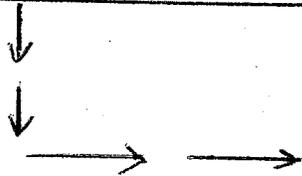


Capsules from the Dedicated and
the Valiant
(or)
CAPSULES FROM GIBRALTAR

"The monumental record of the President's Commission will stand like a Gibraltar of factual literature through the ages to come...The Commission labored...with soul-searching thoroughness. Before agreement was reached by the Commission, each sentence had to measure up to the unofficially adopted motto of the Commission, 'TRUTH IS OUR ONLY CLIENT HERE.' To the best of the ability of seven dedicated public servants and a staff of valiant workers, that ideal was fulfilled."
-----Gerald R. Ford, in Portrait of the Assassin, Simon & Schuster, New York, 1965 (pp 491-492).

THE EVIDENCE

Instead of speeding up the car, the car came to a halt--(Mary Woodward, 2H 43)...From the time the first shot rang out, the car stopped completely...Mr Truly was standing out there, he said it stopped. Several officers said it stopped completely--(ML Baker, 3H 266)...The car almost came to a stop--Harry Holmes, 7H 291)... The first I noted the car was when it stopped...After it made the turn and when the shots were fired, it stopped--(E V Brown, 6H 233)... The motorcade slowed to what seemed to me a complete stop---(Senator Ralph Yarborough, 7H 440)...The motorcade stopped dead still. There was no question about that---(Mrs E Cabell, 7H 487).



THE FINDINGS

The Presidential car did not stop or almost come to a complete halt after the firing of the first shot or any other shots.
--Warren Report, page 641.

THE EVIDENCE

"I saw the rifle, that appeared to be a 7.65 mm Mauser" (Decker Exhibit 5323, page 508: report of Deputy Sheriff Eugene Boone dated November 22, 1963)

Ball Did you hear anybody refer to this rifle as a Mauser that day?

Boone Yes, I did. And at first, not knowing what it was, I thought it was a 7.65 Mauser.

Ball Who referred to it as a Mauser that day?

Boone I believe Captain Fritz...he said that is what it looks like...he said it looks like a 7.65 Mauser. (3H 295, testimony of Deputy Sheriff Eugene Boone on March 24, 1964)

THE OFFICIAL FINDINGS

Weitzman, the original source of the speculation that the rifle was a Mauser, and Deputy Sheriff Eugene Boone found the weapon. Weitzman did not handle the rifle and did not examine it at close range. He had little more than a glimpse of it and thought it was a Mauser, a German bolt-type rifle similar in appearance to the Mannlicher-Carcano. Police laboratory technicians subsequently arrived and correctly identified the weapon as a 6.5 Italian rifle.
—Warren Report, pages 645-646.

THE EVIDENCE

"A cheap old weapon..."--Sebastian Latona, 4H 29.

The rifle was part of a shipment which was the subject of "a legal proceeding by the Carlo Riva Machine Shop to collect payment for the shipment of the rifles which Adam Consolidated Industries, Inc., claims were defective"--FBI in CE 1977.

"A very cheap rifle and could have been purchased for \$3.00 each in lots of 25"--John Brinegal, owner of The Gun Shop, Dallas--CE 2694, page 11.

"Real cheap, common, real flimsy looking...very easily knocked out of adjustment"--Dial Ryder, 11H 230.

Edward Voebel told a Secret Service agent that he "had an Italian rifle of the same type...that he shot this rifle several times, but it is so poorly constructed he decided that it was best not to shoot it any more for the reason he was afraid it would explode"--CE 3119.

"With this frail mount...the possibility of it being real accurate would be pretty small, I think..."--Charles Greener, owner of the Irving Sports Shop, 11H 252-253.

THE OFFICIAL FINDINGS

"...the experts agreed that the assassination rifle was an accurate weapon...in fact, as accurate as current military rifles..."--Warren Report, pages 194-195.

The Evidence

"...the Mannlicher-Carcano rifle was manufactured in Italy from 1891 until 1941; however in the 1930s Mussolini ordered all arms factories to manufacture the Mannlicher-Carcano rifle. Since many concerns were manufacturing the same weapon, the same serial number appears on weapons manufactured by more than one concern. Some bear a letter prefix and some do not."---FBI report of April 30, 1964.

(CE 2562)



The Findings

"...this particular rifle was the only rifle of its type bearing serial number C2766."

