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- Essay on Neruda

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or smell" whatever they liked. There were wild shrieks, catcalls and laughter, and for a moment, dangerous surging. The crowd was told to take 15 breaths in unison. No one fainted.

The lights arced back on. In the dim melee, Miss Oswald had been disarmed. "I want my gun," she wailed at the top of her lungs.

Whispering in Kesey's ear, a sloe-eyed girl in a mind-boggling polka-dot pants suit gestured excitedly toward the entrance. Kesey's eyes narrowed in a silent-movie parody of horror. "Some fink from the Houston Chronicle is stealing our bus!" he bawled. "Jesus Christ—that's not where it's at!"

He raced to the door, peered out for a second, then strode back to the dais. "I didn't think it was possible," he murmured dreamily.

A ravishing platinum-blond teenybopper in denim jeans and jacket, standing on one of the deep window sills, leapt to the floor, as if on cue, and called: "Hey, Kesey, let's all get in a pile!" The cry went up across the hall. Babb whipped out a bandana: "All right—wherever I drop the cloth, that's where the pile begins." Couples sitting in his way scuttled warily away. He dropped the handkerchief, and with a whoop, the pile-up began.

Hermit, a gnomish Prankster in a skull cap, frantically rolled paper airplanes and hurled them into the whirling maelstrom of boots, beards, miniskirts and momentarily bared bottoms.

The crowd started to drift away after the 40 or so hardy bodies began to disentangle themselves, Kesey looked flushed and pleased. Would he and the Pranksters stay on in Houston awhile? McMurtry, their host, began to look nervous again. "That depends on how long we're permitted to stay," Kesey said cryptically.

On the way out, someone asked Miss Oswald if she'd had a good time.

"They took my gun away, these unethical people!" she wailed. "I WANT MY GUN BACK!"



Lillian & Harold Weisberg

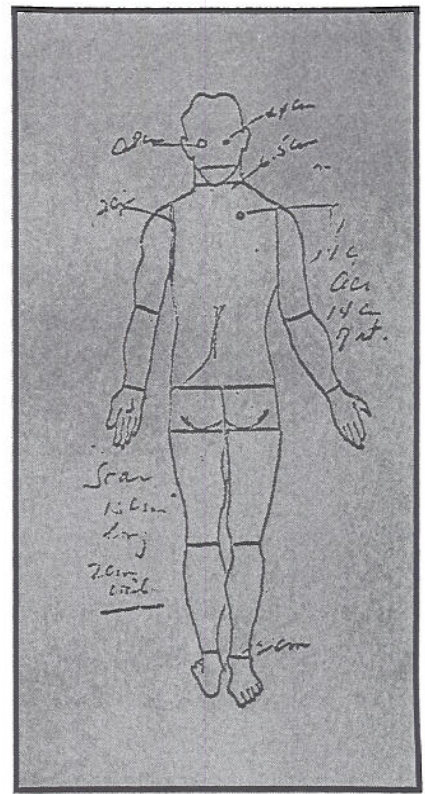
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THE KING IS NAKED



**FIVE CRITICS
ON THE ASSASSINATION
OF JOHN F. KENNEDY**

INTRODUCTION

ROBERT BONAZZI

Each of us remembers what he was doing that day—where he was the moment the news reached us. That moment, that place made us part of a unique and and senseless history. We were numbed: Not only by the murder of John F. Kennedy, but by the photographs of Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin. Strenuously as some of us tried, positive as the circumstantial evidence seemed to be, we were not all certain Oswald had acted alone.

Then, without warning, Oswald was murdered on television. It was videotaped and each playback was the same: Oswald's grimace; Ruby's hunched plunge. And we watched it over and over and Oswald died, to our disbelief, every time. We continued to watch and the nightmare swelled, complexed itself with doubt upon doubt.

In Midlothian, Texas, twenty-five miles from Dallas, Penn Jones, Jr. whispered it. At first, he might not have believed his own words; at first, he might not have known what it was like to whisper: "The King is naked." But he went back to Dallas and started asking questions. He was suspicious, to be sure, of the allegations that Oswald was influenced by Communists. Jones, editor of the diminitive weekly, the MIDLOTHIAN MIRROR (810 circulation), had been fighting Dallas right-wingism for twenty years and he immediately suspected more than we were told. Like most of us, Jones bought the idea of the single assassin until Ruby killed Oswald.

We waited for it to be over. Incongruously, we hoped for Monday. It came all too slowly, but it came. We leaned back into our lives, buried our tired imaginations in our work. We struggled to accept the stark dictims: A President dead, an assassin murdered, a misguided avenger imprisoned in the Dallas County jail. We ordered coffee and waited for life to stand up, of its own accord, and walk again. The parade was over, a funeral had ended, everyone knew the President was dead. No one cried: "The King is naked!"

Jones began his investigation unaware that others were working on it, too. "I was the only man I knew of in Texas working on the assassination: I knew more people in Texas working on the Lincoln assassination than on the Kennedy assassination." But he was not the only one working.

Shirley Martin, an Oklahoma housewife, was in Dallas asking questions. Much of her early work, and later, many of her taped interviews, were invaluable to Mark Lane and his book *Rush To Judgement*. Later, Jones also aided Lane, who lived with the Jones' for a time. "In many ways," Jones and his wife have said, "Mark and Shirley and Harold (Weisburg)—all the original critics, have become our closest friends."

Jones started writing editorials in the *Mirror* asking questions about the disparities between the conclusions in *The Warren Report* and the raw materials in the twenty-six volumes of *Hearings and Exhibits*. This has been the essential course of most of the critics, and most certainly a valid one. Jones combined his editorials in expanded form into the private printing of *Forgive My Grief* Volume One. The two important contributions of the book, besides the general editorial indictment against the *Report* and the American press, are the discoveries of the meeting in Jack Ruby's and George Senator's apartment and the "strange deaths" surrounding the post-assassination matrix. Jones' work was picked up in November, 1966 by *Ramparts* magazine (this aided in doubling their subscriptions in two months and catapulting them into national awareness) and reprinted six months later in *Cosmopolitan*.

The list of strange deaths has grown beyond the original thirteen and Jones continues his investigation and much more in his second volume of *Forgive My Grief*.

But still, like all the critics, Jones urges everyone not to take his word or the Commission's but to check into the testimony personally. "I urge citizens to not only read the *Report*, but to read enough of the testimony first hand in order to make up their own minds."

When Penn Jones first whispered that the king was naked or who the suitors were who convinced him he was wearing a new suit of clothes. But it came out anyway, it came out naturally. And when it came out, it did not come out because Jones was unduly suspicious or because he was suffering from an acute case of paranoia. It came out, if only in a whisper at first, because there were too many inequities, because there were too many unanswered

questions.

If the country editor was whispering in Midlothian, Joachim Joesten's whisper was forming into a statement or perhaps a scream, and Thomas G. Buchanan was flatly asking: *Who Killed Kennedy?* Joesten, a German journalist, wrote *Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy?* in 1964 and pointed to a false Oswald and to a right-wing conspiracy. But the book was too early and its conclusions, however valid they may yet prove to be, were based on a large body of misinformation surrounding the immediate post-assassination period. Buchanan's book, though intriguing, suffers from a similar factuality because it was also published in 1964. This is not a dismissal of Buchanan or Joesten, for they have done subsequent work, but only an objective realization of their first books.

However important Sylvan Fox's book, *The Unanswered Questions About President Kennedy's Assassination*, might have been to American Readers in 1965, it does not rank with Harold Weisberg's dogged and perceptive survey of the entire *Report*, published privately that year and in a 1966 Dell paperback Weisberg's *Whitewash* has been unfairly snubbed by many critics, but it was the first important review of the Commission's work because it searched for alternatives, as well as asked questions, to every facet of the case against Oswald. *Whitewash*, though it has reportedly sold over 400,000 in paperback, has not had the popular recognition that Mark Lane's *Rush To Judgement* and Edward Jay Epstein's *Inquest* (both published a year after *Whitewash*) have had on the people's general distrust of *The Warren Report*.

I do not want to dwell here on Weisberg, except to say that his work of examining photographic evidence has been astounding and convincing. His case, from the famous Altgen's photograph (which could very well spot Lee Harvey Oswald in the doorway of the School Book Depository) is a highly convincing argument—both logically and visually. And he has taken the case apart step by step so that it seems, as Mark Lane has said "the *Report* proves nothing conclusively except that Ruby killed Oswald and that only because it was seen on national television and cannot be denied."

Buchanan and Joesten's early work was completed

in time for the Commission to investigate their allegations of (1) a right wing plot and (2) that Oswald was an FBI and/or CIA agent. But the Commission did neither—they only made it clear that both authors were known to have Communist leanings and that both works were fanciful. Instead of checking into the charges as an autonomous investigative body, the Commission asked the FBI and the CIA to vindicate themselves from the charges. This was easily done:

REPRESENTATIVE BOGGS. And the allegations. . . made about this man being an agent either of the CIA or the FBI are false?

MR. HOOVER. Well, I can certainly speak for the FBI that is false and I have discussed the matter, naturally with Mr. McCone, the Director of CIA, and he, of course, will no doubt appear himself, but there is no indication at all that he was employed by them. We frequently get that kind of a story from individuals who, when they get into some kind of difficulty, will claim they were working for the CIA or they were working for the FBI.

