



Kennedy motorcade

involved and both men were hit by separate shots.

THE CREATOR of the single-bullet theory was Arlen Specter, an assistant counsel to the Warren Commission, who is now finishing up eight years as Philadelphia district attorney after losing a race for re-election this month.

Interviewed for this story, Specter said he has not changed any of his opinions since the Report was issued, and still believes that the single-bullet theory is valid.

Specter's strongest argument is the fact that his theory, alone of all the speculations in the case, fits with the physical evidence — the three bullet fragments found.

These three are Exhibit 399, an almost-whole bullet weighing 158.6 grains, and two small mangled pieces, one weighing 44.6 grains and the other 21. (An unfired bullet from Oswald's rifle weighed 160 to 161 grains, or slightly more than one-third of an ounce).

Here is the way Specter fits the three fragments into his theory:

Exhibit 399 went through Kennedy's neck and Connally's chest and wrist and stopped in his thigh. The other two fragments are shattered pieces of the bullet that smashed Kennedy's skull. The other shot missed and that bullet was lost somewhere outside the Presidential limousine.

The courses of the wounds through Kennedy's neck and Connally's chest are both on downward paths, so the bullet or bullets that caused them had to stop in the car. If another bullet was involved, where is it? Where did it go?

As one of the Warren Report critics

its exit. Many skeptics suspected they got it backwards, however, and that Kennedy was shot through the neck from the front. They also wondered if he could have been shot in the head from the front.

THE KEY, SUPPOSEDLY, lay in the autopsy and X-ray photographs taken of Kennedy — photographs locked up in the National Archives and forbidden to public view. These photographs were not even shown to the Warren Commission. The ban on them was not lifted until last year.

To date, only three non-government physicians have been permitted to see these two sets of photographs. They are Dr. John K. Lattimer of New York on Jan. 7, 1972; Dr. Cyril H. Wecht of Pittsburgh on Aug. 23-24, 1972; and Dr. E. Forrest Chapman of Belleville, Mich., on July 5-6, 1973.

In a lengthy article published in the May, 1972, issue of the magazine Resident and Staff Physician, Dr. Lattimer declared that his examination "brought to light no basic discrepancies in the concepts put forth in the Warren Commission Report." His article included sketches of the X-rays.

Dyed-in-the-wool critics brushed Lattimer's findings aside, however, declaring that he was a patsy who had made known his favorable attitude toward the Warren Report beforehand. They placed more faith in Wecht and Chapman, both qualified pathologists who do not believe that the Warren Report is true.

Lengthy interviews with Wecht in Pittsburgh and Chapman at his home in Belleville, however, disclosed that neither of them now question the basic accuracy of the drawings and physical measurements in Lattimer's article.

Neither Wecht nor Chapman believes that Oswald "acted alone." But they both concede that there is nothing in the autopsy photographs and X-rays to prove he didn't, in particular that there is nothing to show any shot from the front.

ANOTHER SPECULATION that has fascinated Warren Report critics for years is the rumor that Oswald was a secret informer paid by the FBI.

Nowhere in the 888 pages of the Warren Report is it mentioned that the commission received this tip from two high public officials.

Texas State Attorney General Waggoner Carr and Dallas District Attorney Henry Wade relayed to the commission a story that Oswald had been



no idea where the figure of \$200 a month as Oswald's pay came from, that he wasn't the source of that.

Maybe, just maybe, Oswald was an informer for the FBI. But obviously the original tip was much flimsier than the way it has been standing in print for the past few years.

WARREN REPORT CRITICS have always been fascinated by the fact that Oswald, unlike most assassins, never confessed, even on his death bed. He denied all charges through 12 hours of police questioning. He insisted he was being framed and told reporters, "I'm just a patsy."

Critics have never received any support from the Kennedy family, however. Most recently, Sen. Edward M. (Ted) Kennedy said in an article in this month's issue of McCall's Magazine:

"I'm satisfied that it (the assassination) was the work of one individual. I'm satisfied with the Warren Commission's findings."

THIS COMING FRIDAY at Georgetown University in Washington, D. C., the principal assassination researchers and scholars in this country will assemble for a two-day convention to discuss the killings of John Kennedy and his brother Robert, the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, and the wounding of Alabama Gov. George Wallace.

The driving force behind the convention is the Committee to Investigate Assassinations (CTIA), a Washington-based organization founded in 1968 by critics of the Warren Report.

Executive director of CTIA and its principal source of financial support, is Bernard (Bud) Fensterwald Jr., the defense attorney for both convicted Watergate burglar James W. McCord and convicted King assassin James Earl Ray. Most of the CTIA research is handled by Robert P. (Bob) Smith, a walking encyclopedia of assassination facts.

With the Warren Commission long since disbanded, the CTIA is now the principal national clearing house for the collection and dissemination of Kennedy assassination research. To date, Fensterwald has put \$12,000 of his own money into an effort to disprove the Warren Report.

"Oswald is not the lone assassin, if he's the assassin at all," Fensterwald said in an interview in his Washington office. "My real honest feeling is that he was a patsy. I'm convinced a good part of the answer lies in Oswald's pre-assassination trip to Mexico."

In Wounded Knee, S.D., where he is currently an attorney for the American Indian Movement, "Rush to Judgment" author Mark Lane is putting his trust in a new movie called "Executive Action." Lane was co-author of the novel on which the film is based. "There's a

EXCERPT from Neil McMillen 11/14/73 -
 special article on common facts by Lee Winifrey of 29 July.

