

Computer Analysis Shows . . . No Bullets That Hit JFK Were Fired From Front

A computer scan of the famous Zapruder film of John F. Kennedy's assassination has determined that, contrary to a popular theory, no bullets which hit the President were fired from the front.

"People believed that a bullet came from the front, making the President fall backward — but according to our calculations this couldn't have happened," said Dr. Gideon Ariel, director of research for Computerized Biomechanical Analysis Inc. of Amherst, Mass.

"All of the bullets (which hit JFK) must have been fired from the same direction," he said.

Dr. Ariel is an expert in computer analysis of films of athletes to determine the movements that help them improve their performance. Using the same method, he studied the Zapruder film — which shows JFK falling forward, then jerking back — in painstaking detail.

"I discovered that the initial movement of the President's drawing-back motion came from the trunk (torso) only thousandths of a second before the head," he said.

"If anything had hit him from the front, the head would have moved first.

"When you apply external forces to the body, the segment which is hit first will move first," he said.

"Because the President's trunk moved before his head, it couldn't have been any external object striking him in the head that made him fall backward . . . and since there was no bullet wound in the trunk of his body, there was no bullet fired from the front."

Dr. Ariel stressed that his study doesn't prove a lone assassin killed JFK, or even that

By CHARLES PARMITER

only one person did the shooting.

"I only know there was no shot fired from the front, or the grassy knoll, that hit the President."

Dr. Ariel's work with athletes was described as "invaluable" by Dr. Irving Dardik, a vascular surgeon and director of sports medicine for the U.S. Olympic Committee.