REPRESENTATIVE BOGGS. Surely.

(*Commission Hearings*, Vol V, pp 105-6)



Later, CIA Director McCone was called and much of his questioning was handled by Allen Dulles, former head of the CIA who was fired by President Kennedy after the Bay of Pigs fiasco. This kind of offhandedness has led to much of the basic criticism of *The Warren Report*. Answers are needed for those who have cried out now for so long: "The King is naked!"

“Why is the King naked?” “Why are we silenced when he passes? Why not cry out what we know is right?” And why are the autopsy photographs and X-rays locked away from us? And why, when the FBI and the CIA is accused of something, do we just deny it anyway? Why must all escape the finger of accusation when Oswald, who has yet to be proven guilty of anything, cannot, even with his Mother’s assistance, simply be called the *Accused Assassin*?

These questions have been posed now in *Rush To Judgement, Whitewash, The Oswald Affair* by French journalist Leo Sauvage; and by writers and statesmen all over the world. But there have been no answers. The Commission members are mute, except recently on CBS’s *Face The Nation*, John J. McCloy gave us some lame answers. More importantly, McCloy asked a vital question: Why did he, as one of the seven members, not get to examine the autopsy photographs and X-rays? . . . “We couldn’t have interpreted the X-rays if we had them,” he said, “but probably it would have been better to have them for the sake of completeness in view of all the to-do that’s occurred since.”

It seems frivolous, at best, to refer to the questions around the strange death of our President as “all the to-do that’s occurred since.” The “to-do” did not find life in a vacuum, to be sure.

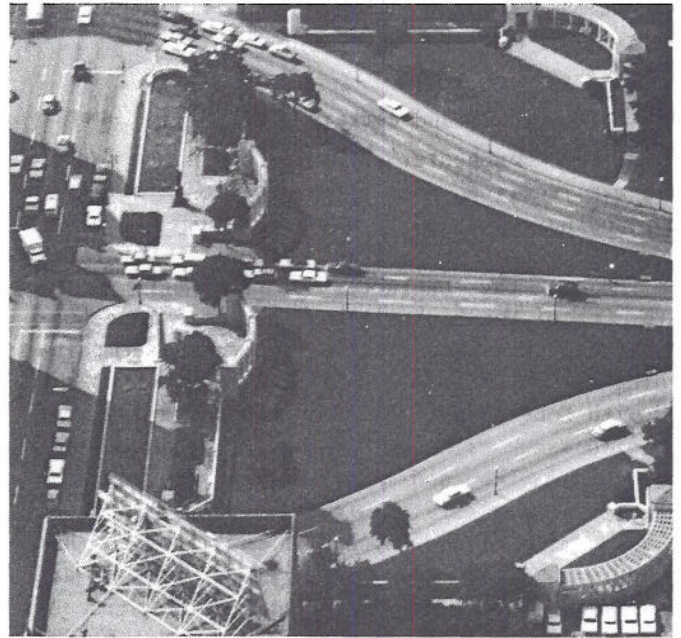
Instead of answers, the critics have been ridiculed. Instead of answers they have been ignored. Instead of the Truth they have been returned a long, long silence—a silence not even interrupted by breathing. Instead of answers, there have been books and television programs and lies against a handful of honest Americans.

The books against the critics are *The Truth About the Assassination* by *Newsweek* reporter Charles Roberts and a co-operative book by Lawrence Schiller and Richard Warren Lewis called *The Scavengers and Critics of The Warren Report*.

First of all it must be noted that neither of these books tries to answer any questions; neither of these books sheds any new illumination on the controversy, but only goes into character motivations of each critic. What poses as character analysis, however, becomes character assassination. Both books have advertised themselves as *The Answer To The Warren Report Critics*, but never does

either book mention *The Answers FOR the Warren Report Critics*. And here is the problem these men sit back and take pot-shots at the critics and not at the questions the critics pose.

The main contention of both of these original paperback books is that all the critics have twisted testimony to write books to make money. Yet they never consider that too many of the critics have lost money; that Vincent Salandria, one of the most important critics refuses to take money. These people and everyone who went to Dallas, everyone who read the *Report* objectively have not been concerned with the case to make money for themselves. The critics (and so many other Americans and Europeans as well) have asked questions because a President has been murdered. This is no small matter and it can never cease being a large matter as long as we are not given the Truth. Even then we will grieve the loss of John F. Kennedy. Now we have more than his memory to grieve; we have a legacy of doubt.



Overhead photograph of assassination site by Richard Stark. Book Depository Building is in the left foreground. Grassy Knoll is directly to the right of it, both bordering Elm Street which was travelled by the motorcade.

Other books, which are not strictly attacks on the critics, have defended the Commission's case. The most notable is Gerald Ford's *Portrait of the Assassin*. Ford, House Minority Leader and one of the Commission's seven members, has written (in 1965) what must be termed an unfortunate book. It is no real examination of the case, only a dramatization of the Commission's basic tenets. It is essentially a soap-opera biography of Oswald. Its theme (p. 433) is "One of the deepest mysteries at the outset of the hearings was why Lee Oswald would want to kill a President?" Such a theme (and it must be remembered that this was the theme of *The Report* also and not just an offhand comment by Ford) can lead to only one answer, thus ignoring any manifestation of another answer—namely that there might have been a conspiracy. And so Ford rips off a sentence that stings. He speaks of "the outset of the hearings". . . "why Lee Oswald would want to kill a President?" He was already convinced that "Lee" (not Lee Harvey) had murdered "a President" (not THE President) at "the outset of the hearings". . . all that was left to Ford were the mysteries!

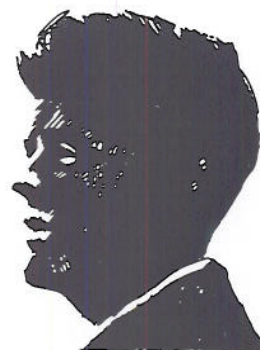
More sensational and certainly more melodramatic is William Manchester's *Death of A President*, which has received more press than *Gone With the Wind*, and has managed to supply as many myths to the assassination as Margaret Mitchell's novel has supplied to the character of the Negro in the South. Out of Manchester's book has come more publicity than the assassination it would seem; including three original paperback books about his feud with Robert and Jacqueline Kennedy and almost an entire issue of *Esquire*. Manchester made headlines for months and made a large sum from *Look* which serialized his non-fiction novel. The book has sold well, of course, and it must be said that Manchester, Mrs. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson all come out the worse for it. But this maudlin account no doubt stirred some, and even if it is the wrong story, its characters are the same. Manchester's plot regardless of how individually gory and overstated it is, will always be indebted to *The Warren Report* as William Shakespeare was indebted to Plutarch.

Now the case has moved out of the libraries and drug store paperback racks and into the courts. Ironically, it will be the first time the assassination has found itself a forum for trying itself where convictions of live people will take place. The case has moved out of the legacy of Lee Harvey Oswald and into the Parish of Jim Garrison. Besides the obvious point that Garrison, New Orleans District Attorney, is the first critic to have any power to indict suspects in a conspiracy, it must also be noted that if Garrison fails, the assassination is reduced to academia forever. The turning point of the case, if there is a "real" case, is on the huge shoulders of Garrison. Not everyone, not even every critic in this collection, agrees that Garrison has a "real" case.

What are we to believe about the Garrison probe? The press and television (most notably *Newsweek* and NBC have made Garrison appear a fake, a man on the outer fringe of lunacy. Questions are always put to Garrison about his motives, his personality, his methods. All of these questions are irrelevant. The only *real* question is: Does he have the Truth? Is Garrison right?

If Garrison convicts Clay Shaw and others after Shaw, we may yet know the real truth about November 22, 1963. If he fails to convict Shaw, we may see a politician fall off the longest limb in history. But if he is right—and we must allow him the chance to prove it—then we have been lied to by our government. We must not remain in silence any longer. The dirt is building, layer upon layer, over the groundwork of Kennedy's death. If Garrison is right, we must get to the bottom. Each of us must then see that we too stand a chance of being dusty.

October 1967



Vincent J. Salandria serves as legal consultant in the Philadelphia area for the American Civil Liberties Union, Women Strike for Peace and SANE. Though he spent ten days in Dallas investigating the assassination, the material in his analysis of the President's head wound is drawn from The Warren Report and its supporting twenty-six volumes. Salandria has published articles on the assassination in Esquire, The Minority of One and Liberation, from which this article was excerpted with permission.

THE KENNEDY HEAD WOUND

VINCENT J. SALANDRIA

"The complexity of these fractures and the fragments thus produced tax satisfactory verbal description and are better appreciated in photographs and roentgenograms which are prepared." (Autopsy Report, W-541)

This is perhaps the most significant statement concerning the wounds in the President's head. Commander James J. Humes, Director of Laboratories of the Naval Medical School at Bethesda, Who supervised the autopsy, made the following comment in his testimony before the Commission:

Commander Humes: "I have noted in my report that a detailed description of the lines of these fractures and of the types of fragments that were thus made were very difficult of verbal description, and it was precisely for this reason that the photographs were made so one might appreciate more clearly how much damage had been to the skull."

