

1/24/70

Dear Emory,

Thanks for your statement on the finding of the bullet in Dealey Plaza. If I forget and we have more correspondence on this, it will be in my "Bullets" file.

I have a friend who is a gun buff and interested in and familiar with the case for any suggestions he can make, as, for example, the kinds of weapons that could have fired that bullet. I believe 4 is less common than 5 grooves.

Among the things that interest me is whether or not it is possible to determine if this bullet was recently fired or shows signs, for example, of weathering (I do not know whether this is possible).

I think it would be a good idea if you could orient the spot at which you found this bullet with respect to both Elm and Houston. I, for example, have forgotten how far that plaque is from Elm. I presume you found the bullet on the ward to the west of the plaque itself, but how far?

In short, exactly where was it found and can we determine that it was recently deposited there. I'm also inclined to believe it a plant, and a post-assassination one. But the possibility, no matter how remote, remains that it was planted at the time of the assassination.

How do you determine the standard weight of 152 grains? Can you identify the manufacturer?

Would you be willing for this to be loaned to the government for testing and study? If so, I think it would be better for your employment if I do it instead of you. I think this should be done for a number of reasons, unless we have ways of proving without doubt that the bullet was planted very recently, for one. Even if it is of recent planting, it may not have been entirely innocent, and in the absence of definitive proof, I think we should not assume it.

Sincerely,

EMORY L BROWN, JR.
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SQUANKUM ROAD
FARMINGDALE, NEW JERSEY 07727

November 21, 1970

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
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Dear Hal:

Subject: Bullet Found In Dealey Plaza,
Dallas, Texas

STATEMENT

On Sunday, October 4, 1970 I was in Dealey Plaza taking photographs of the area where President Kennedy had been assassinated. Near the base of a tree in the planter nearest the Kennedy Memorial Marker I found a spent rifle bullet which was lying on the earth and exposed to anyone who might have happened to glance at that area. This occurred early Sunday morning at a time when only half a dozen or so people were "sightseeing" in the area and I assumed that had the bullet been there prior to the date in question, one of the many persons who visit the plaza would surely have found it. The bullet was a full metal jacketed military type which had been fired from a barrel having a four groove twist to the right. By later comparing this particular bullet with others I have at home and with data published in various manuals I identified it as a 30 cal. type which is of the type loaded in the 30/06 military round.

I assume this bullet to be a "plant" based upon the following information. First, this bullet weighs 149.8 grains and the standard weight is 152.0 grains, a loss of only 2.2 grains. The bullet is not deformed except for a small nick at the nose which rules out any impact with a solid object. The velocity of the round which this particular type of projectile is loaded into, would have carried it far beyond the point where it was discovered. The point of origin for such a shot would have been in the area west of the TSBD building in which case, had such a bullet cleared the wall to the west of the Kennedy marker, the angle would have been the sharp for it to have dropped into the planter.

Very truly yours,

