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Deputy Sheriff Doubts Garrison Bullet Claim

DALLAS (UPI) — A deputy Sheriff who appears as an onlooker in a picture which New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison claims shows a federal agent picking up a bullet near the Kennedy assassination site says he doubts the object was anything of the kind.

"It was nothing significant," said Dallas Deputy Buddy Walthers. "If it had been a bullet, it would have been significant."

In the picture, Walthers appears standing alongside a uniformed Dallas policeman and watching another man in civilian clothes picking something up from the grass near the assassination site.

Garrison produced the picture on a television program in Dallas last week, along with a photo of the unidentified man holding something in his hand and walking away. The New Orleans district attorney said the man was picking up a 45-caliber bullet.

Garrison said the bullet proved that someone was shooting at the President other than Lee Harvey Oswald, who used a smaller caliber rifle from the top of the Texas Schoolbook Depository, according to the Warren Commission report.

Garrison says a man was standing in a sewer opening right beside the street as Kennedy's car passed and "fired the .45 (caliber pistol) from right by the side of the car and tore the President's head off," then escaped down the manhole and into the sewer system, which has 15-inch pipes and 30-inch wide pipes and leads to another part of town.