(WR 119)

The Evidence

"The Western Cartridge Company, a division of Olin Industries, East Alton, Illinois, manufactured a quantity of 6.5 M/M Mannlicher-Carcano ammunition for the Italian Government during World War II"

--FBI Report to Warren Commission.

(CE 2694, page 12)

The Findings

"The ammunition used in the rifle was American ammunition recently made by the Western Cartridge Co., which manufactures such ammunition currently."

(WR 646)

The Evidence

There was a "small penetrating wound" of the anterior neck--Report of Dr James Carrico, November 22, 1963 (CE 392). "A small hole in anterior midline of neck thought to be a bullet entrance wound"--Report of Dr R C Jones, November 22, 1963 (Jones Exhibit 1). "We speculated as to whether he had been shot once or twice, because we saw the wound of entry in the throat..." --Dr P C Peters (6H 71). "My opinion now would be colored by everything that I've heard about it and seen since, but I'll say this, if I were simply looking at the wound again...if I saw the wound in the state in which Dr Perry described it to me, I would probably initially think this were an entrance wound, knowing nothing about the circumstances..."--Dr R N McClelland (6H 37).

The Findings

"Doctors at Parkland Hospital originally believed that the throat wound could have been either an entry or exit wound..."

(WR 641)

The Evidence

"Nobody was aware until they lifted him up that there was a hole in his shoulder"--Roy Kellerman (2H 103). "That shot hit the President about four inches down from his right shoulder"--Glen Bennett (CE 1024, CE 2112). The wound was in "the soft part of the shoulder"--William Greer (2H 127). There was "an opening in the back, about six inches below the neckline to the right-hand side of the spinal column"--Clinton Hill (2H 143).

The Findings

"During the autopsy at Bethesda Naval Hospital another bullet wound was observed near the base of the back of President Kennedy's neck slightly to the right of his spine..."

(WR 87)

THE EVIDENCE

McCloy You have no firm opinion that all these three wounds were caused by one bullet? Shaw I have no firm opinion...(4H 109)

THE FINDINGS

In their testimony, the three doctors who attended Governor Connally at Parkland Hospital expressed independently their opinion that a single bullet had passed through his chest; tumbled through his wrist...; punctured his left thigh...; and fallen out of the thigh wound.
(Warren Report, page 95)

The Evidence

"I feel that there would be some difficulty in explaining all of the wounds as being inflicted by the stretcher bullet without causing more in the way of loss of substance to the bullet or deformation of the bullet"

--Dr. R. Shaw (4H 114). "The only way that this missile could have produced this wound in my view, was to have entered the wrist backward

...That is the only possible explanation I could offer to correlate this missile with this particular wound"--Dr. C.F. Gregory (4H 121).

"Could that missile have made the wound on Governor Connally's right wrist?"

--Arlen Specter, counsel. "I think that this is most unlikely..."--Dr. J.J.

Humes (2H 374-375) "And could it have been the bullet which inflicted the

wound on Governor Connally's right wrist?"--Arlen Specter. "No; for the

reason that there are too many fragments described in that wrist"--Dr. P.A.

Finck ((2H 382).

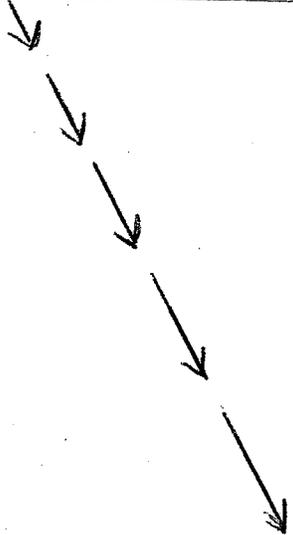
The Findings

"All the evidence indicated that the bullet found on ^{the} Governor's stretcher could have caused all his wounds."

THE EVIDENCE

While in the Marine Corps, I was often referred to as "Hidell"...This was a nickname and not merely an inadvertent mispronunciation. It is possible that Oswald might have heard me being called by this name; indeed he may himself have called me Hidell.
--Affidavit of John Rene Heindel, resident of New Orleans (8H 318).

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THE FINDINGS

Hidell was a favorite alias used by Oswald on a number of occasions. Diligent search has failed to reveal any person in Dallas or New Orleans by that name. It was merely a creation for his own purposes.
--Warren Report, pp 644-645.

