To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg, my PA and 2/5/79

JFK assassination requests and appeals

Attached are copies of FBI copies of my 5/23/66 letter to the Director and those of the relevant records I have just received from another, who got them from still another (both sets of initials present), whose source was still other persons who use the FBI's reading room.

These are notalithe relevant records and the FEI has not provided me with copies of all relevant records.

These letters do, however, represent the actual origin of the 197h amending of the investigatory files exemption of FOTA. I therefore suggest that in addition to adding to my prior appeals these can serve a Department purpose if anyone takes the time to compare what I actually wrote with the FBI's initial and never ended transposition of it.

The easiest way of doing this is with the language in my penultimate paragraph, where I state that the results of spectrographic analysis, according to the Archives, was not in the Archives. I also state, again correctly, that the SA did not "offer into evidence" these reports and that I distinguish between this and his testimony, to which I do make reference.

All the PHI records refer to the testimony only and pretend, for others than those of the PHI childishly, that the testimony is the actual reports.

From the lineup of all the top FRI names and the "I concur" initials of Director Hoover it might appear that nothing is too choldish for the FRI. I do not believe that this is the explanation, however.

There is another record not among these I have just received that may be of interest. It deals with how "the Director is right" when he was not right and with what I'd thought was an FEI taboo, making left turns. The FEI can provide it for you. It has to do woth the always-right Director swearing to the Warren Commission that there were trees in Pealey Plaza the one place there we no trees and thus explaining why there was no shooting the one time there was no obstruction of the target.

I include 62-109060-h151 for several reasons. The last words indicate that the FBI taped that TV show and I'm telling you it did not provide me with dub a copy of the tape, was or transcript. I have told you in the past that it monitored my public appearances and has withheld all other records. Then there is the fact, however you interpret "all public source data and material which refuted criticism placed on the FBI and the Warren Communication," which reflects at the least the FBI's clandestine intrusion into public discussion.

In this connection, however, you also may want to note the FBI's own comments on my comments about it.

Page one reflects that the FET made notes on listening to the audio tape only. These note have not been provided. For have any other NY RO records, only this LHM. You may be interested in observing that the REI also heard the show tape four days prior to airing.

I remember the taping and the airing of that show very well and not because it was my first such TV appearance or because bothm nights I got no sleep.

It was to have been of 20 minutes. As the LHM reflects, it went for two hours, the station later told me the first time this had been done by a single person. It just happened that the endience included four erudite and well-prepared lawyers. They were rather conspicuous in that endience. All also just happened to have the identical copies of the identical hardback edition of the warren Report and all were well prepared with "all public source data and material" other than this.

It also happens that the FBI did not provide the lawyers. Only what the lawyers knew and used. Mark Lane's publisher provided the lawyers when the FBI would not appear. What made this show last so long is that the FBI's help was entirely inadequate, as were only four of New York's best (lawyers). It took them a rather dramatic hour and a half to learn of the marin, silence is golden. All four did learn that might, believe me.

The day the show was aired no copy of my first book was on sale in New York.

To the call of the west that he is not no best-calling west of mon-listing the law in the last of the last in the

The fer that patter as I may reclaim. It make my took a mass.

Success that I had no very of advantising or promoting it, not a penny for any such purpose, and the book stores here planting as when I had no very of reaching these.

The REL, because, is an unlearning beaut, as recently distinct San Presentation recently distinct San Presentation recently Division of you make them enough. They make my book a success in San grantises, too.

The success I appreciate, "its kind of TEI activity I do not appreciate or appreciate.

I have sont you records indicating that these kinds of operations are not reflected in FILES records but are carefully sequestared in FILES. All tages, for example, are in field office files, And all of this is within my requests and remains withhold.

hope topes will be a valuable sometime to the archive I as leaving.

I have learned such in the years since them, charged by beliefs, ease to understand that perhaps I then did not understand. But none of us has the right to edit history as I as quite propagat to stand on my record. I want it so that in the interes where can make independent conductions.

The withheld records are not limited to those field offices. I have filled requests with all field offices.

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sy 23, 1968

Er. J. Edgar Hoover, Director Rederal Bureau of Anvestigation Washington, D.C.