Mr. Specter: "Were the photographs made available then, Dr. Humes, when Exhibit 388 was prepared?"
Commander Humes: "No, sir." (2H 351)

Still later in his testimony Commander Humes contradicts the autopsy report and his former testimony as follows:

Commander Humes: "I do not believe, sir, that the availability of the X-rays would materially assist the Commission." (2H 371)

Whereas in the autopsy report Commander Humes confessed the wounds of the head "tax satisfactory description," he later admits that the artist who portrayed the wounds of the head in Exhibit 388 was only given verbal description to aid in the preparation of his drawings. He no longer believes that "the X-rays would materially assist the Commission."

It was the Commission's job, *inter alia*, to ascertain the nature of the head wounds. Commander Humes had the obligation to provide the X-rays and photographs of these wounds which "tax satisfactory description."

Drawings based on verbal description were inadequate for the Commission's purpose. Mr. Specter and his Commission fellow lawyers are too experienced in law to accept the secondary evidence of the drawings in lieu of the best available evidence, to wit, the X-rays and photographs.

To discuss the head wounds of the President without the X-rays and photographs is to undertake this crucial work without the essential tools. Therefore, our comments relating to these wounds, must be considered tentative since the Commission's data are incomplete. If I do not mistake the quality of our people, their pressure on the United States Government in the exercise of their right and desire to know, will ultimately compel the production of this evidence. The Government in turn, must recognize that the production of this evidence is

the *sine qua non* of credibility in this case. Working under this handicap, we will be compelled to depart from the official case record to include three newspaper comments in our evidence. First, we will state the official version of the President's head wound.

"The detailed autopsy of President Kennedy performed on the night of November 22 at the Bethesda Naval Hospital led the three examining pathologists to conclude that the smaller hole in the rear of the President's skull was the point of entry and the large opening on the right side of his head was the wound of exit..." (W-86)

"...Colonel Finck testified: 'President Kennedy was, in my opinion, shot from the rear. The bullet entered in the back of the head and went out on the right side of his skull...he was shot from above and behind.'" (W-86)

Certainly one of the closest eyewitnesses was Mrs. John F. Kennedy. Since President Kennedy's head was pitched into her by the force of the bullet impact, and she held him for a while, it is probable that she saw her husband's head wounds. Unfortunately we cannot know what she testified to with respect to them. For in the midst of her testimony appears the cryptic note: "Reference to wounds deleted." (5H 180)

Why these references were deleted is a mystery. J. Lee Rankin, the Commission's counsel, assured us that only classified material involving national security was withheld from the transcript volumes. (Philadelphia Inquirer, Nov. 20, 1964) As we have previously asked, what possible connection can the wounds inflicted on President Kennedy by a lone assassin have with national security? Only wounds indicative of a trajectory pointing to an assassin other than the "lone assassin" could have possible significance for the most bloated concept of national security. Commission censorship compels us to turn from Mrs. Kennedy to other eyewitnesses for help concerning the President's head wounds. Here again the Special agents assigned to the protection of the President offer their trained observations. Special Agent Samuel A. Kinney was "the driver of the follow-up car." (17H 730) He reported the strike as follows:

"I saw one shot strike the President in the right side of the head. The President then fell to the seat to the left toward Mrs. Kennedy." (18H 731)

Special Agent Kinney observed a hit on the right. He describes the President as falling leftward after being hit on the right side of the head. This conforms to what is shown by the Zapruder films which follow frame 313 (head impact picture). (18H 70-80)

Seated in the left rear of the Presidential follow-up car was Special Agent George W. Hickey who observed the following:

"I heard what appeared to be two shots and it seemed as if the right side of his head was hit and his hair flew forward." (18H 765)

These agents thought they saw a hit on the right side of the President's head. The evidence of the Zapruder



The angle of this photograph is approximately that of photographer Abraham Zapruder on the day of the assassination. He was situated on the Grassy Knoll and had his view partially obstructed by a traffic sign which has since been removed. Photo: Richard Stark.

films, which shows President Kennedy's body being driven to the left provides an indication of the direction from which this death-dealing shot came. A body being propelled to the left by a shot is indicative that the shot was fired from the right. A hit from the right side (grassy knoll area), which is supported by the statements of 51 eyewitnesses in the Commission's compilation of the evidence, would satisfactorily account for the President being pushed over to the left.

At Parkland Hospital, Special Agent Hurchel Jacks saw the President's body. He said about the head wounds: "it appeared that the bullet had struck above the right ear or near the temple." (18H 801) If there was a hit on the right side, delivered from the right, then the left side of the head would be the logical place to look for some exit point of the missile or any part. We must examine the eyewitness testimony to determine if there is evidence of any outlet channel on the left portion of the President's head.

The New York Times of November 23, 1963 (page 5, columns 7 and 8) carried a story entitled "10 Feet from the President." This story refers to Norman Similas, 34 years of age, from Willowdale, Toronto, Canada, who was 10 feet from the President when a bullet struck his head. He saw the following:

"I could see a hole in the President's left temple and his head and hair were bathed in blood."

A. P. Photographer, James P. Altgens, who took the famous picture of President Kennedy registering his first hit or hits, was on the south side of Elm Street, to the left of the President. He said:

"There was flesh particles that flew out of the side of his head in my direction from where I was standing, so much that it indicated to me that the shot came out of the left side of his head." (7H 518)

The fact that the head hit caused particles to fly southward indicated force having been applied from the north. This is evidence of a shot from the grassy knoll through the right parietal and out the left temporal region.

Altgens' testimony to the effect that flesh was blown out the left side of the President's head is supported by two Dallas motorcycle policemen who were riding to the left rear of the Presidential limousine. Officer B. J. Martin in a deposition for the Commission, testified as follows:

Mr. Martin: "I was assigned to ride on the left-hand rear side of President Kennedy."

Mr. Ball: "And were you riding alone there, or was another officer riding with you?"

Mr. Martin: "There was another officer riding with me. B. W. Hargis."

Mr. Ball: "He was parallel to you on another motorcycle?"

Mr. Martin: "Yes sir; we were." (6H 289-291)

Officer Martin then told of hearing the shots, going to Parkland Hospital, and directing traffic there. While working traffic, Officer Martin made a gory discovery.

Mr. Ball: "You had a white helmet on?"

Mr. Martin: "Yes."

Mr. Ball: "Did you notice any stains on your helmet?"

Mr. Martin: "Yes, sir; during the process of working traffic there, I noticed that there were blood stains on the windshield on my motor and then I pulled off my helmet and I noticed there were blood stains on the left side of my helmet."

Mr. Ball: "To give a more accurate description of the left side, could you tell us about where it started with reference to the forehead?"

Mr. Martin: "It was just to the left of what would be the center of my forehead--approximately halfway, about a quarter of the helmet had spots of blood on it."

Mr. Ball: "And were there any other spots of any other material on the helmet there besides blood?"

Mr. Martin: "Yes, sir; there was other matter that looked like pieces of flesh."

Mr. Ball: "What about your uniform?"

Mr. Martin: "There was blood and matter on my left shoulder of my uniform."

Mr. Ball: "You pointed to a place in front of your shoulder, about the clavicle region?"

Mr. Martin: "Yes, sir."

Mr. Ball: "On the front of your uniform and not on the side?"

Mr. Martin: "No, sir."

Mr. Ball: "That would be left, was it?"

Mr. Martin: "Yes, on the left side."

Mr. Ball: "And just below the level of the shoulder?"

Mr. Martin: "Yes, sir."

Mr. Ball: "And what spots were there?"

Mr. Martin: "They were blood spots and other matter."

Mr. Ball: "And what did you notice on your windshield?"

Mr. Martin: "There was blood and other matter on my windshield and also on the motor." (6H 292)

Officer Martin, therefore, while riding his motorcycle to the left rear of the President was splattered with blood and material from the President's head while riding into a wind. This also supports a shot from the right of the President, through the right side and out the left side of the skull. We will now focus on the testimony of the other policeman, Bobby W. Hargis, who was riding his motorcycle abreast of Officer Martin. Mr. Hargis told of hearing two shots.

Mr. Stern: "Did something happen to you personally in connection with the shot you have just described?"

Mr. Hargis: "You mean about the blood hitting me?"

Mr. Stern: "Yes."

Mr. Hargis: "Yes; when President Kennedy straightened back up in the car the bullet hit him in the head, the one that killed him and it seemed like his head exploded, and I was splattered with blood and brain, and kind of bloody water. It wasn't really blood..."
(6H 294)

So Officers Martin and Hargis, riding on the left rear of the Presidential limousine had themselves and their vehicles splattered by blood, brains and fluids flying from the head of the fatally struck President. It would be surprising indeed if a bullet fired from the rear, impacting on the right rear of the President's head and exiting from the right side of his head, had propelled material to the left and rear of the limousine. Not being familiar with the Dealey Plaza physics applicable to this unique Commission frame of reference, we imagine, for the time being, that a bullet striking from the rear on the right side would have sent flesh and blood flying out right front and not left rear.

