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Shaw
Walker

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

March 23, 1964

By Courier Service

REC'D-READING ROOM
MAR 23 4 13 PM '64
F. B. I.

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, Northeast
Washington, D. C.

S. B. Ryan

Teague

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to your letter dated March 13, 1964, concerning the reasons for the opinion that holes in the clothing of President Kennedy were either "entrance holes" or "exit holes."

The hole in the back of the coat and the hole in the back of the shirt were in general, circular in shape and the ends of the torn threads around the holes were bent inward. These characteristics are typical of bullet entrance holes.

The hole in the front of the shirt was a ragged slitlike hole and the ends of the torn threads around the hole were bent outward. These characteristics are typical of an exit hole for a projectile.

A small elongated nick was present in the left side of the knot of the tie. This nick may have been caused by the projectile after it passed through the front of the shirt. No additional observations relative to the nick could be made due to the characteristics of the nick.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

[Handwritten signatures]

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