Dear .r. Honver,

I Enclosed is a cony of my book; HITE MSH - THE REPORT ON THE TAR IN REPORT. In it you will find ouotations from your testimony and that of FRI Agents that I believe require immediate and unequivocal explanations and from the FEI's report to the Com desion. Of the many things requiring explanation, I would like in porticular to direct your attention to these three, in which it would seen no question of netional security can be involved:

1) In your brief discussion of the assessination in the report to the Con ission you say that three shots were fired, of which two hit the Tresident end one the governor. This does not account for the bullet that hit the curbstone on low erce Street, which you told the Convission you could not associate with the residential car or any of its occupants. In enother part of this report, dealing with usuald, yo told the Cormission that the bullet that did not kill the President struck him in the back - not the neck - and did not go through his body. Here you seem to fail to account for the well-known wound in the front of the President's neck. in thus, are there not at least five bullets, the three you accounted for and the two you did not account for. The Commission itself considered the curbatone strike a se and bullet, and the President most certainly was wounded in the front of the neck.

2) In his testimony b ore the Cosmission, FSI Agent Robert in Frezier did not offer into evidence the spectrographic analysis of this bullet and that of the verious bullet fragments. l'either did PSI Agent John r'. Collagher, the spectro repher. Agent Fruzier's testimony is murely that the builets were lead, which would seen to be considerable loss information that spectrograppic analysis could reveal. The custodida of this erchive et the detional archives informs, rethin enelysis is nd not included in his archive but is in the possession of the fall I call uten you

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5) In his testimony before the Commission, FBI Agent fruzier suil that then the thole bullet was received by the BI, it had been wifed clean he does not reveal eny FSI interest in this unusual destruction of evidence. ..e also testified that the cleansing of the bullet was not complete, that foreign metter remainer in the grooves in the bullet. Yet his testimony does not show any FII interest in le roing what the nature of the residue was. Did the rBI make the appropriete tests. Souls the residue be associated with either the President's body or the governor's: instantia effort, if any, was rade to learn. And if no effort was made, why not.

Mr. Helam il. Thely

Mr. Caspet Mr. Callah

U. Fail Vr. Coule

Mr. Rosen Mr. Sullave Y. Tavel

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UNITED STATES ( Lemorandum Mr. DeLouch DATE: June 6, 1966 1 - Mr. DeLoach 1 - Mr. Rosen FROM A. Roser 1 - Mr. Malley 1 - Mr. Shroder SUBJECTASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT 1 - Mr. Raupach JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY 1 - Mr. Conrad NOVEMBER 22, 1963 1 - Mr. Sullivan DALLAS, TEXAS 1 - Mr. Wick MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING SYNOPSIS: A letter was received from Harold Weisberg of Hyattstown, Maryland enclosing his book, entitled Whitewash - the report on the Warren Report." He believed that immediate and unequivocal explanations are required from the FBI in connection with the FBI's report to the President's Commission. He specifically demanded answers to three items. (1) Relating to the number of bullets which were involved in the assassination he suggests five were fired. The Commission's report conclude three shots were fired. (2) He states that in testimony before the President's Commission evidence was not introduced as to the spectographic analyses of a bullet and fragments. This is absolutely incorrect, since the testimony of a FBI Laboratory expert concerning spectographic analyses is set forth in the Commission's report, 62-104060 -4132-(3) Weisberg alleges the whole bullet (located on Governor Connally! stretcher) had been wiped clean and that the FBI Laboratory expert testified that the cleansing of the bullet was not complete and that foreign matter rema in the grooves of the bullet. This is inaccurate since our Laboratory expert testified the bullet was clean when he received it and that there was no blood or tissue present. Weisberg formed his opinions after reading the FBI reports to the President's Commission dated 12/9/63 and 1/13/64. Both of these are located in the National Archives and are available to the public. CONTINUED - OVER Enclosures

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

In connection with our original report to the Commission on 12/9/63, the Commission credited the Bureau by saying this report was of principal importance to them. Weisberg, in his book, describes this report in part as "neat, clean, colorful and optically attractive rendition of such tenuous content that a self-respecting undergraduate lawyer would he sitate to take it into an uncorrupted court."