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As one of the Warren Report critics, Richard H. Popkin, has conceded, "For those who do not accept the commission's one-bullet hypothesis, there is a genuine problem of explaining where the bullets went."

Specter doesn't have that problem. His hypothesis, covers them all. In the absence of a more convincing counter-argument, his theory has stood the test of a decade.

WHILE I WAS WORKING on this story, which took several weeks, a newspaperman who did a lot of work on the Kennedy assassination and the Warren Report years ago told me:

"Trying to knock down the Warren Report is like trying to catch smoke. Time and again I chased what looked like a promising lead, only to have it peter out. There are odd places in it (the Report), but it's hard to find something to put in its place."

Two recent leads that failed to pan out are examination of the photographs and X-rays of Kennedy's official autopsy, and the rumor that Oswald was an informant on the payroll of the FBI.

The first lead arose from the fact that two sets of doctors saw Kennedy's body, but neither saw all of his wounds.

Dallas doctors, who were civilians, first saw Kennedy's body when he was brought wounded to Parkland Memorial Hospital. While they strove vainly to save his life, he lay face upward, and they never turned him over. So the Dallas doctors never saw the wound in his back.

Trying to help the dying President breathe, the Dallas doctors performed a tracheostomy, which means cutting a hole in the windpipe. The place they chose to cut was across the wound in Kennedy's neck.

When the body reached Bethesda Naval Hospital in suburban Washington, D. C., the three military doctors who performed the autopsy did not notice the neck wound because it was obscured by the tracheostomy incision. So they saw only the wound in the back and, obviously, the gaping wound in Kennedy's head.

The two sets of doctors did not consult with one another and get their signals straight until after the autopsy was over and the body was gone, on its way to be prepared for burial in Arlington National Cemetery.

The Warren Report subsequently reconciled their examinations by deciding that the back wound marked the entrance of the bullet called Exhibit 399, and the neck wound marked

mission a story that Oswald had been



This man, photographed in Mexico City by the CIA prior to assassination, was at first identified by CIA as Oswald. He remains part of the unsolved mystery.

an FBI informant since September, 1962; that he was on the FBI payroll at \$200 a month on the day he was arrested; and that he had been assigned an FBI informant number, S-179.

This was first published in 1963 by Representative Gerald R. Ford, a commission member who is now Vice President-designate, in a book entitled, "Portrait of the Assassin." It was examined at some length the next year in Epstein's "Inquest."

Epstein justifiably criticized the commission's investigation of this tip as ridiculously inadequate. Essentially, the commission asked FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover about it and he said it wasn't true.

Chief Justice Earl Warren, commission chairman, refused to even look at Oswald's FBI file. The commission never questioned the apparent source of the Carr-Wade tip, a newspaper reporter in Houston, Texas, named Alonzo Hudkins.

Last week I talked to Hudkins on the phone in Baltimore, Md., where he is now a reporter for the News-American. "I think Oswald was either a stoolie for the FBI or the CIA and turned out to be the greatest double-agent of all time," he said.

He declined to name the exact source for his belief, but said, "I was told by several sources from at least four different agencies — the (Dallas) city police, the sheriff's office, the DA's office and one federal agency."

When I asked him his source for Oswald's informant number, Hudkins said he and three associates "made up the number." When I asked him what the real number was, Hudkins said, "There wasn't a real number."

"I've never told anybody about making up the number until this week," Hudkins said. He said he had

currently an attorney for the American Indian Movement, "Rush to Judgment" author Mark Lane is putting his trust in a new movie called "Executive Action."

Lane was co-author of the novel on which the film is based. "There's a better chance this film will reopen a serious factual examination (of the assassination) than anything that's happened in the last 10 years," he said in an interview at Wounded Knee.

The movie depicts three riflemen killing Kennedy. This is more conservative than Lane's own opinion, which features four or five gunmen including one firing a pistol out of a sewer.

INTERVIEWED AT HIS suburban Philadelphia home on the campus of Haverford College, "Six Seconds in Dallas" author Josiah Thompson said he now suspects that some of the assassination evidence was falsified.

"I'm convinced that some of the pieces of the puzzle we've been given just don't belong to the puzzle," he said. "I think Exhibit 399 is the red herring in this."

Thompson thinks four shots from three guns killed Kennedy. "I think Oswald was involved some way, perhaps peripherally, with the intelligence community, and the commission simply decided to look the other way," he said.

Sylvia Meagher, author of "Accessories After the Fact," still speaks with profound regret about Garrison's abortive prosecution of Clay Shaw, which she described as "ruinous, destroying all that we (critics) had done before."

In an interview at her vacation home on Fire Island, N. Y., she mused, "It's always been hard to separate the nuts and the scholars in this case. The material itself is rather lurid."

At his neat red-brick home in Belleville, Mich., where no visitor is allowed to smoke a cigaret, Dr. E. Forrest Chapman still harbors far-reaching suspicions despite his personal study of the Kennedy autopsy photographs and X-rays.

He sarcastically speaks of Exhibit 399 as "that bullet that did everything but serve tea." He believes that Watergate helps the critics' case because "People are waking up to the idea that criminals are running the government." A life member of the John Birch Society, Chapman believes that Kennedy was killed "because he was turning right making a strong turn toward Americanism."

In Pittsburgh, Dr. Cyril H. Wecht, is not surprised that no one will disclose the whereabouts of Kennedy's brain, which he wants to examine. "Of course the brain is missing," he said, "because the brain would tell us whether one shot or two shots struck the President's head."

Wecht believes a second assassin

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