

Around the Nation

Expert Says Doctors Erred On Place of JFK Wound

DENVER — A leading medical expert says a four-inch mistake by a pathologist who examined the body of John F. Kennedy after he was shot in Dallas produced a series of false speculations about the assassination.

Dr. Russell H. Morgan said the bullet actually entered the President's skull some four inches higher than initially reported, but the Warren Commission's detailed report on the assassination failed to clarify that point.

Morgan, dean of the medical school at Johns Hopkins University, is the only radiologist to examine the X-ray photographs of the slain president's skull.

Morgan's four-year investigation of the photographs and the Abraham Zapruder film of the assassination clarified a major inconsistency between that alleged entry point and several features of the Zapruder film which showed a frame-by-frame sequence of the shooting, he said.

Critics said the film showed the president's head in a near vertical position when the bullet hit and also showed him lurching backward, leading to speculation the bullet came from the front.

The lurching of the president's body backward, he said, was caused by body spasms after the massive wound was inflicted.

Morgan said the Zapruder film, the ballistics tests, the projected line of fire and the angle of entry of the fatal bullet all were consistent with the explanation