

(ZNS) DOCTOR CYRIL WECHT, THE CORONER FOR PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, SAYS THAT THE MEDICAL EVIDENCE HE HAS SEEN INDICATES THAT AT LEAST TWO GUNMEN -- FIRING FROM DIFFERENT POSITIONS -- WERE INVOLVED IN THE 1963 ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN KENNEDY.

DOCTOR WECHT, WRITING IN A RECENT EDITION OF FORENSIC SCIENCE MAGAZINE, STATES THAT HIS TWO GUNMEN CONCLUSION IS BASED ON PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN OF THE WOUNDS AND X-RAYS MADE DURING THE AUTOPSY OF J.F.K IN 1963.

DOCTOR WECHT IS THE FIRST NON-GOVERNMENT PATHOLOGIST TO EXAMINE AUTOPSY MATERIAL THAT REMAINS LOCKED FROM THE PUBLIC IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES.

WECHT WAS THE FIRST TO REPORT THAT KEY EVIDENCE RELATING TO THE ASSASSINATION -- INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT'S BRAIN AND MICROSCOPIC SLIDES OF TISSUES -- ARE MISSING FROM ARCHIVE FILES. HOWEVER, HE STATES THAT THERE IS ENOUGH MATERIAL REMAINING TO CONVINCE HIM THAT THE WOUNDS INFLECTED ON PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND TEXAS GOVERNOR JOHN CONNALLY WERE CAUSED BY BULLETS FIRED FROM SEVERAL DIRECTIONS.

DOCTOR WECHT SAYS THE MATERIAL HE HAS VIEWED INDICATES THAT ONE GUNMAN WAS ON A LOW FLOOR AT THE WEST END OF THE TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY BUILDING ALONG THE PRESIDENTIAL MOTORCADE ROUTE IN DALLAS. HE SAYS A SECOND GUNMAN APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN LOCATED ON THE ROOF OF THE SAME BUILDING.

THE DOCTOR SAYS THAT NONE OF THE BULLETS APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN FIRED FROM THE SIXTH FLOOR EASTERLY WINDOW WHERE THE ALLEGED ASSASSIN LEE HARVEY OSWALD IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN LOCATED.

DOCTOR WECHT SAYS THAT THE JOHN KENNEDY AUTOPSY WAS GROSSLY INCOMPLETE. HE BLAMES THIS ON THE FACT THAT AN ARMY GENERAL -- WHO HAS NEVER BEEN IDENTIFIED BY NAME -- ASSUMED COMPLETE CHARGE OF THE AUTOPSY. WECHT SAYS THAT THE ARMY GENERAL ORDERED THE AUTOPSY DOCTORS NOT TO DISSECT CERTAIN WOUNDS WHEN THE DOCTORS ATTEMPTED TO RECREATE WHAT HAPPENED DURING THE ASSASSINATION -- ZODIAC

# # # # #

# ZODIAC

JULY 17, 1974

PAGE 6 6 6 6 6

(ZNS) DOCTOR CYRIL WECHT, THE CORONER OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, SAYS THAT A TWO-YEAR EFFORT ON HIS PART TO RECOVER KEY EVIDENCE IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN KENNEDY HAS MET WITH FAILURE.

FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS, DOCTOR WECHT HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO TRACK DOWN THE WHEREABOUTS OF KENNEDY'S BRAIN. THIS BIZARRE HUNT FOR THE MISSING J.F.K. BRAIN WAS LAUNCHED BY DOCTOR WECHT IN THE SUMMER OF 1972.

AT THAT TIME, DOCTOR WECHT WAS THE FIRST INDEPENDENT MEDICAL RESEARCHER ADMITTED TO THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE FILES WHERE PHOTOGRAPHS AND TISSUE SAMPLES TAKEN AND COLLECTED DURING PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S AUTOPSY, ON THE NIGHT OF NOVEMBER 22ND, 1963, WERE STORED.

DOCTOR WECHT DISCOVERED THAT KENNEDY'S BRAIN -- WHICH ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL RECORDS HAD BEEN PRESERVED IN A FORMULIN SOLUTION AND FORWARDED TO THE ARCHIVES -- WAS MISSING. ALSO MISSING, HE SAYS, WERE MICROSCOPE SLIDES OF KENNEDY'S WOUNDS -- SLIDES WHICH WOULD HAVE SHOWN IF THE BULLET WOUNDS WERE ENTRY OR EXIT WOUNDS.

DOCTOR WECHT REPORTS THAT AN EXAMINATION OF THE BRAIN AND SLIDES WOULD ENABLE HIM TO DETERMINE IF KENNEDY HAD BEEN SHOT FROM ONE POSITION -- OR IF THE BULLETS HAD COME FROM SEVERAL DIRECTIONS, INDICATING THAT MORE THAN ONE GUNMAN FIRED SHOTS AT J.F.K.

FOR THE PAST 24 MONTHS, WECHT HAS BEEN ASKING THE GOVERNMENT ARCHIVISTS, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND MEMBERS OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY TO TRACK DOWN THE MISSING EVIDENCE. HE SAYS NOW THAT HIS EFFORTS HAVE BEEN THWARTED.

THE KENNEDY AUTOPSY HAS BEEN THE CENTER OF CONTROVERSY SINCE THE RELEASE OF THE WARREN REPORT 10 YEARS AGO. THE DOCTOR WHO HEADED THE AUTOPSY TEAM, DOCTOR JAMES HUMES, ADMITTED UNDER OATH THAT HE BURNED HIS FIRST DRAFT OF THE AUTOPSY REPORT TWO DAYS AFTER THE EXAMINATION WAS CONCLUDED. DOCTOR HUMES HAS NEVER EXPLAINED WHY THIS DRAFT WAS DESTROYED.

IN ADDITION, DOCTOR HUMES' HAND-WRITTEN NOTES MADE DURING THE AUTOPSY ARE MISSING FROM NATIONAL ARCHIVE FILES -- ZODIAC # # # # #