Once the Presidential limousine arrived at Parkland Hospital, a related mystery began to take shape immediately. On November 24th, 1963, *The Philadelphia Sunday Bulletin* carried on page 3 an article describing how Father Oscar L. Huber, pastor of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church of Dallas, administered the last rites to the President. The article reports that Father Huber:

"...wet his right thumb with holy oil and anointed a Cross over the President's forehead, noticing as he did, a 'terrible wound' over his left eye."

The report of Dr. Robert N. McClelland of Parkland Hospital, who attended the President, dated November 22nd, 1963 at 4:45 P.M. corresponds exactly to what Father

Huber had seen:

"The cause of death was due to massive head and brain injury from a gunshot wound of the left temple." (W-526. 527)

Father Huber was not called as a witness. Nor was Dr. McClelland asked for an explanation of his designation of a wound in the left temple as the cause of death. Apparently the Commission was not concerned with how posterity would regard these two men for seeing a left temporal wound of a "terrible" or "massive" nature when no such wound was supposed to be present.

But, these two men were in good company. You will recall the Canadian, Norman Similas, had seen: "a hole in the President's left temple." A.P. photographer Altgens thought: "...the shot came out of the left side of his head."

Still others join Father Huber, Dr. McClelland, and Messrs. Altgens and Similas in suffering from this curious visual disorder. Dr. Adolph Hartung Giesecke, Jr of Parkland Hospital was no less subject to illusion on this score.

Mr. Specter: "What did you observe specifically as to the nature of the cranial wound?"

Dr. Giesecke: "It seemed that from the vertex to the left ear, and from the browline to the occiput on the left-hand side of the head the cranium was entirely missing."

Mr. Specter: "Was that the left-hand side of the head, or the right-hand of the head?"

Dr. Giesecke: "I would say the left, but this is just my memory of it." (6H 74)

This is strange. Still stranger is the fact that Dr. Marion Jenkins of Parkland Hospital also made the identical report of the left temporal wound.

Dr. Jenkins: "...I don't know whether this is right or not, but I thought there was a wound on the left temporal area, right in the hairline and right above the zygomatic process."

Mr. Specter: "The autopsy report discloses no such development, Dr. Jenkins."

Dr. Jenkins: "Well, I was feeling for—I was palpating here for a pulse to see whether the closed chest cardiac massage was effective or not and this probably was some blood that had come from the other point and so I thought there was a wound there also."
(6H 48)

Six people in all thought there was a wound in the left temporal area of the skull. If these six people were mistaken, the Government can prove them in error by producing the X-rays and photographs taken at the autopsy. These six witnesses are backed up by the evidence of the splattering of Officers Martin and Hargis who were to the left and rear of the Presidential limousine. All of the above points directly to a hit from the right and not from the rear of the President. The evidence against the Government theory that the bullet which struck President Kennedy in the head was delivered from the rear is considerable.

Let us now examine the evidence which the Commission offered to support its hypothesis.

The Report states the following:

“ . . . the smaller hole in the rear of the President's skull was the point of entry. . . ” (W-86)

To prove the existence of such a small hole in the back of the President's head was essential to the lone-assassin theory. For the eyewitnesses at the scene testified to a hit on the right side of the skull of the President, while he was facing forward. Such a hit is most consistent with a bullet delivered from the north side of Elm Street, which position was not that of the alleged assassin.

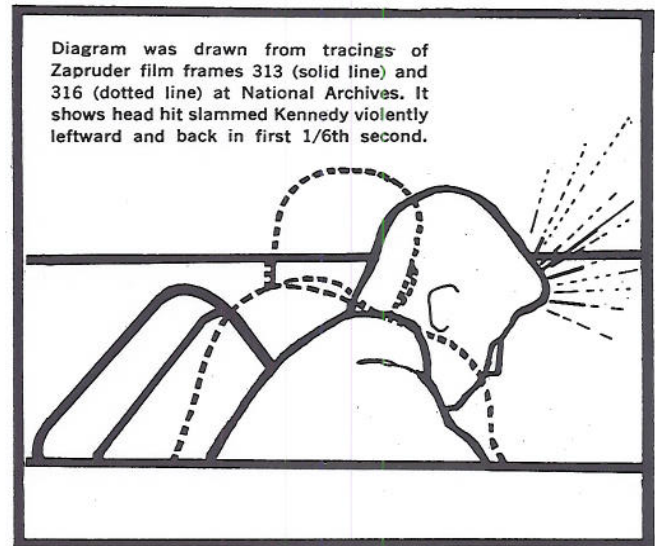
All the Government's proof of this small wound in the back of the President's head amounts to the statements of the doctors who conducted the autopsy, Drs. Boswell, Finck and Humes whose report described a: “small occipital wound. . .” (W-541) In addition, Special Agent Roy H. Kellerman testified to the existence of a large wound on the right side of the head and another wound in diameter equal to his little finger near the end of the hairline.

Exactly where this wound was, according to Mr. Kellerman's testimony, we will never know because of Mr. Specter's confusing designation of the wound as follows:

“Mr. Kellerman. Entry into this man's head was right below that wound.”

Mr. Specter. Indicating the bottom of the hairline immediately to the right of the ear about the lower third of the ear?”

To the right of the ear represents a point off the head. Therefore. Mr. Specter has obliterated any possible support Mr. Kellerman was providing for the Government's contention that there was a small wound in the occipital region.



Only the three autopsy doctors mention this wound. Many are asked about it. No one else confirms its existence. Let us review the parade of witnesses among whom Mr. Specter fished for some support for the existence of this small wound. The fishing was poor, to say the least.

Dr. Ronald Coy Jones told Mr. Specter that he saw: “ . . . what appeared to be an exit wound in the posterior portion of the skull. . . ” (6H 56) Dr. Jones was of no help. He saw an exit wound where the Commission wanted an entry wound.

Dr. Marion Thomas Jenkins told Mr. Specter plenty about a massive wound in the left temporal region, but he could cast little light on the wound which Mr. Specter sought to establish in the back of the skull.

Dr. Gene Colman Akin, a Parkland physician, was able to advise Mr. Specter about damage in the right offipital-parietal portion of the skull. But what he told did not conform to the tiny, neat little hole which the Government needed to support a hit from the rear.

So, off to Dr. Paul Conrad Peters went the hapless Mr. Specter.

“Dr. Peters. . . I noticed that there was a large defect in the occiput.”

“Dr. Peters. It seemed to me that in the right occipitalparietal area that there was a large defect. There appeared to be bone loss and brain loss in the area.”

Mr. Specter. Did you notice any holes below the occi-

put, say, in this area below here?

"Dr. Peters. No. . ." (6H 71)

Dr. Peters was willing to discuss a large hole in the occipitalparietal area with Mr. Spector. But small holes—no.

Dr. Adolph Hartung Giesecke, Jr. was the next doctor to have his memory conjured by the pertinacious Mr. Spector. He told of a "very large cranial wound" on "the left-hand side of the head." This was absolutely of no help to Mr. Spector, who tried again. (6H 74)

Dr. Malcolm Oliver Perry can't help Mr. Spector either.

"Dr. Perry. I saw no injuries other than the one which I noted to you, which was a large avulsive injury to the right occipitoparietal area, but I did not do a minute examination of his head.

"Mr. Spector. Did you notice a bullet hole below the large evulsed area?"

"Dr. Perry. No; I did not. (6H 11)

Mr. Spector went on to Dr. Robert Nelson McClelland. Dr. McClelland was free in his discussion of a large wound in the skull but nothing about a small hole.

Dr. Charles Rufus Baxter represented another chance for Mr. Spector.

"Dr. Baxter. The only wound I actually saw—Dr. Clark examined this above the manubrium of the sternum, the sternal notch. This wound was in temporal parietal plate of bone laid outward to the side and there was a large area, oh, I would say 6 by 8 or 10 cm. of lacerated brain oozing from this wound, part of which was on the table and made rather a massive blood loss mixed with it and around it.

"Mr. Spector. Did you notice any bullet hole below the large opening at the top of the head?"

"Dr. Baxter. No; I personally did not." (6H 41-42)

Special Agent William Robert Greer also rejected Spector's suggestion. He described a wound in the skull which was in the "upper right side" where: "The skull was completely. . . gone."

Special Agent Clinton J. Hill spoke of the following wound in the back of the head:

"Mr. Hill. The right rear portion of his head was missing. It was lying in the rear seat of the car. His brain was exposed. There was blood and bits of brain all over the entire rear portion of the car. Mrs. Kennedy was completely covered with blood. There was so much blood you could not tell if there had been any other wound or not, except for the large gaping wound in the right rear portion of the head." (6H 141)

So, the Commission concluded, as it had to, in order to retain its single-assassin-in-the-rear theory, that there was a small wound of entry in the occiput of the President's skull. It is easy to accept the existence of such a wound. All one requires for such is the willingness to place absolute faith in the Bethesda autopsy doctors, whose testimony offered by Commander Humes is so patently self-contradictory on other points that it would have been self-impeaching in any criminal or civil trial where Court sought to have evidence weighed impartially.

Without the X-rays and photographs, in the face of such tremendous evidence against the existence of such a small hole in the back, the Warren Commission lost all semblance of fact-finding when it argued the existence of a small rear head wound. The evidence which was offered to it clearly weighed overwhelmingly in the direction of a large and not a small wound in the occipitalparietal area of the skull.