His 208-page book has been reviewed. It is a vitriolic and diabolical criticism of the President's Commission, the FBI, the Secret Service, police agencies and other branches of the Government relating to the assassination investigation. Weisberg attempted to have his book published by 103 different investigation. Weisberg attempted to have his book published by 103 different publishers both in the United States and Europe, all of whom refused. He thereafter personally published a limited number and had it copyrighted in August, 1965. Weisberg, in his own comments stated, "In writing this book the author has had but one purpose. That was to show that the job assigned the author has had but one purpose. That was to show that the job assigned to and expected of the President's Commission on the assassination of John F. to and expected of the assassination and has set forth his own theories and the investigation of the assassination and has set forth his own theories and deductions of what should have been done. Illustrative of this, he contends deductions of what should have been done. Illustrative of this, he contends the President was shot from both the front and back, and that another continuous therefore involved with Oswald. His book is full of errors and inconsistencies.

Due to the inaccuracies, falsehoods and deliberate slanting of facts to fit his own purpose, coupled with Weisberg's subversive background (memorandum Mr. Rosen to Mr. DeLoach, 6/1/66, attached) it is not felt the Bureau should add dignity or credibility to him by acknowledging his communication.

## ACTION:

That Weisberg's communication not be acknowledged.

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- 2 - SEE OVER FOR DETAILS

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

## DETAILS:

A letter was received from Harold Weisberg enclosing his book entitled " Whitewash - the report on the Warren Report. " He stated, in the book will be found quotations from the Director's testimony and that of FBI Agents that he believes require immediate and unequivocal explanations. He specifically pointed to three items which, in his opinion, "It would seem no question of National security can be involved." Weisberg indicated that in the brief discussion of the assassination in the report to the commission it was said that three shots were fired, of which two hit the President and one the Governor. Weisberg is referring to our initial report of December 9, 1963, furnished to the Commission. He read into this comment that this report did not account for the bullet that hit the curbstone and that the bullet that did not kill the President struck him in the back, not the neck and did not go through his body. He said this did not account for the wound in the front of the President's neck and therefore theorized at least five bullets were fired.

This matter has been thoroughly covered by separate memorandum as it relates to the article published in The Washington Post" dated May 29, 1966. Weisberg's theory is completely in error as it is obvious he has not conducted thorough research into this matter as all pertinent information is available in the "President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy Report."

In Weisberg's second point he states that in testimony before the Commission, evidence was not introduced as to the spectrographic analysis of a bullet and various bullet fragments. This is not correct since the Laboratory examiner's testimony to the Commission indicates that these items were examined spectrographically and were found to be similar in composition. The Laboratory examiner further pointed out that such similarity of composition does not necessarily mean that the fragments came from a particular bullet. Testimony as to the spectrographic comparison appears in Volume V, pages 67, 69, 73; 74 and in Volume XV, page 700.

In Weisberg's third point he states that the Laboratory expert testified that the bullet from Governor Connally's stretcher had been wiped clean. This is not

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DETAILS CONTINUED PAGE FIVE.

Memorandum to Mr. Deloach RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

true. The expert testified the bullet was clean when I received it and that no blood or tissue which would interfere with the firearms examination was present. (Volume III, pages 428 and 429). With regard to Weisbe further inquiry as to whether the bullet could be associated through residues with either the President's or the Governor's body, there was, in fact, no blood or tissue on the bullet for such an examination when the evidence was received in the FBI Laboratory.

The bullets, one from Governor Connally's stretcher and the two bullet fragments from the front so area of the limousine were identified with Oswald's rifl Mannlicher-Carcano ammunition components. The other pos bullet fragments from the limousine, the President's hea and the Governor's wrist, were only pieces of lead, simi metallic composition to the lead core portion of Western 6.5 mm ammunition. These lead fragments and the lead residue found on the curbing at the scene, which the Commission thoroughly investigated, do not possess their positive identification as fragments or smears of specific bullets.

In connection with the background of Weisberg himself; he was the subject of a separate memorandum, a copy of which is attached.

Weisberg's book has been reviewed. It is a 6° by 9° paperbound book, obviously cheaply prepared and its selling price is indicated as \$4.95. The book was copyrighted by Weisberg in 1965, and on the cover it state it is of importance to note in the preface Weisberg stated the book was offered to 63 United States book publishers durin a 14-month period and of these 63 publishers, 21 had so little interest they declined even to read the book. In 8 foreign countries, none of whom accepted his offer. In all Weisberg stated 103 offers of this book were made, not publishers to print his book he prepared a limited edition and copyrighted it in August, 1965.

