

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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FINCK  
SEE P. 8  
IITCP PHOTO  
OCCIP WOUND INCIDENT  
OUTSIDE

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

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Various correspondence collected over the years by Dr. Finck and sent to the HSCA. Box #:121.

P 9 - BRAIN WT = 1500 gms  
NO CORONALS  
TO PRESERVE THE SPECIMEN  
12 - PERFORATIONS OF THE SHIRT IN THE ANTERIOR PORTION BELOW COLLAR BUTTON ARE TYPICAL FOR AN EXIT WOUND.

? P. 13 - NYT CONTINUOUS  
P. 15 - PRINTS OF Z FILM  
SHOW JFK SLUMPED FORWARD CONSISTENT SHOT FROM REAR

P. 13 - EXIT WOUND TEMPORAL-PARIETAL-OCCIPITAL BONE

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Select Committee on Assassinations

U.S. House of Representatives

3342 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ANNEX 2

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

FEB 16 1978

Dr. Pierre A. Finck  
Avenue Dorbaix 14  
Brussels, Belgium 1180

Dear Dr. Finck:

This is to confirm our phone conversation during which you accepted our request that you come to the United States at our expense to be available for questioning by our medical experts and staff during the weekend of March 11 and 12, 1978.

At your request, we have made reservations for you at the Skyline Inn (South Capitol and 10 Eye Street, SW) for March 7 through 13. You indicated that you would make your own plane reservations. As we discussed, we will reimburse you for the expenses you incur which are related to your appearance. Expenses reimbursable by the Committee include coach air fare, ground transportation to and from Committee meetings, and \$50 per diem to offset other expenses incurred, such as room rental (\$34.56/day), meals, etc., for March 10, 11 and 12.

We would like you to definitely plan to be available for an appearance before our medical panel on Saturday, March 11, at 1:30 p.m. at the National Archives Building. In addition, I would like you to call me when you are settled in Washington, D.C. to discuss a possible staff questioning on Friday, March 10, and/or Sunday, March 12, and to discuss the procedure and room number for Saturday's meeting.

Please bring any records, notes, diagrams, documents, articles or recordings you may have made in connection with or subsequent to the autopsy.

If you have any questions, please feel free to write or call me collect. I look forward to meeting you and hope you have a pleasant trip.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



Donald A. Purdy, Jr.  
Staff Counsel-JFK Task Force

DAP:am

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The Warren Commission

On 16 March 1964, I went to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Building, 200 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, DC, with Cdrs. Humes and Boswell. We reported at ~~1000~~ 1100 hours to Mr. Arlen Specter, Attorney at law from Philadelphia, who was Counsel to the <sup>Warren</sup> Commission appointed by President Johnson to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy.

Mr. Specter told us that the Attorney General, Mr. Robert Kennedy, did not make available to the Commission, the x rays films and the photographs taken before and during the autopsy of President Kennedy. ( I had seen the x ray films in the autopsy room of the Bethesda Naval Hospital ). The autopsy photographs taken before and during the autopsy were turned over to the Secret Service in the Autopsy Room and none of the prosecutors ever saw the processed photographs.

Mr. Specter showed to us the clothing worn by President Kennedy, the bullet recovered from the stretcher of Governor Connally and two fragments of bullets, all showing a copper jacket and all fired by Oswald's rifle. I also had the opportunity to see the ballistics report addressed by J. Edgar Hoover, FBI Director, to the President's Commission, dated 11 March 1964.

CLOTHING : There is a hole in the back of the President's coat, a portion of which was removed by FBI Lab for Fibers study. <sup>the</sup> Hole is approximately 15 cm below the upper edge of the collar, to the right. Another hole is found immediately below the collar taken by FBI Lab agents, for fiber control study.

The shirt of President Kennedy, white with brown stripes, <sup>and</sup> ~~with~~ a Park Avenue Shirt shop label, showed abundant blood in the back and front. There is a bullet hole, in the back and to the right, at 15 cm from the upper edge of the collar. Immediately below the upper button of the front is a bullet ~~hole~~ hole perforating both flaps of the shirt, right and left. There is dry blood on the margins of both holes. The innermost hole reveals fibers directed ~~outwards~~ outward, which indicates an exit perforation.