SUMMARY

The Commission's findings have to be considered in themselves inconclusive, as based on insufficient and secondary evidence. There is some credible evidence of a right side entry in the President's head. Six people asserted there was a left-temporal wound, among whom were three doctors who had examined the President at Parkland. The existence or non-existence of the left-temporal wound can only be settled by the Bethesda doctors concerning the existence of a small entry wound in the back of the President's head can hardly be considered conclusive in the light of the numerous medical expert of Parkland who uniformly deny seeing such a wound.

We cannot rule out the possible role of a dum dum bullet as having caused the wounds on President Kennedy's head. Whether such a bullet did inflict the fatal wounds on Kennedy is dependent upon whether the small hole in the occiput of the President did in fact exist and whether it was in fact a wound of entry. If the right-parietal wound was the wound of entry, this would indicate that the fatal bullet was fired from the right of the President and not the rear, and was a dum dum bullet, not a copper-jacketed military bullet of the type allegedly employed by a gunman stationed in the Texas School Book Depository Building. Definite conclusions concerning the head wounds must await the issuance of the crucial X-rays and negatives made at Bethesda.

Shirley Martin is one of the early investigators of the assassination, and her tireless re-research and interviews in Dallas have been instrumental in aiding many of the critics. Her work has appeared previously in Latitudes.

AN OPEN LETTER TO FATHER HUBER

Oh, Father, I am so sorry you don't remember my children and me. Richard Warren Lewis, author of "The Scavengers" (New York World Journal Tribune, 1-22-67) writes:

"The priest (the Very Rev. Oscar Huber, pastor of the Holy Trinity Church in Dallas) DENIES ever meeting Mrs. Martin OR HAVING ANY KNOWLEDGE OF SUCH A WOUND (over President Kennedy's left eye)."

Yet, I and my children (Victoria 21, Teresa 15, Steven 12, Mike 11) interviewed you on November 22, 1964, at which meeting you detailed for us what you thought to have been a bullet hole over President Kennedy's left eye on November 22, 1963. (A story quoting you in this regard appeared in the 11-24-63 Philadelphia Sunday Bulletin). The children and I had gone to Dallas for the purpose of honoring President Kennedy at Dealey Plaza on the first anniversary of his death. We attended mass that day (a Sunday) at your church; I introduced myself to you as Mrs. Mark Martin from the parish of Father John Ceffi, Hominy, Oklahoma. You led us into a study which was to the left of a fairly long hall where we sat and talked for at least twenty minutes. On a desk you had a number of copies of an article you had written called "President Kennedy's Final Hours, November 22, 1963, and you told us you wanted very much to send a copy to Mrs. Kennedy, but that you were hesitant about approaching her. "Do you think it would be a good idea?" you asked. You were concerned about mailing to her in time to have the anniversary postmark on the envelope. We assured you that with Mrs. Kennedy's sense of history, your thoughtfulness would be appreciated. (You then gave us a copy of your article which we still have.)

At this point you described for us what you thought to have been a bullet wound over President Kennedy's left eye. "I took the sheet down to his nose," you said, "and I saw what I immediately thought to be a bullet hole on his forehead, above his left eye. I told a number of people when I got back that this must have killed him, but that night I heard that the man was behind him in the building, so I knew that what I had seen was a blood-clot." "No; no one has come to see me about it. No one."

We also talked at length about your boyhood. You told us the sight of the President's blood had not bothered you because as a young man you had participated in the slaughter of pigs and were accustomed to seeing blood "all over the place." You then described an accident you had once attended, concluding: "No, no. The sight of blood never bothers me at all."

How can you deny, Father, that you met us or that you described for us what you thought was a bullet wound over President Kennedy's left eye? Richard Lewis (a sophisticate with a blind faith in the priesthood?) has used your denial of us to slander ALL my efforts on the Oswald case. He writes: "The graying Agatha Christie fan (has) conveyed her FREQUENTLY MISLEADING REPORTS to fellow investigators. . .": and I am told that Mr. Lewis plans a book (Dell, 300,000 copies) in which he will persist in his libel against the investigators.

Consequently, Father, your denial of the children and me may lead to trouble yet. We are not accustomed to being called liars, either by a priest or a Hollywood "journalist."

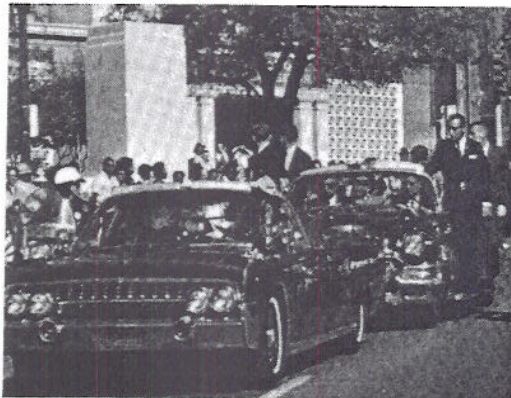
SHIRLEY MARTIN (March, 1966)

Harold Weisberg is the author of the famous Whitewash books (four to date), and has been instrumental in aiding District Attorney Jim Garrison in his New Orleans probe. Weisberg's commentary and photographic investigation (below) is excerpted from his work in Whitewash II, available from the author. His books have been issued in paperback by Dell.

THE LOVELADY CAPER

HAROLD WEISBERG

There were several simple and obvious ways of proving, once and for all, that this man was not Oswald. This should have been done unequivocally, for as long as there remained the possibility it was Oswald, the Report and its conclusions were in jeopardy and the crime of the assassination unsolved, Oswald could not have been both an assassin on the sixth floor and a passive observer of his assassinating halfway through it on the ground floor.

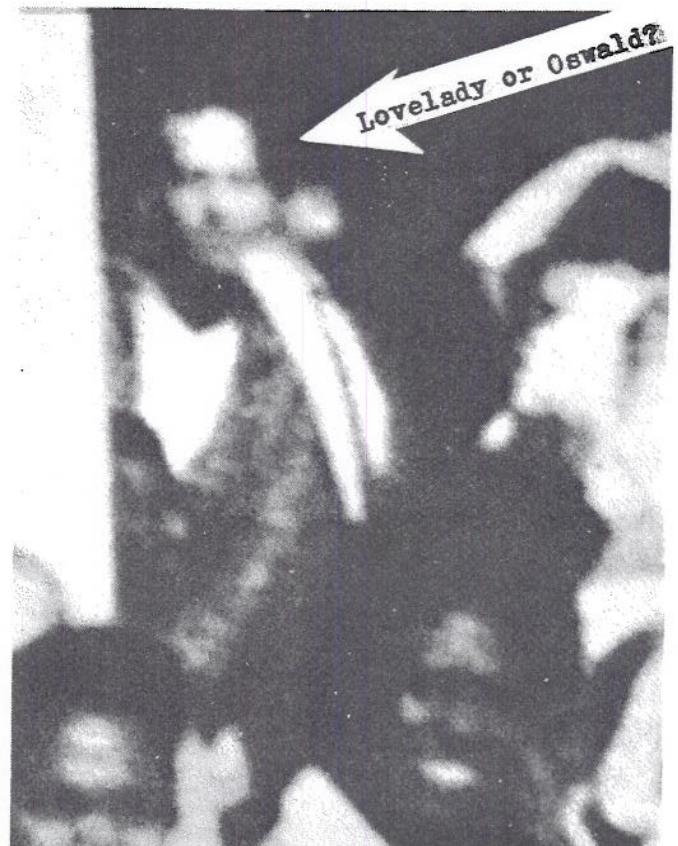


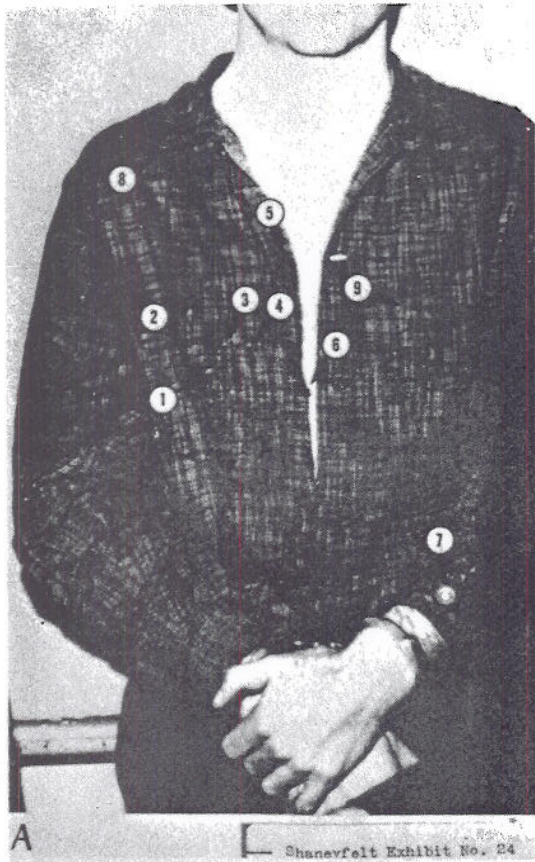
The easiest way was to print pictures of Oswald and Lovelady side by side. There should have been various views of both plus an enlargement of this section of the Altgens picture alongside a picture of Lovelady in the clothes he was wearing that day. This the Commission did not do—in its Report or even in its evidence omitted from the Report but included in its 26 volumes—so the question remains.

