

DL 100-10461

E. Investigation To Identify Unidentified Latent Fingerprints And Palm Prints On Four Cardboard Cartons (Exhibit C-40) Found Near Sixth Floor Window Of Texas School Book Depository And On Which The Fingerprint And Palm Prints Of Lee Harvey Oswald Were Located

DL 100-10461
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The following is a summary of investigation conducted in an effort to identify all the identifiable latent fingerprints and palm prints found on the four cartons, which have been identified as Exhibit C40, recovered from near the sixth floor window of the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD), 411 Elm Street, Dallas, Texas, following the assassination of President JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY on November 22, 1963:

By letter dated March 30, 1964, to the President's Commission from Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Headquarters, Washington, D. C., it was pointed out that employees of the TSBD had not been fingerprinted or palm printed by the FBI, U. S. Secret Service, or the Dallas Police Department. This letter related to 19 identifiable latent fingerprints and six identifiable latent palm prints, which figures do not include the one fingerprint and the one palm print on the four cardboard cartons which have been identified as those of LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

As reflected on page 363 of the report of SA ROBERT P. GEMBERLING, dated December 10, 1963, at Dallas, Texas, the Latent Fingerprint Section of the Identification Division of the FBI under date of November 29, 1963, advised that an examination of one piece of cardboard bearing a latent palm print and the four cardboard boxes, which have since been identified as Exhibit C40, revealed that the one latent palm print on the piece of cardboard carton taken from one of the cartons was identified as the right palm print of OSWALD. This examination further revealed one latent fingerprint and one latent palm print developed on the cardboard box marked "A" as the fingerprint and palm print of OSWALD.

On August 31, 1964, fingerprints and palm prints of the following employees of the Dallas Office of the FBI were submitted to the Latent Fingerprint Section of the Identification Division of the FBI for comparison with the identifiable latent fingerprints and palm prints on the four cardboard cartons:

Special Agent VINCENT E. DRAIN, who obtained the cartons from the Dallas Police Department on November 26, 1963;

Special Agent NAT A. PINKSTON, who was on the sixth floor of the TSBD immediately after the assassination;

2

DL 100-10461

Clerk L. JOSEPH BERSLEY;
Clerk CARL E. WALTERS;
Clerk FOREST L. LUCY.

The three above named clerks of the FBI have occasion to handle mail and assist in the wrapping of packages in the Dallas Office of the FBI.