The outermost hole also shows this outward orientation of the bloody shirt fibers, but to a lesser extent. These two anterior holes below the collar button correspond to the exit wound found by the Dallas surgeon at Parkland Hospital and which was extended for tracheotomy purposes. Dallas records also show that

trachea had been lacerated by the bullet.  
did not have this information at the time of the autopsy.

he tie worn by Kennedy, a blue x silk tie labeled " Monsieur " Christian Dior, shows a tear of the cloth to the left side of the knot and corresponding to the two anterior holes of the shirt. The tie knot was not perforated but glanced by the bullet, which is indicated by the fact that there is no perforation; the white padding of the tie is visible and the blue cloth on the internal aspect of the knot is intact, which indicates a tangential path, in relation to the tie knot (on the left side).

BALLISTICS REPORT FROM FBI : Ammunition used by Oswald ~~was~~ 6.5 mm Mannlicher copper jacketed bullet. Muzzle velocity approx 2100 feet per second, kinetic energy 1600 foot-pounds. ( I am quoting figures from memory. I read this report on 16-March and I am typing these additional notes on 17-March-1964 ). Bullet wt 161 grains.

FBI REPORT ON CLOTHING : Perforations of the shirt in the anterior portion below the collar button are TYPICAL FOR AN EXIT WOUND. ( I wish we had had that information at the time of autopsy ).

My examination of the MISSILES :

1. One copper jacketed bullet, consistent with 6.5 mm caliber. Approximately 30 mm in length. ( I was told not to touch this bullet. FBI wants to perform more ballistic tests and does not want the missiles to be handled by someone else. ) The bullet shows rifle markings with twist to the right. The bullet is fully jacketed and kept its original shape. There is only one area of discoloration of the jacket on the nose, showing a flattened pale area, probably corresponding to impact with bone or some hard surface. ~~The bullet~~  
It is possible that this bullet passed through Kennedy and Connally.
2. One portion of distorted copper jacket, approx 20 mm in diameter.
3. One portion of copper jacketed bullet, approx x 6.5 mm in diameter

testified that Kennedy was shot from behind and above.

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one bullet entered in the back, at 14 cm from the right acromion and at 14 cm from the right mastoid process, produced ecchymosis

of the dome of the parietal pleura on the right and came out in the anterior neck below the larynx, without injuring bone. ( X rays

had ruled out bone injuries along bullet path ). The same bullet may have perforated the body of Governor Connally, fracturing one of his ribs. Bullet found on his stretcher.

Another bullet struck Kennedy in the back of the head, at 25 mm to the right of his external occipital protuberance and slightly above. The bullet produced many fragments and ~~and~~ an exit wound of 13 cm in the right temporal-parietal-occipital bone. Many metallic fragments were seen on the x rays but only <sup>one</sup> ~~one~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ recovered in the right frontal cerebral hemisphere, elongated and black, representing ~~at the most~~ one tenth of the bullet mass.

*W. W. R. R. R. R.*

*W. W. R. R. R. R.*

Members of the President's Commission present in the Room were :

Chief Justice Warren, <sup>E. W. 72,</sup> Allen Dulles, <sup>W. 70,</sup> former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, ~~Senator Cooper, Congressman Ford.~~

Kentucky's Republican Senator John Sherman Cooper, 62;

Michigan's / Republican Congressman Gerald Ford, 50;

John J. McCloy, 68, one time US High Commissioner in West Germany.

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I explained to the Commission on what basis I could identify entry and exit wounds in the skull. I brought with me a scheme I had prepared before the assassination

of Kennedy, for teaching purposes, to show how to identify entry and exit in flat bones and glass-paned ~~structures~~ *As exhibit*

My scheme, ~~AEPP No. 2163-1025~~, was admitted as exhibit by Chief Justice Warren, as Commission Exhibit 400.

~~Same scheme was also submitted for publication 30 Jan 64.~~

March 1964, I also had the opportunity to examine color prints,

approximately 10 x 20 cm, stamped "US Secret Service, Washington, DC "

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the back and made xxx from the only color film taken at the time

of Kennedy's Assassination. An amateur had taken for a few

seconds the scene of the murder and sold it to Life magazine for

\$ 40,000. Color prints, made from this 8 mm color film, clearly

show how Kennedy slumped forward, from a sitting position in the presidential car. The last frame does not show Kennedy, completely

slumped forward, but his wife Jacqueline climbing on the trunk of the

car in order to seek help for her befallen husband.

This sequence of photographs is consistent with a first bullet hitting Kennedy in the back and a second one striking him in the head, both

from behind.