Its failure to do this simple and called-for thing is in itself suspicious.

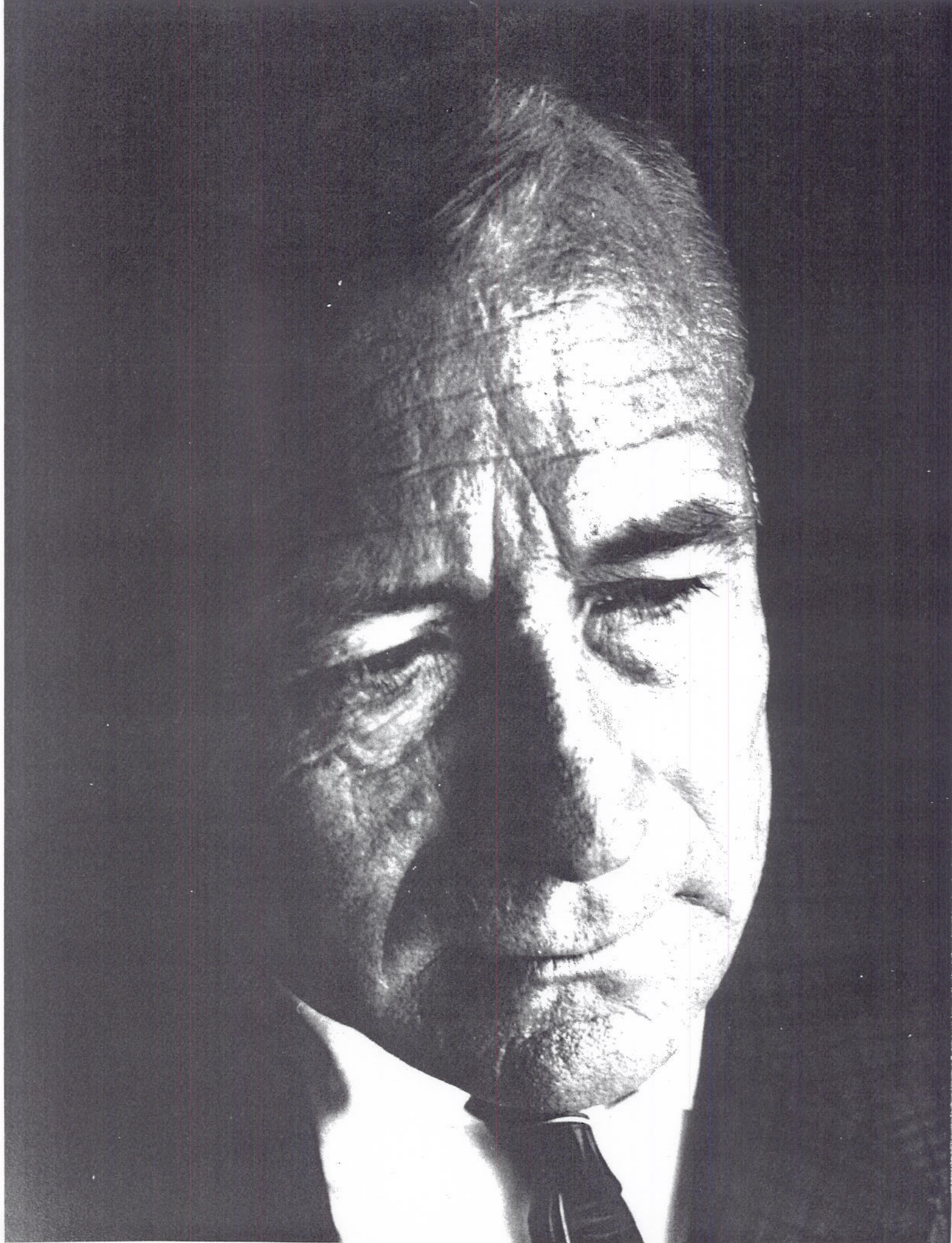
Did it not dare? Would the comparisons prove other than what the Report says? Was the comparison—for the Commission had pictures of Lovelady who had twice been a witness before it—so hazardous that the Commission elected instead to cast itself under suspicion and leave such an important question unanswered, in the present and in history?

The Commission took testimony from many of the Depository employees. Not one was asked to scrutinize a proper enlargement of this picture. There is no telling how many times how many employees were interviewed by what agencies, but the number of such interviews is enormous and continued until the Report was issued. There is no evidence the employees were shown an enlargement and asked these questions: "Do you see Oswald or Lovelady in this picture? Either or both?"





Oswald or Lovelady in doorway? Compare shirt in which Oswald was arrested (FBI version cuts off head, which shows hairline not Lovelady's but like Oswald's) with great enlargement from Altgens picture, then with FBI pictures of Lovelady in shirt he told FBI he was then wearing. Note buttons missing on shirt in Oswald arrest photo and same buttons open on shirt in doorway, identical furls in right collars, similar patterns, cuffs (Lovelady's shirt short-sleeved). J. Edgar Hoover said: "On February, 29, 1964, Billy Nolen Lovelady was photographed by Special Agents of the FBI at Dallas, Texas. On this occasion, Lovelady advised that on the day of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, November 22, 1963, at the time of the assassination and shortly before, he was standing in the doorway of the front entrance to the TSBD where he is employed. He stated he was wearing a red and white vertical striped shirt and blue-jeans." The Commission, from whose files I obtained this document and related photo, suppressed them from its Report.



Penn Jones, Jr. is the author of Forgive My Grief (Volumes I and II) and the forthcoming book, The Strange Deaths After Dallas. This article is taken from the work in Forgive My Grief, Volume II, which appear this fall from Jones' own press at The Midlothian Mirror.

THE STRANGE DEATHS AFTER DALLAS

PENN JONES, JR.

The unsolved assassination of President John F. Kennedy continues to baffle the world. Within four years after that day, at least twenty-four persons, who became accidentally involved, have died. Most died violently—shot, hanged, karate chopped to death or had their throats slit. Others had suicides arranged by shooting, poisoning and other means.

I have discovered the connections in the deaths of many witnesses and other persons associated with the assassination. We have not previously listed all these people who have died so young and so strangely, but I feel it necessary to mention these deaths and to discuss the significance of a few of them. With the mounting list of these deaths, the likelihood grows that these people have been systematically and skillfully eliminated.

The deaths have developed into predictable patterns: There is the group of deaths having to do with the escaping Tippit murderer; there are those three men who died after a peculiar meeting in the apartment of Jack Ruby and Ruby's "roomie," George Senator, the Sunday night after Ruby killed Oswald; and there are other essential characters in the drama, now dead. Some of these include William Whaley who drove Oswald in a cab on the day of the assassination; Earlene Roberts, Oswald's landlady; columnist Dorothy Kilgallen; CIA agent Gary Underhill; and prominent assassination figures David Ferrie and Jack Ruby.

HANK KILLAM

I wrote of the death of Thomas Henry (Hank) Killam, in his forties, in Volume One of *Forgive My Grief*. Hank had moved from town to town after the assassination and then from state to state in an effort to avoid the continual questioning of "federal agents." According to his wife, Wanda Joyce, who had worked for Jack Ruby for the past two years, Hank was "hounded from job to job."

Before his death, in Florida, Hank told his brother: "I'm a dead man, but I've run as far as I'm going to run." At 4 a.m. on the morning of March 17, 1964, while asleep in his mother's home, Hank was called to the phone. He dressed and left the house. A car door was heard to slam, according to his mother, although Hank did not own a car. A few hours later he was found dead on the street in Pensacola, Florida, with his throat cut. Since he was lying near a pile of broken glass, the papers said he either jumped or fell into a plate glass window. The police ruled the death suicide. The local coroner called it accidental. Neither of these parties knew of the conflict in their rulings until early 1967 when brother Earl Killam asked that the body be exhumed in an effort to determine the exact cause of death.

JACK RUBY and DAVID FERRIE

Of the current twenty-four deaths, I boldly predicted two of them. Few people had heard of our

investigation when I was telling friends that Earlene Roberts, Oswald's former landlady was in danger. I searched for Mrs. Roberts for at least two months, before she was found dead. And in the pages of *The Midlothian Mirror*, I predicted that Jack Ruby would die before he ever escaped the clutches of the Dallas authorities.

Jack Ruby was too deeply involved to be permitted to be free or to be questioned in an impartial atmosphere. David Ferrie of New Orleans was in the same category as Ruby. Every student of the assassination has known for a long time that Ferrie was implicated. The FBI and the CIA also knew this. His brain hemorrhage could have been caused by many things, including a professional karate chop. Ferrie died within twenty-four hours after I got a tip the two Dallas policemen had gone to New Orleans to interview him.

DOMINGO BENAVIDES and WARREN REYNOLDS

Domingo Benevides was working for Dootch Motors in Dallas on November 22, 1963. He was driving east on Tenth Street at the time Officer Tippit was killed. He stopped his pickup only twenty-five feet from the patrol car, and actually saw Tippit fall after the shots were fired.

