

12-52265FK ACD
DATE 7/16/10

NARA EW

3

[Redacted]

What RC 2. Ms. Trazies

Key Doc #106

Mr. Conrad

February 27, 1964

R. H. Jevons

Box Log B
RC 6/5

File - NAA
Testimony

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R

Dr. Vincent P. Quinn, head of the Neutron Activation Analyses Section of General Atomic Division, General Dynamics Corporation, San Diego, California, and his associates have been studying methods of detection of powder residues by neutron activation analyses for the past few years. They have received contracts from the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) to conduct research on this matter. Until the assassination of President Kennedy all their research work was conducted on residues left from the firing of hand weapons.

Today Dr. Vincent P. Quinn called the FBI Laboratory and spoke to SA John F. Gallagher. His call was incoming from Chicago, Illinois. He advised that since the assassination a large part of their efforts have been directed to the determination of powder residues on paraffin casts taken from the hands and cheeks of individuals who have shot a rifle similar to the one reportedly owned by Lee Harvey Oswald. He advised that there appears that triple firing of this rifle will leave unambiguous positive tests every time on the paraffin casts. It further appears that washing the casts with diphenylbenzidine does remove one of the characteristic elements (barium) but such washings do not remove all of the other characteristic element in powder residues (antimony).

Further he advised that the tests to date indicate that powder residues are deposited on both cheeks of the shooter after the rifle is fired either one time or three times.

It appears, he added, that these results can be obtained even if the paraffin casts are made 2 1/2 hours after shooting the rifle providing that the skin of the shooter had not been washed in the meantime.

105-82555

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

JFG:ham
(11)

12-526 JFK ACO

NARA EW

DATE 7/16/10

Memorandum to Mr. Conrad

Re: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

IS - R

105-82355

He inquired if any information could be furnished him relating to the actual casts from Oswald. He stated he read about these casts in the newspapers but has no way to confirm the stories. SA Gallagher advised he was not at liberty to discuss this matter. Dr. Guinn asked who in Dallas might be knowledgeable on this subject. He was advised that he could not be given any information relative to these casts at this time.

ACTION: None. For information.