~~As that had been seen  
March 6-11-64~~

On 23 March 1964, I learned from an FBI Agent ~~of the Fire Arms Unit~~ that the Warren Commission had asked the FBI to keep all the Exhibits of the Commission, due to lack of storage facilities on the floor occupied by the Commission in the VFW Building. The agent told me that he was in possession of the drawings made at the National Naval Medical Center, in two days, before ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ the testimony of the prosecutors, by a Navy Enlisted Man, and showing the wounds of Kennedy. He also had Commission Exhibit 400, the scheme demonstrating a perforating missile wound of the skull, that I had submitted to the Commission. All evidence and related material connected with Kennedy's assassination and kept by the FBI Fire Arms Unit occupied four cabinets <sup>2 each</sup> 77 x 36 x 18 inches.

(195 x 71 x 45  
Continuation)



Tuesday 14 April 1964

At the request of the Warren Commission, I appeared again today before the commission, for a hearing.

I spent five hours at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Building, 200 Maryland Ave. NE.

Individuals present were : Mr Specter, Mr Rankin, Mr Eisenberg, counselo to the Commission; FBI and Secret Service Agents; Cdrs. Humes and Boswell; Drs. F.W. Light and O. Yivier, from the US Army Arsenal, Edgewood, Md.

I saw a copy of the 8 mm color film taken by an amateur and sold to Life Magazine for \$ 40,000. I saw the movie several times, at 18 frames per second and at slow motion.  
I also saw the 35 mm color lantern slides made from this movie.

The movie and the slides show President slumping forward after being hit in the back. Then, it seems that Governor Connally has a spastic expression on his face, as he had been hit. His thigh is not visible and there is no evidence that blood appeared on his ~~struck~~ right wrist. Then came the shot through Kennedy's head. *Stricken*

I had the opportunity to examine the clothing of Governor Connally. The Governor will come to Washington this month. He is Governor of Texas and was injured when Kennedy was killed.

Connally's clothing reveals :

COAT : One hole in the back, on the right, at mid distance between the upper edge and the lower edge of the right shoulder seam, close to the seam., at approximately 20 cm from the upper edge of the collar.

One hole in the right anterior portion, at approximately 30 cm from the collar.

One ~~perforating~~ hole of the anterior edge of the wright wrist.

TROUSERS : One ~~perforating~~ hole, anterior, left knee. *Just to / perforator*

SHIRT : Shows dry brown discoloration ( probably blood ). Shirt was cleaned and pressed before being sent to the ~~Commission~~ Investigators ! Holes in back and front, larger than in the coat. Some holes seem to have been enlarged with scissors' cuts.

One ~~perforating~~ hole in right cuff. *Trousers*

( I did not have the opportunity to make exact measurements of coat, or shirt and I am writing from memory, within two hours following my return from the Commission ).

I also examined the replica of the 6.5 mm Italian short rifle that killed Kennedy. Attached to it was a Japanese optical device, magnifying four times, and similar to the sight used by Oswald.

The FBI made an excellent small scale reproduction of the buildings of Dallas, representing the scene of the assassination.

P. A. FINCK

Summary

1230 hours

President Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas, on 22 Nov 63 and ~~was pronounced dead at a Dallas Hospital 30 minutes after the~~

~~shooting. It is possible that he arrived dead at the hospital.~~

The murderer had fired three shots from a sixth floor window, killing the <sup>ident</sup> President and injuring the Texas Governor, Mr. Connally.

The President's car was going down a curve at approximately 15 MPH when the ~~shots were~~ first shot was fired. ~~He~~ Mr Kennedy brought one hand to his throat and

slumped. ~~It is not known~~ From the examination of the perforating wounds of head and neck, ~~the~~ <sup>may have come</sup> bullets ~~were~~ from behind and above the president. ~~The sequence of injuries cannot be determined.~~

The comminuted fractures of the cranial base and vault, the deep laceration of the right cerebral hemisphere, ~~the perforating wound of the neck were~~

<sup>non</sup> survivable injuries. Witnesses state that the president did not ~~pronounce~~ <sup>say a word</sup> after the first shot and never regained consciousness. <sup>head wound</sup> Whole body radiologic survey revealed no bullets in the cadaver.

There were numerous metallic fragments in the <sup>right</sup> sagittal plane of the head. Formalin fixed brain weighed 1500 grams and showed a severe laceration right sagittal laceration of the ~~white matter in the~~ cerebral hemisphere. Arteries of the brain and heart showed no plaques.

was admitted in the emergency room of Parkland Hospital, in Dallas, at 1243 hours and was pronounced dead at 1300 hours, in the emergency room.