1
DL 89-43

Under date of November 23, 1963, the FBI Laboratory, furnished the following information to Mr. Jesse E. Curry, Chief of Police, Dallas, Texas, Chief, U.S. Secret Service, and FBI, Dallas, Texas:

"Specimens:

"Evidence received from Special Agent Elmer L. Todd, Washington Field Office of the FBI on 11/22/63:

"Q1 Bullet from stretcher

"Evidence received from Special Agent Orin Bartlett of the FBI on 11/22/63:

"Q2 Bullet fragment from front seat cushion
"Q3 Bullet fragment from beside front seat

"Evidence received from Special Agent James W. Sibert and Special Agent Francis O'Neill, Jr., of the Baltimore Office of the FBI on 11/23/63:

"Q4 Metal fragment from the President's head
"Q5 Metal fragment from the President's head

"Evidence received from Special Agent Vincent E. Drain of the Dallas Office of the FBI on 11/23/63:

"Q6 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge case from building
"Q7 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge case from building
"Q8 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge from rifle
"Q9 Metal fragment from arm of Governor John Connolly
"Q10 Wrapping paper in shape of a large bag
"Q11 Suspect's shirt
"Q12 Blanket
"Q13 Bullet from Officer Tippit

"K1 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano rifle, with telescope sight, No. C2766
"K2 Paper and tape sample from shipping department, Texas Public School Book Depository
"K3 .38 Special Smith and Wesson revolver, Serial No. V510210, Assembly No. 65248

162

"Evidence obtained by FBI Laboratory personnel during examination of the President's limousine:

"Q14 Three metal fragments recovered from rear floor board carpet
"Q15 Scraping from inside surface of windshield

"Also submitted: Photograph of rifle, K1
Finger and palm prints of Lee Harvey Oswald

"Results of examinations:

"The bullet, Q1, is a 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano rifle bullet. Specimen Q1 weighs 158.6 grains. It consists of a copper alloy jacket with a lead core.

"Specimen Q2 is a portion of the core of a rifle bullet. Specimen Q2 weighs 44.6 grains and is composed of a portion of the copper alloy jacket and a portion of the lead core. Specimen Q3 is a portion of the base section of a copper alloy rifle bullet. Q3 weighs 21.0 grains and is composed of a section of the jacket from which the lead core is missing. It could not be determined whether specimens Q2 and Q3 are portions of the same bullet or are portions of two separate bullets.

"The rifle, K1, is a 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano Italian military rifle Model 91/38. Test bullets were fired from this rifle for comparison with specimens Q1, Q2, and Q3. As a result, Q1, Q2, and Q3 were identified as having been fired from the submitted rifle.

"Specimens Q6 and Q7 are 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge cases. They were manufactured by the Western Cartridge Company, East Alton, Illinois, as was the 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge, Q8.

"Test cartridge cases obtained from the submitted rifle were compared with specimens Q6 and Q7. As a result, specimens Q6 and Q7 were identified as having been fired in this rifle. The bullet, Q13, from Officer Tippett, is a .38 Special copper-coated lead bullet. Q13 weighs 156.6 grains and possesses the physical characteristics of 158 grain Western-Winchester revolver bullets. The surface of Q13 is so badly mutilated that there are not sufficient individual microscopic characteristics present for identification purposes. It

"was determined, however, that the .38 Special Smith and Wesson revolver, K3, is among those weapons which produce general rifling impressions of the type found on Q13.

"The lead metal of Q4 and Q5, Q9, Q14 and Q15 is similar to the lead of the core of the bullet fragment, Q2.

"A small tuft of textile fibers was found adhering to a jagged area on the left side of the metal butt plate on the K1 gun. Included in this tuft of fibers were gray-black, dark blue and orange-yellow cotton fibers which match in microscopic characteristics the gray-black, dark blue and orange-yellow cotton fibers composing the Q11 shirt of the suspect. These fibers could have originated from this shirt.

"A single brown viscose fiber and several light green cotton fibers were found adhering to the Q10 paper bag. These fibers match in microscopic characteristics the brown viscose fibers and light green cotton fibers present in the composition of the Q12 blanket and could have originated from this blanket.

"It is pointed out, however, that fibers do not exhibit sufficient individual microscopic characteristics to be positively identified as originating from a particular source to the exclusion of all others.

"No fibers were found on the K1 gun that could be associated with the Q12 blanket and no fibers were found on the Q10 paper bag that could be associated with the Q11 shirt.

"The debris, including foreign textile fibers and hairs, removed from the Q12 blanket and Q11 shirt has been placed in pillboxes for possible future comparisons. These pillboxes and the glass microscope slides containing fibers removed from K1 and Q10 are being temporarily retained in the laboratory for possible future comparisons with additional items of the suspect's clothing should they be recovered.

"The Q12 blanket has been folded double and one corner has been folded in and pinned with a safety pin. A length of white cotton cord has been tied around this corner giving it a triangular-shaped appearance as if it had once contained a long object.

"The paper of the wrapping and the tape, Q10, were found to have the same observable characteristics as the known wrapping paper and tape, K2, from the Texas Public School Book Depository.

"The inside surface of specimen Q10 did not disclose markings identifiable with the rifle, K1. A number of indentations, folds and extraneous markings appear on the inner surface of the Q10 wrapping.

"The latent prints appearing in the photograph taken of the rifle, K1, by the Dallas Police Department, are too fragmentary and indistinct to be of any value for identification purposes. Photographs of this weapon taken by this Bureau also failed to produce prints of sufficient legibility for comparison purposes.

"A latent fingerprint was developed on the wrapping paper, Q10, which was identified with the left index finger impression of Lee Harvey Oswald. In addition, one latent palm print developed on specimen Q10 was identified with the right palm print of Oswald.

"No latent prints of value were developed on Oswald's revolver, the cartridge cases, the unfired cartridge, the clip in the rifle or the inner parts of the rifle.

"Specimens Q1 through Q5, Q14 and Q15 are being retained in the Laboratory until called for by a representative of the U. S. Secret Service.

"Specimens Q8 through Q13, K1, K2 and K3 are being returned to the Dallas Police Department by Special Agent Vincent E. Drain of the Dallas Field Office of this Bureau. The photograph of the latent print on the rifle is being returned separately. The fingerprints and palm prints of Oswald are being retained."