

J. Lee Rankin Papers  
RC 200 (Box 1)  
Folder 16

JOHN J. McCLOY  
ONE CHASE MANHATTAN PLAZA  
NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

Re: S-P Theory

McCloy file

June 24, 1964

CONFIDENTIAL

See McCloy's comments  
w/ 4/30 Ex. Sec. on  
we's task -

Dear Lee:

Herewith my notes on Chapters Two and Three. I think Chapter Two is better done than Chapter Three but Chapter Three is a more difficult chapter to write and a much more important one.

I think too much effort is expended on attempting to prove that the first bullet which hit the President was also responsible for all Connally's wounds. The evidence against this is not fully stated and the section on the possibility of shots from the overpass is not well done. In many respects, this chapter is the most important chapter in the Report and it should be the most convincing considering the evidence we have.

I am going over the other chapters as rapidly as possible.

Sincerely,

*John*

Enclosures

Honorable J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel  
President's Commission on the Assassination  
of President Kennedy  
200 Maryland Avenue, N.E.  
Washington, D. C.

Use McCloy's  
own comments  
about a conspiracy  
Use the conflict  
- see USF's  
docs. as presented  
in NY Times

RELEASED PER P.L. 102-506 (JFK ACT)  
NARA WDP DATE 7/8/00

Matter Discussed

46            Top            "At the end of their longest day" is schmaltz and should be omitted from an historical record.

Chapter Three: THE SHOTS FROM THE TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY

The following are comments which come to mind upon reading the draft of Chapter Three. Some comments concern the substance while others relate to matters of style. A third category of comments relating directly to grammar have been pencilled into the draft itself.

<u>Pages</u>		<u>Matter Discussed</u>
2	Middle	The wording of the last sentence of paragraph one is awkward. The thought might be better stated "various ballistic tests confirm that the type of weapon found in the Book Depository and the bullets it uses cause wounds with the same characteristics as those received by President Kennedy and Governor Connally."
2	Middle	Might other weapons cause wounds with similar characteristics? If not, it should be made clear that this combination of weapon and ammunition is the only one that could have inflicted the wounds suffered by President Kennedy and Governor Connally. <i>Does not this attempt to prove too much?</i>
2	Middle	Paragraph two, what "report" is meant

<u>Pages</u>		<u>Matter Discussed</u>
37	Middle	Why is there no citation or exhibit number regarding President Kennedy's clothing.
47	Middle	The argument concerning the bullet which was found on the stretcher is not particularly persuasive because there is no indication that the "stretcher bullet" was in fact the bullet which caused the wrist wound
47	Bottom	Line five in paragraph two needs reworking. The thought might better be stated "the weight of the whole bullet prior to firing was approximately 160 or 161 grains, that of the recovered bullet 158.6. The metallic substances found in the Governor's wrist were so minute that they might well have come from the recovered bullet."
48	Top	Who were the doctors who attended Governor Connally?
48	Top	The use of the word "tumbled" is misleading. <i>perhaps also given in other uses</i>
48	Bottom	With regard to the possibility that one of the bullets wounded both President Kennedy and Governor Connally, cf., the testimony of Mrs. Connally where she discusses hearing the second shot which she says struck her husband (Chapter Two, page 23); also the evidence of the motion pictures
55	Middle	It might be better to say "no bullet struck any part of the interior of the Presidential car aside from the windshield frame as already discussed."
58	Top	The word "tumbling" is misleading. <i>see above.</i>
60	Middle	It would be well to identify the qualifications of the Army wound ballistic experts
63	Middle	The paragraph headed "Time Span" doesn't make any sense <i>grammatically.</i> <i>see to</i>

<u>Pages</u>		<u>Question</u>	<u>Matter Discussed</u>
63	Bottom	The use of the word "acoustics" is <del>incorrect</del> <sup>in this connection</sup>	
64	Top	Is the description "the smashing of hot gases" the most accurate description that can be used?	
65	Bottom	Why is there no citation with regard to Agent Bennett's comments?	
66	Middle	With regard to Mrs. Connally's testimony, cf., Chapter Two, page 23 the description given by Agent Greer who testified that he turned at the second shot and saw Governor Connally as he was hit	
68	Middle	Why not give some examples of the witnesses who testified one way or the other about the spacing of the shots	
69	Middle	Who was the person near the overpass who was struck on the cheek?	