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Nemorandum to Mr. DoLoach
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

In Weisberg's own words he says his book is than an analysis of the investigation of the assassing of the late President. "It is a commentary of the fro of the press, the underpinning of the democratic social and a measure of the state of that society."

Following a review of this book it was deter it is nothing more than a vitriolic and diabolical criticism of the President's Commission and the FBI relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. I indicated the encerticist and immediately of a conspiracy or a different assassin is only one of the ways in which Commission may have cripiled itself. He contended it whave been better if the Commission had had its own sta of investigators and restricted the use of the FBI and Secret Service to technical services.

Weisberg indicated his book is an attempt to "analyse the report itself exclusively on the basis of the Commission's own information. " It is noted that o 13 chapters in this book he quotes the Commission's findings extensively but thereafter inserts his own comments and theories as to what should have been come every instance concerning all phases of the investigat and the findings, he was critical. In Chapter 9 where discusses the witnesses and their treatment he stated are always those people who suddenly see a chance to become important, to themselves, to those for whom the will testify, to their circle of friends and to the wo at large. He also said that there are nervous people neurotics inevitably there are those who have axes to hatreds or dislikes to be indulged, and political obje to be attained. From these comments it would appear t Weisberg is adequately describing himself.

Weisberg said in respect to the Commission's report, "What is most lacking in this report is analys He has delved into the scientific findings and arrived at his own conclusions without apparent background rel to scientific research.

Weisberg claimed the Commission's report was abundantly clear that it distorts and misrepresents the Commission's information on Oswald's politics. He clawhen the Commission did this, "Can there be any reason this except a desire to fool the public?" He also cowhenever possible the Commission's report infers ineff of the Federal bureaucracy.

CONTINUED - OVER

RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

Possible Conspiracy" involving Oswald. The Commission concluded there is no credible evidence that Lee Harve Oswald was part of a conspiracy to assassinate Preside Kennedy. Weisberg said "On both counts the report is wrong. First, it had more than evidence of a conspiracy; it had irrefutable proof. Second, the Commission had highly credible evidence that Lee Harve Oswald was, in fact, part of this conspiracy. Weisbe continues page after page in this particular vein of thinking. He criticized the Secret Service, the result of the autopsy examination and the bullet and fragment recovered, and the nature of the wounds of President Kennedy. It is quite obvious he has failed miserably attempting to reconstruct the facts in their proper lice.

In the author's conclusion he indicated in writing this book, the author has had but one purpose. That was to show that the job assigned and expected of the President's Commission on the assassination of John F. Kennedy has not been done. He then continues can the job really be done regardless of the consequence Weisberg said, "Who can solve this crime?" Not the coufor there is no question which can be taken to court. the Commission, for it has already both failed and clos up, its work unfinished. Therefore he said "Only Cong remains."

Based on Weisberg's inadequate research he con the Président was shot from both front and back. "Nothi else makes sense. Nothing else is possible." He stated "There was not a single assassin, Oswald or any other. there was at least one conspiracy - to kill the Presider

Weisberg referred to an FBI report he observed in the National Archives which was carefully prepared document and one of the initial reports furnished to the President's Commission which the Commission commended us Weisberg described this report as "a tissue so thin and polemic so undisquised that it would demean labors of a police force investigating the purloining of a desiccate flounder." He further described this report as a "Neat, clean, colorful and optically attractive rendition of su tenuous content that a self-respecting undergraduate wou hesitate to take it into an uncorrupted court."

