

10/18/69

Dear Bud,

For your understanding of the issues regarding the spectrographic analysis, here is my copy of CD525, pp. 1-2. Although this copy does not so indicate, it is also part of the HFK 4-1 file.

You will note that a careful reading of what may be considered Hoover's conclusion is that there is no technical proof of passage of a bullet through either the front of the shirt or the tie.

In short, the evidence of the spectrographic analysis is contrary to the official conclusions.

If you want to make a copy, please do and return.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

CD525 (JFK 4-1)
JH Hoover, spectrographic analysis
CD107:5 (JEC-2)

10/18/69

When Eisenberg asked John F. Gallagher, the man who performed the spectrographic analysis and was never asked to testify about it, about a neutron-activation analysis, Hoover responded under date of March 18.

He repeated three questions asked by Eisenberg, hardly the basic issues. Then he asks "would neutron activation analysis show if a bullet passed through the hole in the front of President Kennedy's shirt...if a bullet passed through the material of his tie?"

The latter is false, for no bullet passed through any part of the tie, and this was known. Rather, nothing passed through. There is merely a slit. The same is true of the hole in the shirt. It also is a slit.

Hoover's conclusion is that the spectro is sufficiently sensitive to eliminate the need for the second test, although he phrases it differently.

Meanwhile, his answer numbered "4", translated into plainer English, really says no traces of the passage of a bullet exist in the damage to the front of the shirt or the tie. He does not say that the presence of blood or any other material on it, conjecturing a back-to-front flight path, could have insulated the fabric against any traces from the conjectured projectile.

The single page from the JEC-2 file, originally part of CD107, refers to all recovered fragments as "tiny". I cite this because of the CD371 receipt listing of an FBI receipt for a "missile" recovered from the President's body. If this is in reference to any fragment of which we know, this CD107 reference and description seems to render invalid any description of such a fragment as a "missile". Conversely, the CD371 receipt seems to cast doubt on the integrity of the CD107 description.

Justice Dept. Review

GUIDELINES FOR REVIEW OF MATERIALS SUBMITTED TO
THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT

1. Statutory requirements prohibiting disclosure should be
2. Security classifications should be respected, but the agency responsible for the classification should carefully re-evaluate the contents of each classified document and determine whether the classification can, consistently with the national security, be eliminated or downgraded
3. Unclassified material which has not already been disclosed in another form should be made available to the public on a regular basis unless disclosure--
 - (A) Would be detrimental to the administration and enforcement of the laws and regulations of the United States and its agencies;
 - (B) Might reveal the identity of confidential sources of information and impede or jeopardize future investigations by precluding or limiting the use of the same or similar sources hereafter;
 - (C) Would be a source of embarrassment to innocent persons, who are the subject, source, or apparent source of the material in question, because it contains gossip and rumor or details of a personal nature having no significant connection with the assassination of the President;

- (D) Would reveal material pertinent to the criminal prosecution of Jack Ruby for the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald, prior to the final judicial determination of that case.

Whenever one of the above reasons for nondisclosure may apply, your department should, in determining whether or not to authorize disclosure, weigh that reason against the overriding policy of the Executive Branch favoring the fullest possible disclosure.

Unless sooner released to the public, classified and unclassified material which is not now made available to the public shall, as a minimum, be reviewed by the agency concerned five years and ten years after the initial examination has been completed. The criteria applied in the initial examination, outlined above, should be applied to determine whether changed circumstances will permit further disclosure. Similar reviews should be undertaken at ten-year intervals until all materials are opened for legitimate research purposes. The Archivist of the United States will arrange for such review at the appropriate time. Whenever possible provision should be made for the automatic declassification of classified material which cannot be declassified at this time.

