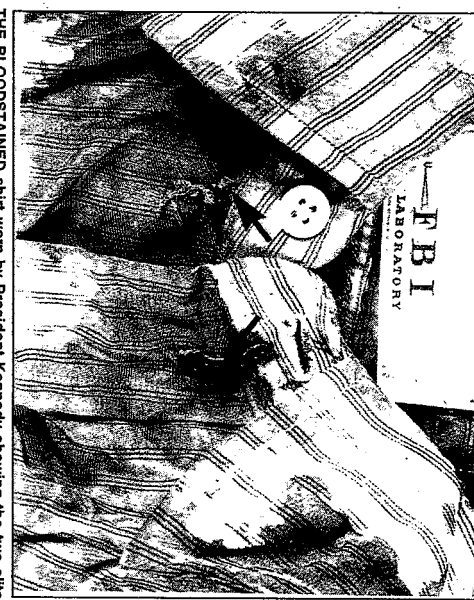
THE PRESIDENT'S tie showing the nick in the top corner made by the nurse's scalpel, and the larger hole made by the FBI when it removed a piece of material for analysis

evidence that did not fit in with the "one bullet" theory.

When Weisberg interviewed Carro he had been out off in a normal emergency procedure, but demonstrated how it was done using his own tie. He pulled it away from his body with his left hand and using an imaginary scalpel in his right, slashed at a point next to the knot, first one cut upwards and a second downwards to sever it.

One of the two nurses working under Carro at Parkland Hospital did just that stroke the shirt immediately below the tie knot was nicked by the razor-sharp scalpel.

The commission also claimed the bullet had passed through the tie knot and referred to a hole in the tie as proof this was



THE BLOODSTAINED shirt worn by President Kennedy showing the two slits caused by a nurse cutting off the tie with a scalpel



THE VIEW from the window from which the FBI said the shots were fired

greater than sound, executed manoeuvres like nothing in science or mythology, turning sharply downwards and to the right to enter Connally's chest under his right armpit and smashing four inches of his fifth rib before coming out under the right nipple. From there dipping sharply down to smash the heavy bones in his right wrist, after which, partially exhausted, it penetrated his left thigh just under the skin where it came to a stop after about three inches.

This bullet, showing almost no distortion in profile, lost little weight in its passage through two bodies. The combined weight of the fragments in Connally's body could destroy the "magic bullet theory". The reason Weisberg contends the failure to recover the bullet fragments from Connally's body is one more episode in the long history of the cover-up surrounding Kennedy's assassination.