

DL 100-10461

D. Gouged Out Hole In Grass Near Texas School  
Book Depository, Observed By Mr. and Mrs.  
WAYNE E. HARTMAN On November 22, 1963

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Date 8/10/64

WAYNE E. HARTMAN, accompanied by his wife, EDNA, was interviewed in the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. HARTMAN said he is self-employed as a manufacturer's representative calling on drugstores, department stores, and gift shops in various states throughout the country. He said he resides at 3217 Seaside, Irving, Texas.

HARTMAN said he had learned through a radio broadcast that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had been conducting additional investigation in the area of the triple underpass where President KENNEDY was assassinated and reportedly was looking for another bullet that might possibly have been fired at the time of the assassination. Upon hearing this broadcast, HARTMAN said he felt he should report the following information to the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

On November 22, 1963, HARTMAN advised that he had business at the courthouse in Dallas, Texas, and had proceeded from the courthouse to Mullendore's Cafeteria at 601 Main Street, Dallas, Texas, shortly after 11:30 a.m. HARTMAN stated while he and his wife were in Mullendore's Cafeteria, someone announced that President KENNEDY's motorcade was proceeding west on Main Street and would shortly pass by on the street outside. HARTMAN stated he and his wife took up a position on the northeast corner of Record and Main Streets to view the motorcade. He said after the motorcade passed their position he and his wife returned inside Mullendore's Cafeteria. Within a few minutes, after returning to the cafeteria, HARTMAN said he heard some shots and a comment was made that President KENNEDY must be receiving a gun salute. HARTMAN said this did not sound like a satisfactory explanation to him and he and his wife left Mullendore's Cafeteria and walked west on Main Street, stopping on Houston Street just above the grassy area that separates Main and Elm Streets. HARTMAN related that he and his wife observed much confusion and saw a woman and child lying on the grassy area on the north side of Elm Street about midway between the triple underpass and Houston Street. HARTMAN stated he also observed a police officer and a young boy standing on the grassy area that separates Main and Elm Streets about midway between Houston Street and the triple underpass. HARTMAN advised he and his wife, out of curiosity, proceeded down to the location where

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on 8/6/64 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 100-10461  
 by Special Agent A. RAYMOND SWITZER and ROBERT M. BARRETT:vm Date dictated 8/7/64

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the police officer and the young boy were standing to determine what had happened. He stated the police officer or the young boy commented that someone had shot at the President. At this time, HARTMAN stated he noted a gouged out hole in the grass that was about one and one half inches in diameter. He stated this hole continued just beneath the roots of the grass for about 18 to 24 inches. He said the ground was not heaved up but was soft to the touch and could be depressed. HARTMAN said he was able to fit three fingers into the hole.

HARTMAN was exhibited photographs 7 and 8 of the photography exhibits appearing in the report of Special Agent ROBERT P. GEMBERLING dated November 30, 1963. HARTMAN stated he and his wife were standing about five feet south of the curb in the area where the culvert or manhole cover is located. He said this gouged out hole was in line with the general area of the Texas School Book Depository Building. He said some bystander had mentioned that he believed the shots had come from the Texas School Book Depository Building. Upon realizing this, HARTMAN said he and his wife left this area and returned to Houston Street between Main and Elm Streets. He stated they remained at this location until they heard the announcement over the radio that President KENNEDY had been shot. He stated they then returned to the Dallas County Courthouse.

HARTMAN advised that on Sunday, November 24, 1963, he and his wife returned to the area where they had observed the gouged out hole on November 22, 1963. He said the grass was trampled down by people and they could not locate the hole.

HARTMAN stated he did not know if this incident had any significance but thought he should bring it to the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.