6 December 1963

From: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Medical School
To: The White House Physician
Via: Commanding Officer, National Naval Medical Center
Subj: Supplementary report of Naval Medical School autopsy No. A63-272,
John F. Kennedy; forwarding of

1. All copies of the above subject final supplementary report are forwarded herewith.

J. H. STOVER, JR. *JHS*

6 December 1963

FIRST ENDORSEMENT

From: Commanding Officer, National Naval Medical Center
To: The White House Physician

1. Forwarded.

C. B. GALLOWAY

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF AUTOPSY NUMBER A63-272
PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

11/6/63

PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT

No. A63-272

Page 1

GROSS DESCRIPTION OF BRAIN:

Following formalin fixation the brain weighs 1500 gms. The right cerebral hemisphere is found to be markedly disrupted. There is a longitudinal laceration of the right hemisphere which is para-sagittal in position approximately 2.5 cm. to the right of the of the midline which extends from the tip of the occipital lobe posteriorly to the tip of the frontal lobe anteriorly. The base of the laceration is situated approximately 4.5 cm. below the vertex in the white matter. There is considerable loss of cortical substance above the base of the laceration, particularly in the parietal lobe. The margins of this laceration are at all points jagged and irregular, with additional lacerations extending in varying directions and for varying distances from the main laceration. In addition, there is a laceration of the corpus callosum extending from the genu to the tail. Exposed in this latter laceration are the interiors of the right lateral and third ventricles.

When viewed from the vertex the left cerebral hemisphere is intact. There is marked engorgement of meningeal blood vessels of the left temporal and frontal regions with considerable associated sub-arachnoid hemorrhage. The gyri and sulci over the left hemisphere are of essentially normal size and distribution. Those on the right are too fragmented and distorted for satisfactory description.

When viewed from the basilar aspect the disruption of the right cortex is again obvious. There is a longitudinal laceration of the mid-brain through the floor of the third ventricle just behind the optic chiasm and the mammillary bodies. This laceration partially communicates with an oblique 1.5 cm. tear through the left cerebral peduncle. There are irregular superficial lacerations over the basilar aspects of the left temporal and frontal lobes.

In the interest of preserving the specimen coronal sections are not made. The following sections are taken for microscopic examination:

- a. From the margin of the laceration in the right parietal lobe.
- b. From the margin of the laceration in the corpus callosum.
- c. From the anterior portion of the laceration in the right frontal lobe.
- d. From the contused left fronto-parietal cortex.
- e. From the line of transection of the spinal cord.
- f. From the right cerebellar cortex.
- g. From the superficial laceration of the basilar aspect of the left temporal lobe.

MEN

PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT

No. A63-272

Page 2

During the course of this examination seven (7) black and white and six (6) color 4x5 inch negatives are exposed but not developed (the cassettes containing these negatives have been delivered by hand to Rear Admiral George W. Burkley, MC, USN, White House Physician).

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION:

BRAIN:

Multiple sections from representative areas as noted above are examined. All sections are essentially similar and show extensive disruption of brain tissue with associated hemorrhage. In none of the sections examined are there significant abnormalities other than those directly related to the recent trauma.

HEART:

Sections show a moderate amount of sub-epicardial fat. The coronary arteries, myocardial fibers, and endocardium are unremarkable.

LUNGS:

Sections through the grossly described area of contusion in the right upper lobe exhibit disruption of alveolar walls and recent hemorrhage into alveoli. Sections are otherwise essentially unremarkable.

LIVER:

Sections show the normal hepatic architecture to be well preserved. The parenchymal cells exhibit markedly granular cytoplasm indicating high glycogen content which is characteristic of the "liver biopsy pattern" of sudden death.

SPLEEN:

Sections show no significant abnormalities.

KIDNEYS:

Sections show no significant abnormalities aside from dilatation and engorgement of blood vessels of all calibers.

SKIN WOUNDS:

Sections through the wounds in the occipital and upper right posterior thoracic regions are essentially similar. In each there is loss of continuity of the epidermis with coagulation necrosis of the tissues at the wound margins. The scalp wound exhibits several small fragments of bone at its margins in the subcutaneous tissue.

FINAL SUMMARY:

This supplementary report covers in more detail the extensive degree of cerebral trauma in this case. However neither this portion of the examination nor the microscopic examinations alter the previously submitted report or add significant details to the cause of death.

J. J. Humes
J. J. HUMES
CDR, MC, USN, 497831

1221