The Evidence

"The first time he (FBI agent James P Hosty Jr) had come on the 1st of November, he had parked down the street, and he made reference to the fact that they don't like to draw attention for the neighborhood to any interviews that they make..." (On the second Hosty visit, on the 5th of November 1963) "My best judgment is that the license plate was not visible, however, while it was parked; not visible from my house"---Ruth Paine (3H 100).

(Counsel Albert Jenner and Secret Service agent J Howlett, testing the visibility of the license plate number on a car stationed where Hosty had parked his vehicle on his second visit, the experiment conducted from Marina Oswald's bedroom in the Paine house)---Jenner "It is impossible --at least impossible to see any license plate on either of the two automobiles parked at the ~~h~~ curb..." Howlett "Yes; that's correct ...I am shining a flashlight on the front and rear of both automobiles and you cannot even see the license plate, much less any of the numbers." ---(9H 398).

The Findings

"Marina Oswald had taken down the license number of Hosty's car on one of his visits and given it to her husband."

(WR 660)

THE EVIDENCE

Also found was a set of metal file cabinets containing records that appeared to be names and activities of Cuban sympathizers.---
Deputy Sheriff B Walthers
(Decker Exhibit 5323, p.520)

THE FINDINGS

A number of small file boxes listed in the inventory as having been taken from the Paine residence in Irving contained letters, pictures, books and literature, most of which belonged to Ruth Paine, not to Oswald. No lists of names of Castro sympathizers were found among these effects.
---Warren Report, p 666.

The Evidence

Dougherty...I didn't see anything in his hands at the time.

Ball In other words, your memory is definite on that, is it?

Dougherty Yes, sir.

Ball In other words, you would say positively he had nothing in his hands?

Dougherty I would say that--yes, sir.

(6H 377)

The Findings

One employee, Jack Dougherty, believed that he saw Oswald coming to work, but he does not remember that Oswald had anything in his hands as he entered the door.

(WR 133)

The Evidence

"Our investigation has revealed that Oswald did not indicate on his application that others, including an "A. Hidell," would receive mail through the box in question, which was Post Office Box 2915 in Dallas. This box was obtained by Oswald on October 9, 1962, and relinquished by him on May 14, 1963."—FBI report dated June 3, 1964 (CE 2585, Question 12).

The Findings

"It is not known whether the application for post office box 2915 listed 'A. Hidell' as a person entitled to receive mail at this box. In accordance with postal regulations, the portion of the application which lists names of persons, other than the applicant, entitled to receive mail was thrown away after the box was closed on May 14, 1963."

(WR 121)

The Evidence

Messages recorded in the transcript of the police radio log for November 22, 1963:

1.25 pm No. 279 (Unknown).....We believe we've got that suspect on shooting this officer out here. Got his white jacket. Believe he dumped it on this parking lot...We believe this is it.

Dispatcher.....You do not have the suspect, is that correct?

No. 279 (Unknown).....No, just the jacket laying on the ground.

1.39 pm No. 550 (Capt.W.R.Westbrook).....We got a witness that saw him go up North Jefferson and he shed his jacket--let's check that vicinity, towards Tyler.

(CE 1974, pp 62 and 77)

The Findings

"Police Capt. W. R. Westbrook...walked through the parking lot behind the service station and found a light-colored jacket lying under the rear of one of the cars."

(WR 175)

The Evidence

"She recalled the person now recognized as Oswald was...in the restaurant at about 10 am Wednesday, November 20, at which time he was 'nasty' and used curse words in connection with his order. She went on to relate that Officer J.D. Tippit was in the restaurant, as was his habit at about that time each morning, and 'shot a glance at Oswald' "

--FBI interview with a waitress at Dobbs House restaurant (CE 2001).

The Findings

"Investigation has revealed no evidence that Oswald and Tippit were acquainted, had ever seen each other, or had any mutual acquaintances."

(WR 651)

The Evidence

"Nancy Mooney [Betty Mooney MacDonald] on February 5, 1964, advised Detective Ramsey, Dallas Police Department, she had worked as a stripper at Jack Ruby's place when she was very young...Nancy also stated to Patsy [Swope Moore, her roommate] that she had been a former striptease girl working at various bars of that type in Dallas, but the only one Patsy can specifically recall is Jack Ruby's Carousel Club."--FBI report dated March 23, 1964 (CE 2589).

The Findings

"Investigation revealed no evidence that she had ever worked at the Carousel Club."

(WR 663)