

THE PRESIDENT'S WOUNDS

Statements of Witnesses - Dr. Gene Coleman AKIN

Deposition - March 25, 1964, 6 H 63-8

He is the doctor who was assisting Dr. Jenkins. When he first saw the President's anterior neck wound, it had already been cut for the tracheotomy. He said it looked like a punctuate wound; he judged its diameter was 1.5 cm. (remember, it had been cut when he saw it); and he said the thought passed through his mind "that this might have been an entrance wound". He also considered the possibility it might have been an exit wound, "depending upon the nature of the missile that made the wound." He said, "I could not be considered an expert in exit wounds" because most of the injured people he sees have been wounded with .22 to .38 caliber missiles which "enter the body and don't leave it". (p.65)

His own, perhaps unintended, comment/<sup>ary</sup> on Dallas, in connection with his statement that he was not usually in the emergency room, "we, I'm sure, have a lot of people who are shot and who are dead on arrival at the emergency room ..." Despite his having disqualified himself as an expert, Specter asks him to speculate, as all the other doctors had been asked, ~~she~~ one about not violating the pleural cavity, and he agrees the wound he/<sup>saw</sup> could have been of exit. He didn't see the back of the President's head and "didn't make any attempt to examine the neck." (p.66? Although the President's back brace had been loosened, Akin did not see the Ace bandage. His opinion of how many bullets were involved in the President's injuries: "Probably two."