Benevides described a man other than Oswald as the killer. During his testimony before Attorney David W. Belin, he said: "He looked like you." Benevides was not asked to go down to the lineup to view Oswald.

After these events, Benevides received threats on his life. In mid-February of 1964, Edward Benevides, Domingo's brother, was killed in a senseless beer hall fight by a man who spent eighteen months in the penitentiary for the murder. Both Domingo and his father-in-law, W. J. Jackson, felt the murder was a case of mistaken identity.

Benevides left the state for a few months, but he is now in Dallas and cooperates completely with the Dallas Police Department. He has since stated positively on CBS television (on that network's four night examination of *The Warren Report*) that the escaping person was indeed Oswald.

Another witness to the escaping Tippit murderer was Warren Reynolds. Reynolds, who still owns a second hand automobile business, heard the shots and rushed across Jefferson Avenue to see

what was happening. He saw the fleeing killer but did not seem to think the man was Lee Oswald until much later.

Before Oswald was captured. Reynolds told the Dallas Police the direction the escaping killer went, but Reynolds was not questioned until January 21, 1964. Two days later he was shot through the head as he closed his lot for the night. A twenty-two caliber projectile went through his temple, but did not kill him.

After a few weeks in the hospital, Reynolds did recover from his wounds. He then gave a deposition to the FBI stating he thought the escaping man was Oswald afterall!

CIA AGENT

Gary Underhill was military affairs editor for Life Magazine and a by-line columnist on several newspapers. He was well-known in the Pentagon, being on a first name basis with the very top officials.

His troubles seemed to have started with the assassination. He left Washington for New York, soon after the tragedy in Dallas. In New York he begged friends to keep him out of sight. Almost out of his mind, he told friends that he knew who killed the President, and he was sure "they" would soon get to him.

After a few weeks in New York, Underhill returned to Washington. He died there on May 8, 1964. The ruling was suicide of gunshot wounds in the head, despite the fact that Underhill was right-handed and was shot through the head from left to right.

Before his death, Underhill had stated that the CIA had Kennedy killed. He further stated that the most active group in the assassination had been the Far Eastern branch of the CIA, which was unhappy with Kennedy's looking into their activities.

So far I have been able to document twenty-four strange deaths, and it is not the sort of morbid activity I usually enjoy. Yet this is part of the larger story, and we will never know when one of these seemingly obscure deaths, might lead us directly to the center of the storm.

This article is a collection of "The Findings" presented in the Warren Commission's Report (WR) juxtaposed with "The Evidence" presented in the Commission's twenty-six volumes of Hearings and Exhibits (H), which was to have substantiated those findings. All original punctuation, names and facts are maintained here from the government publications. The names referred to in this article were witnesses before the Commission's counsel and pertinent individuals interviewed by FBI or Secret Service personnel.

Sylvia Meagher is the author of Subject Index to the Warren Report and Hearings & Exhibits, an essential work for anyone assessing the Commission's work. Her new book, Accessories After the Fact, is a broadside against the Commission's case. Sylvia Meagher is employed at the United Nations and has published articles in Esquire, The Minority of One and other magazines.

TRUTH WAS THEIR ONLY CLIENT

SYLVIA MEAGHER

"...The Commission labored...with soul-searching thoroughness. Before agreement was reached by the Commission, each sentence had to measure up to the unofficially adopted motto of the Commission, 'Truth is our only client here.' To the best of the ability of seven dedicated public servants and a staff of valiant workers, that ideal was fulfilled."--Gerald R. Ford (Portrait of the Assassin).

THE FINDINGS IN THE WARREN REPORT

The Presidential car did not stop or almost come to a complete halt after the firing of the first shot or any other shots. (WR 641)

THE EVIDENCE IN THE HEARINGS & EXHIBITS

Instead of speeding up the car, the car came to a halt-Mary Woodward (2H 43)...From the time the first shot rang out, the car stopped completely..Mr. Truly was standing out there, he said it stopped. Several officers said it stopped completely-M.L.Baker (3H 266)... I first noted the car when it stopped...after it made the turn and when the shots were fired, it stopped-E.V.Brown (6H 233)...The motorcade slowed to what seemed to me a complete stop-Senator Ralph Yarborough (7H 440)...The motorcade stopped dead still. There was no question about that-Mrs. Earle Cabell (7H 487).

THE RIFLE

THE FINDINGS: Seymour Weitzman, the original source of the speculation that the rifle was a Mauser...did not handle the rifle and did not examine it at close range. He had little more than a glimpse of it and thought it was a Mauser...Police laboratory technicians subsequently arrived and correctly identified the weapon as a 6.5 Italian rifle. (WR 645-646)

THE EVIDENCE: "I saw the rifle, that appeared to be a 7.65 mm Mauser"-Deputy Sheriff Eugene Boone (Decker Exhibit No. 5323, page 508).

Ball: Did you hear anybody refer to this rifle as a Mauser that day?

Boone: Yes, I did...

Ball: Who referred to it as a Mauser that day?

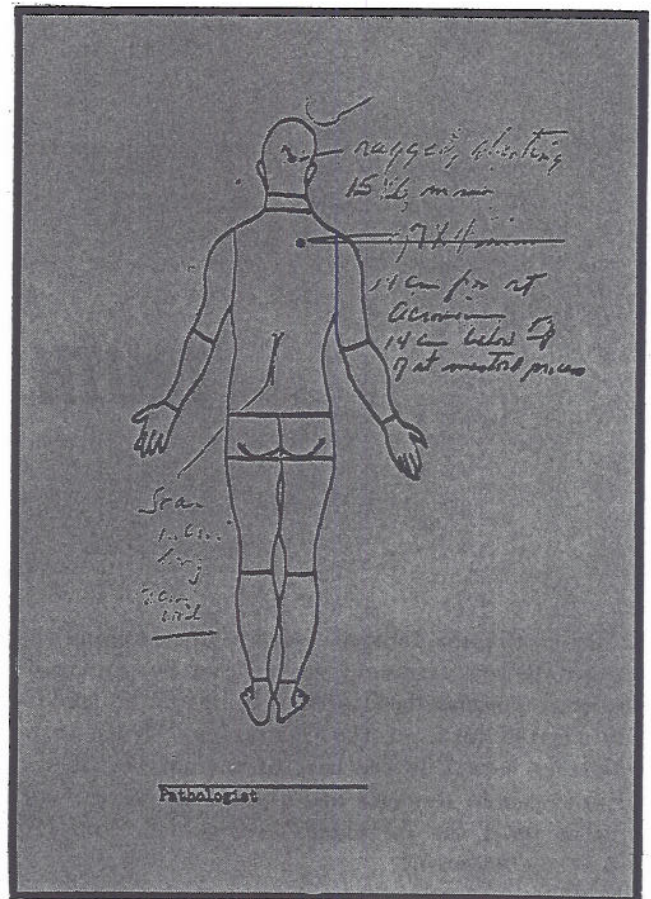
Boone: I believe Captain Fritz...he said that is what it looks like...he said it looks like a 7.65 Mauser, (3H 295)

THE FINDINGS: "...the assassination rifle was an accurate weapon...in fact, as accurate as current military rifles..." (WR 194-195)

THE EVIDENCE: "A cheap old weapon..."-Sebastian Latona (4H 29). "A very cheap rifle and could have been purchased for \$3.00 each in lots of 25"-John Brinegar, owner of the Gun Shop, Dallas (CE 2694, page 11). "Real cheap, common, real flimsy looking...very easily knocked out of adjustment"-Dial Ryder (11H 230) "...the possibility of it being real accurate would be pretty small, I think..."-Charles Greener (11H - 252-253). Edward Voebel "had an Italian rifle of the same type...it is so poorly constructed he decided it was best not to shoot it any more for the reason he was afraid it would explode"-Secret Service (CE 3119).

THE FINDINGS: "...this particular rifle was the only rifle of its type bearing serial number C2766." (WR119)

THE EVIDENCE: "...the Mannlicher-Carcano rifle was manufactured in Italy from 1891 until 1941; however in the 1930's Mussolini ordered all arms factories to manufacture the Mannlicher-Carcano rifle. Since many concerns were manufacturing the same weapon, the same serial number appears on weapons manufactured by more than one concern. Some bear a letter prefix and some do not." -FBI report (CE 2562).



THE FINDINGS: "The ammunition used in the rifle was American ammunition recently made by the Western Cartridge Co., which manufactures such ammunition currently." (WR 646)

THE EVIDENCE: "The Western Cartridge Company...East Alton, Illinois, manufactured a quantity of 6.5 M/M Mannlicher-Carcano ammunition for the Italian Government during World War II..."-FBI report (CE 2694, page 12).

THE FINDINGS: "One employee, Jack Dougherty, believed that he saw Oswald coming to work, but he does not remember that Oswald had anything in his hands as he entered the door." (WR 133)

THE EVIDENCE: Dougherty: ...I didn't see anything in his hands at the time.

Ball: In other words, your memory is definite on that, is it?

Dougherty: Yes, sir.

Ball: In other words, you would say positively he had nothing in his hands?