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

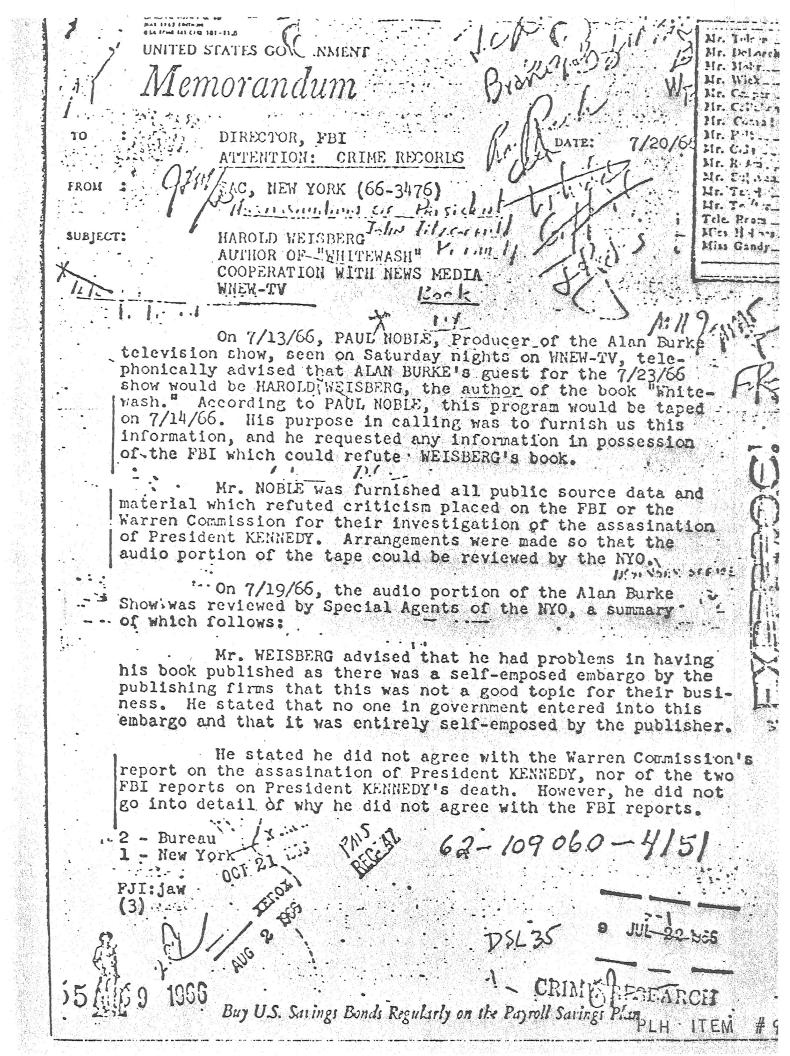
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It appears Weisberg, by publishing his book, is attempting to establish controversy and to expound his personal theories and deductions concerning the assassination investigation. This book is full of errors and inconsistencies and Weisberg has distorted the truth relating to the assassination investigation. Due to information contained in his book and Weisberg's background, the Bureau should not add dignity or credibility to him by answering his communication.

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He advised that both the Warren Commission and the FBI were government agencies that were in some way involved either directly or indirectly with the President; such as involved in assignments with the FBI.

He spoke of the autopsy performed by the Maval doctors in Washington, D.C., and how some of the first reports were destroyed by the Chief Examiner. He also stated that the Naval examinations did not wholely agree with the findings of on the day he was assasined. He explained that the doctors in Dallas had stated in their reports that there was a wound in the neck area of the President indicating a possibility of a person firing from another position other than that position of OSWALD's.

WEISBERG stated that it was his opinion that OSWALD was a fall guy, that there was someone else involved but that he did not know who, how many, or what their reasons were for killing President KENNEDY. He further stated that he could not name any organization or give any opinion of who might have taken part in this assasination.

He stated that the FBI reports were different from the Commission's report and that he did not hold the FBI responsible for the Commission's report, but that the Commission's staff was responsible and not the men on the Commission.

WEISBERG then went on to explain that each member of the Commission was a dedicated man, fair, and put out his best work. However, they end in their findings. He also stated that he was not challenging the integrity of Chief:

WEISBERG stated that he could not accept the Warren report in any form and set forth the conclusions of his book as follows:

- 1) The investigation was not done well.
- must be public. 2) The investigation must be done by Congress and

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second step, he must destroy, by means of his book, the findings of the Warren report or leave a very great doubt in

OSWALD could kill the President alone or that he must have had the help of another person. He further stated that OSWALD could not have killed police officer TIBETT. He stated he believed that the man who killed officer TIBETT bore a very he stated he believed the Commission bent evidence; to their own thinking and should have investigated the death of officer TIBETT. He stated, based on the Commission's own investigation of OSWALD's movements, he could not have been in the area in the Commission's report is there any information on TIBETT's

In the discussion of the Warren Commission's report, WEISBERG stated that a number of problems confronted the government at the time of President KENNEDY's assasination; such as the public tranquility, was this assasination a conspiracy or a plot by a foreign government, and would it lead problems in bonducting such an investigation.

