

RELEASED PER P.L. 102-526 (JFK ACT);
NARA #J DATE 01/29/11

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Malley

RC 65
Box 110
Folder 33A

Mr. Conrad

Gr

To:

Mr. Jesse E. Curry
Chief of Police
Dallas, Texas

Inventory sheet

March 31, 1964

I W. CONRAD

Airmail

RC 65 -

#6

FBI Investigation, FBI Hq.

*Confirms
Lucas
match of
Tippit
skull to
HBO's pistol*

This examination has been made with the understanding that the evidence is connected with an official investigation of a criminal matter and that the Laboratory report will be used for official purposes only, related to the investigation or a subsequent criminal prosecution. Authorization cannot be granted for the use of the Laboratory report in connection with a civil proceeding.

Re:

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
NOVEMBER 22, 1963, DALLAS,
TEXAS; MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION
CONCERNING

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

YOUR NO.
FBI FILE NO.
LAB. NO.

62-109060
PC-79846 BX HB

Examination requested by:

FBI, Dallas

Reference:

Letter from FBI, Dallas dated 3/14/64

Examination requested:

Firearms - Spectrographic

Specimens:

Evidence listed on attached page received from FBI, Dallas on 3/16/64

1 - FBI, Dallas (100-10461) Enclosures (6)

Note to FBI, Dallas on Page 4.

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Results of examination:

The Q381 bullet is a caliber .38 Special copper-coated lead bullet of Winchester-Downs manufacture. This bullet weighs 154.1 grains and was fired from a barrel rifled with five lands and grooves, right twist.

The Q382 bullet is a caliber .38 Special lead bullet of Winchester-Downs manufacture. This bullet weighs 154.8 grains. It was fired from a barrel rifled with five lands and grooves, right twist.

The Q383 bullet is a copper-coated lead bullet of Winchester-Downs manufacture. This bullet weighs 155.7 grains and was fired from a barrel rifled with five lands and grooves, right twist.

A portion of the surface of each bullet, Q381, Q382 and Q383, is indented; however, microscopic marks remain on these bullets for comparison purposes. The Q381, Q382 and Q383 obtained from Smith's revolver, C15, the .38 Special Smith and Wesson revolver, Model 25, Serial Assembly No. 62640, No. 62645 were fired from the same weapon or whether or not they were fired from C15. In addition, it was found that even consecutive .38 Special bullets that fired from the C15 revolver could not be identified with each other. In this connection, it should be noted that the barrel of C15 was designed for .38 S & W bullets and, therefore, it is slightly larger in diameter than barrels designed for .38 Special bullets. Firing of undersized bullets could cause erratic passage of the bullets down the barrel, resulting in individual microscopic characteristics which are not consistent. The barrel of the weapon could also be changing due to the accumulation of lead in the barrel or to wear. That one or both of the above conditions existed is apparent from the fact that consecutive .38 Special test bullets obtained from the C15 revolver could not be identified with each other.

Smith and Wesson revolvers such as C15 are among the weapons producing general rifling characteristics of the type found on Q381, Q382 and Q383.

The lead alloy of the Q381, Q382 and C15 (the first case) Winchester-Downs copper-coated bullets was spectrographically

*Q381, Q382, Q383
Smith's Revolver
C15
Smith and Wesson
Model 25
Serial Assembly No. 62640, No. 62645*

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examined. This lead alloy was found to be qualitatively similar in composition to the lead-ANTONIN the Western copper-coated bullets in the C51, C52, C53, C54, C57, C58, C59 and C137 cartridges. It is noted that these cartridges were among those obtained from the C15 revolver, Lee Harvey Oswald's pocket and the U. S. Secret Service.

The lead alloy comprising the C552 Remington-Peters bullet was spectrographically examined and found to be qualitatively similar in composition to the lead alloy comprising the Remington-Peters bullets in the C53, C54 and C138 cartridges, the remaining cartridges from the above sources.

Specimens C51 through C552 are being retained in the FBI Laboratory.

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT
TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

Note to FBI, Dallas:

This report confirms and supplements the teletype report sent to your office on March 26, 1964.

The President's Commission has been advised by letter dated March 27, 1964, of the results of the examinations set forth in this report. Therefore, your office does not have to prepare this information for dissemination to the Commission.

The President's Commission was also furnished with photographs of the three bullets and it therefore will not have to be furnished photographs by your office. Attached for your use are two copies each of the three photographs.

100-10491 Spectrometry (6)

Note to CIA, Dallas on Page 4.