Dougherty: I would say that-yes, sir. (6H 377)

THE FINDINGS: "Examination of the cartridge cases found on the sixth floor of the Depository Building established that they had been previously loaded and ejected from the assassination rifle, which would indicate that Oswald practiced operating the bolt." (WR 192-193)

THE EVIDENCE: "...the extractor and ejector marks on C6 as well as on C7, C8 and C38 did not possess sufficient characteristics for identifying the weapon which produce them. There are also three sets of marks on the base of this cartridge which were not found on C7, C8, C38 or any of the numerous tests obtained from the C14 rifle. It was not possible to determine what produced these marks...Another set of follower marks were found on C8...these marks were not identified with the C14 rifle"-FBI report (CE 2968).

THE FINDINGS: "Paul M. Stombaugh, of the FBI Laboratory, examined the blanket and discovered a bulge approximately 10 inches long midway in the blanket. This bulge was apparently caused by a hard protruding object which had stretched the blanket's fibers. It could have been caused by the telescopic sight of the rifle which was approximately 11 inches long." (WR 128-129)

THE EVIDENCE: Stombaugh: ...the object itself would have had to have been approximately 10 inches long to have caused this hump.

Eisenberg: It couldn't have been any longer than 10 inches?

Stombaugh: Not at this point; no, sir. (4H 58)

THE WOUNDS

THE FINDINGS: Doctors at Parkland Hospital originally believed that the throat wound could have been either an entry or exit wound. (WR 641)

THE EVIDENCE: There was a "small penetrating wound" of the anterior neck-Dr. James Carrico (CE 392)... "A small hole in anterior midline of neck thought to be a bullet entrance wound"-Dr. R.C. Jones (R.C. Jones Exhibit No. 1)... "We speculated as to whether he had been shot once or twice, because we saw the wound of entry in the throat"-Dr. P.C. Peters (6H 71)... "My opinion now would be colored by everything that I've heard about it and seen since...if I were simply looking at the wound again...I would probably initially think this were an entrance wound..."-Dr. R.N. McClelland (6H 37).

THE FINDINGS: During the autopsy at Bethesda Naval Hospital another bullet wound was observed near the base of the back of President Kennedy's neck slightly to the right of his spine... (WR 87)

THE EVIDENCE: "...there was a hole in his shoulder"-Roy Kellerman (2H 103)... "That shot hit the President about four inches down from his right shoulder"-Glen Bennett (CE 1024, CE 2112)... The wound was in "the soft part of the shoulder"-William Greer (2H 127)... There was "an opening in the back, about six inches below the neckline..."-Clinton Hill (2H 143).

THE FINDINGS: In their testimony the three doctors who attended Governor Connally at Parkland Hospital expressed independently their opinion that a single bullet had passed through his chest; tumbled through his wrist...punctured his left thigh...and fallen out of the thigh wound. (WR 95)

THE EVIDENCE: McCloy: You have no firm opinion that all these three wounds were caused by one bullet?

Dr. Shaw: I have no firm opinion...It is a matter of whether the wrist wound could be caused by the same bullet, and we felt that it could but we had not seen

the bullets until today, and we still do not know which bullet actually inflicted the wound on Governor Connally.

Dulles: Or whether it was one or two wounds?

Dr. Shaw: Yes.

Dulles: Or two bullets?

Dr. Shaw: Yes; or three. (4H 109)

THE FINDINGS: All the evidence indicated that the bullet found on the Governor's stretcher could have caused all his wounds. (WR 95)

THE EVIDENCE: "I feel that there would be some difficulty in explaining all of the wounds as being inflicted by the stretcher bullet without causing more in the way of loss of substance...or deformation..." -Dr. R. Shaw (4H 114). "Could that missile have made the wound on Governor Connally's right wrist?" -Arlen Specter. "I think that this is most unlikely..." -Dr. J.J. Humes (2H 374-375). "And could it have been the bullet which inflicted the wound on Governor Connally's right wrist?" -Arlen Specter. "No; for the reason that there are too many fragments described in that wrist" -Dr. P.A. Finck (2H 382).

SEARCH FOR IDENTITY

THE FINDINGS: "Investigation has revealed no evidence that Oswald and Tippit were acquainted, had ever seen each other, or had any mutual acquaintances." (WR 651)

THE EVIDENCE: "She recalled the person now recognized as Oswald was...in the restaurant at about 10 am Wednesday, November 20, at which time he was 'nasty' and used curse words in connection with his order. She went on to relate that Officer J. D. Tippit was in the restaurant, as was his habit at about that time each morning, and 'shot a glance at Oswald' "
-FBI report (CE 3001).

THE FINDINGS: "Marina Oswald had taken down the license number of Hosty's car on one of his visits and had given it to her husband." (WR 660)

THE EVIDENCE: "The first time he had come...he had parked down the street...My best judgment is that the license plate was not visible...not visible from my house" -Ruth Paine (3H 100).

Jenner: It is impossible...impossible to see any license plate on either of the two automobiles parked at the curb...

Howlett: Yes; that's correct...you cannot even see the license plate, much less any of the numbers. (9H 398)

THE FINDINGS: "Police Capt. W. R. Westbrook...walked through the parking lot behind the service station and found a light-colored jacket lying under the rear of one of the cars." (WR 175)

*THE EVIDENCE: 1:25 pm
No. 279 (Unknown)...We believe we've got that suspect on shooting this officer...Got his white jacket. Believe he dumped it on this parking lot...*

1:39 pm

No. 550 (Captain Westbrook)...We got a witness that saw him go up North Jefferson and he shed his jacket--let's check that vicinity...FBI verbatim transcript of Dallas Police radio log (CE 1974, pages 62 and 77).

THE FINDINGS: "Shaneyfelt...concluded that the negative of Exhibit No. 133-B was exposed in Oswald's Imperial Reflex Camera to the exclusion of all other cameras. He could not test Exhibit No. 133-A in the same way because the negative was never recovered." (WR 127)

THE EVIDENCE: "I found two negatives first that showed Lee Oswald holding a rifle in his hand..." -Detective Guy Rose (7H 231).



THE FINDINGS: "It is not known whether the application for post office box 2915 listed 'A. Hidell' as a person entitled to receive mail at this box...the portion of the application which lists names of persons, other than the applicant, entitled to receive mail, was thrown away after the box was closed on May 14, 1963."

(WR 121)

THE EVIDENCE: "Our investigation has revealed that Oswald did not indicate on his application that others, including an 'A. Hidell,' would receive mail through the box...Post Office Box 2915 in Dallas..."
FBI report (CE 2585, question 12).

THE FINDINGS: "...it appears that Oswald never returned to Irving in midweek prior to November 21, 1963, except on Monday, October 21, when he visited his wife...after the birth of their second child."(WR 129)
"On Friday, November 1, Oswald did cash a Texas Unemployment Commission check for \$33 at a...supermarket in Irving..." (WR 331)

THE EVIDENCE: "...Georgia Tarrants, Cashier, Atlantic & Pacific Store Number 72...Irving, Texas, viewed check...payable to L. H. Oswald in the amount of \$33.00...Mrs. Tarrants stated as best she recalls, on Thursday night, October 31, 1963 Lee Harvey Oswald appeared at the cashier's cage and presented the above check to her and requested that it be cashed..."
-FBI report (CE 1165).

THE FINDINGS: "Shortly after 1:30 am Oswald was brought to the identification bureau on the fourth floor and arraigned...for the murder of President Kennedy." (WR 198)

THE EVIDENCE: Ball: Were you present when Oswald was arraigned in the identification bureau?

Hicks: No, sir; I left just a few minutes before that, I understand...shortly after 2...maybe 2:15.

Ball: You think he was arraigned after you left?

Hicks: I am rather certain that he was because I believe I would have known about it had he been arraigned before I left because there is only one door in our office to go out and had any other group been there, I would have noticed it, I believe. (7H 289)

THE FINDINGS: "Marina and June departed with Mrs. Ruth Paine for Irving on the morning of September 23." (WR 730)

THE EVIDENCE: Eric Rogers stated that "he was at home on the occasion when Mrs. Oswald and her child left in a light brown Ford or Chevrolet station wagon with a man and woman. He said the man was about in his 40s and was short and stocky. In reply to questioning, Mr. Rogers stated that he is certain there was a man present on this occasion."-Secret Service report (CE 1154),

THE FINDINGS: "Hidell was a favorite alias used by Oswald on a number of occasions. Diligent search has failed to reveal any person in Dallas or New Orleans by that name. It was merely a creation for his own purposes." (WR 644-645)

THE EVIDENCE: "While in the Marine Corps, I was often referred to as 'Hidell'...This was a nickname and not merely an inadvertent mispronunciation. It is possible that Oswald might have heard me being called by this name; indeed he may himself have called me Hidell"
-John Rene Heindel, New Orleans (8H 318).

THE FINDINGS: "A number of small file boxes listed in the inventory as having been taken from the Paine residence in Irving contained letters, pictures, books and literature, most of which belonged to Ruth Paine, not to Oswald. No lists of names of Castro sympathizers were found among these effects." (WR 666)

THE EVIDENCE: "Also found was a set of metal file cabinets containing records that appeared to be names and activities of Cuban sympathizers"-Deputy Sheriff E. R. Walthers (Decker Exhibit No. 5323, page 520).