He stated that in speaking of the men on the Commission, that they were loyal, dedicated and trustworthy office and not being able to delegate these powers, they in is the area in which they failed.

interviewed in Dallas, Texas, by a staff member and who was accused by this staff member of perjury and that the Commission never followed this up. He stated the Commission set rather than to obtain the truth.

\* ITY 66-3476 ...

He further pointed out that a man was arrested in a building across Houston Street in Dallas, Texas, for no other reason than for being unable to explain what he was doing there. This was just before Dallas Police had picked up OSWALD. He stated the Commission did not interview this the state of the s

Several times during the interview, WEISBERG stated he doubted the accuracy of the Warren report but went out of his way to state he did not doubt the intent of the members

WEISBERG also spoke of finding a rifle in the Book Depository and three shells, that no one saw OSWALD carry the gun into the building, that the proof that OSWALD had bought such a gun was based on handwriting, and that no one had ever seen OSWALD with this rifle in his possession.

He also discussed, at some length, the autopsies performed on TIBETT, OSWALD, and President KENNEDY, and that in the report, only President KENNEDY is mentioned, and this first time.

WEISBERG was very critical of the Dallas Police Department and stated "they were directly responsible for 

He then went on to explain that 70 Dallas Police officers were used to protect OSMALD and against the advice of the Sheriff's Office of Dallas and the FBI, they would not remove OSWALD on the night of February 23rd. He stated the reason the Dallas Police Department would not remove him was the Dallas Police Chief had told the Press the exact time he was planning to move him and that he wanted to keep this appointed time. He stated that he felt the Commission . should have looked into the Dallas Police Department activlities.

WEISBERG put great emphasis on the three shells 54 found in the Book Depository. He stated that these shells, after examination, were found to have been in another rifle, other than the one found on the 6th floor. WEISBERG stated

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he was using as his authority Hr. HOOVER, Director of the He stated that although they had markings on them from the rifle found on the 6th floor, they were not able to say when they had been fired. He also stated that only one of OSWALD's palm prints was found on the rifle, in a position under the barrel of the gun, and that various prints of OSWALD's were found on the 6th floor, but these were of no value in the investigation because OSWALD worked on that floor in his every day duties at the Depository.

WEISBERG further stated that a bullet, described by the Commission as hitting President KERNEDY and Governor CONNELLY, could do all the things that it did and not be disformed. He described three bullets, the above mentioned one. the missed bullet, and the one in President KENNEDY's head. He pointed out that OSWALD was a rather poor shot, having scored a 191 in the Marine Corps and that a 190 was the qualifying score for a marksman.

WEISBERG discussed ballistics during the discussion and divided this into two parts:

- 1) concerning the President.
- concerning officer TIBETT.

WEISBERG stated that with regards to the President, some fragments can be identified and some cannot. He stated the FBI made a spectrographic analysis and a Special Agent GALLACHER of the FBI, who made the analysis, was called as a witness only as the hearing concluded around September 15th, and that he was never asked for a spectrographic analysis nor is this analysis part of the record. Mr. WEISBERG stated even Mr. HOOVER said that the curbstone fragments were not associated

With regard to officer TIBETT, WEISBERG stated that the FBI took his pistol to its laboratory in Washington, D.C., fired it 100 times, and could not associate the bullets with the pistol that they knew it was fired from.

In answer to a question about the speed of firing and with a bullet in the breach, the most competent men in just to reload.

In answer to a question about the speed of firing and with a bullet in the breach, the most competent men in just to reload.

WEISBERG about the question of a person masquerading as in the book to this. Another person made the allegation that refugees, one of whom bore the resemblence of OSWALD. Weisberg replied that he denoted a whole chapter refugees, one of whom bore the resemblence of OSWALD. That OSWALD was in Mexico at the time.

This program is two hours in length and because of copies of the tape could be made and none are available.

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