

ox.
-Carcano cartridges with
tern Cartridge Co. manu-
e panel in CE 139 and des-
(See Figs. 1 and 2.)

Mannlicher-Carcano car-
l unloading in the rifle to
characteristics produced in

ved throughout the exami-
ce at the National Archives
er of the Archives staff ac-
ined at the Archives or re-
The panel's materials-
d bullets and cartridge
m identification section at
ice Department.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE FIREARMS PANEL CONCERNING THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

(96) The findings and conclusions were prepared by staff of the House Select Committee on Assassinations based on material submitted by the panel members. The panel has read and accepts those findings and conclusions.

KENNEDY SHOOTING

Evidence examined

(97) The following evidence was examined in connection with the shooting of President Kennedy.

(98) CE 139(71).—One 6.5-millimeter caliber, bolt-action repeating rifle, Mannlicher-Carcano Model 1938, serial number C2766. Attached was an Ordnance Optics, Inc. 4X telescopic sight and an adjustable black leather strap.* (See figs. 3A and 3B.)

(100) A visual examination of the rifle revealed pitting, rust and copper oxidation to test-firing, which the panel believed should be removed prior to test-firing. Accordingly, a dry cloth patch was pushed through the bore.

(101) The telescopic sight was attached to a mount, which itself was attached to the left side of the rifle. Mounting facilities were not provided at the time of manufacture. Also attached to the rifle were standard iron sights, placed on the rifle at the time of manufacture.

(102) The rifle was test-fired by all panel members, using 6.5-millimeter caliber ammunition of Western Cartridge Co. manufacture. Two bullets were test-fired into a horizontal water recovery tank. Further tests were conducted by loading four cartridges into the CE 375 cartridge clip and inserting it into the magazine of the rifle. The cartridges were worked through the rifle's mechanism and ejected without being fired. When the last cartridge was chambered, the cartridge clip remained in the magazine instead of falling out as it is designed to do.

(103) CE 141.—One 6.5-millimeter caliber cartridge of Western Cartridge Co. manufacture, found in the CE 139 rifle. (See fig. 4.)

(104) CE 351.—One damaged automobile windshield removed from the Presidential limousine. (See fig. 5.)

(105) CE 399.—One fired 6.5-millimeter caliber full metal-jacketed bullet, found on a stretcher in the emergency area of Parkland Hospital. The bullet weight was found to be 157.7 grains. (72) In the same box as the bullet was a tiny fragment, which was too small to weigh or otherwise examine. (See figs. 6A and 6B.)

*The CE 139 rifle was physically examined and found to be operable. It had not been properly cleaned, maintained or lubricated. The rifling of the barrel was four lands and four grooves, right twist. The magazine was a non-detachable box, clip-fed type, with a 6-cartridge capacity. The trigger pull was determined by the panel to be approximately 3 pounds.

← 158.6 when it
reached FBI Lab-
All samples removed
for testing or other
work missing from file
weight only c. 4 yrs.