

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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SINGLE BULLET THEORY
BULLETS
DOLCE, JOSEPH R.

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LAWTON CHILES
FLORIDA

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CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS
DEMOCRATIC STEERING COMMITTEE

United States Senate

December 13, 1976

The Honorable Richardson Preyer
U. S. House of Representatives
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

• Dear Congressman Preyer:

Enclosed please find material recently sent to me by Dr. Joseph R. Dolce of Riviera Beach, Florida, in reference to his thoughts concerning the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. I wanted to take this opportunity to forward this material on to you for your review.

Also, Dr. Dolce has been in touch with my Florida staff and voiced his interest in working with your Select Committee during its investigation. After reviewing the information sent by Dr. Dolce, I would also like to voice my support of his application to you for employment. I am sure the Dr. would be a positive addition. Any comments you may be able to supply me concerning the possibility of the Select Committee on Assassinations making use of Dr. Dolce's expertise would be most appreciated. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely,


LAWTON CHILES

LC/k1/53/H

Enclosure

Reference copy, JFK Collection, HSCA (RG 233)

Office Phone: 844-1491

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DECEMBER 1964

JOSEPH R. DOLCE, M.D., F.A.C.S.

2428 Broadway

RIVIERA BEACH, FLORIDA 33404

DIPLOMATE
AMERICAN BOARD OF SURGERY

FELLOW
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

MY THOUGHTS RE PRESIDENT J. F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

I am the Chief Consultant for the US Army in wound ballistics at the Edgewood Arsenal and Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. I have been dealing with high velocity missiles for the Army for the past twenty-five years and I find that there are no forensic pathologists in this country who have had the experience I have had with this type of missile. The forensic pathologist in civilian life, deals primarily with homicides caused by slow velocity missiles.

I appeared before the investigating team of the Warren Commission at the V Building in Washington, D.C. on April 21, 1964. At that time, I reviewed the X-rays and Zapruder film along with Governor Connally, his wife and his doctors. At that time, Governor Connally sat on my right, while reviewing the Zapruder films and he (Governor Connally) specifically told me, that he did not know that his wrist was injured until he reacted fully from anesthesia and noted a plaster cast on his right hand and forearm- but, in an interview with Life magazine- he goes on to say how his wrist was injured.

I am disturbed as to why I was not asked by the Warren Commission to give testimony, even though Doctors Olivier and Dzimean, to whom I serve as the Consultant were called, to give final testimony. I had advised these doctors to conduct certain experiments at Edgewood- which they did- and their findings were not consistent with their testimony.

Dr. Olivier accepts Dr. Gregory's impression of what was the entrance and exit wounds of Connally's right wrist, in spite of the fact, that experiments on ten (10) cadaver wrists proved just the opposite- yet, he is willing to accept the conclusions of Gregory, who has no wound ballistic experience. This is extremely important, as he then tries to fit the yaw and the tumbling effects to coincide with Gregory's interpretations- this is wrong and this is the part of the investigation that has been criticized so bitterly in medical circles. Personally, I strongly believe that the wrist wound is a separate and distinct wound made by one of the shots by Oswald. Also- this bullet is not deformed and yet, the bullets that struck the cadaver wrists are badly deformed, and these same bullets did not go through a neck or through a chest wall. In the experiments on ten cadaver wrists, the exit wounds are larger than the entrance wounds- this is a known fact yet, Dr. Olivier chose to accept Gregory's thoughts of Connally's wound as just the opposite.

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JOSEPH R. DOLCE, M.D., F.A.C.S.

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PAGE II

5-

I feel that the first bullet fired by Oswald went through the President's neck and caused him to become paralyzed even though the bullet did not strike the spine. This is due to the fact that you can have an injury to the spinal cord with high velocity missiles without the missiles striking the cord, because of the large temporary cavity produced by high velocity missiles. I can demonstrate and prove this fact by several films which we have developed at the Edgewood Arsenal. The autopsy should have included a section of the cervical spinal cord, which I am sure would have demonstrated a hemorrhage.

I am convinced that the one bullet theory is wrong, because of the fact, one bullet striking the President's neck, the Governor's chest and wrist, should be badly deformed; as our experiments at the Edgewood Arsenal prove. There never was a bullet in Governor Connaley's left thigh, but just a small fragment which I feel came from the third bullet which struck J.F.K. in the head. My testimony on the one bullet theory are clearly written in Dr. Thompson's book- "Six Seconds in Dallas" on pages 152 and 206.

I feel that the sequence of the bullets is as follows:

- 1- The first bullet went through JFK's neck and this is the so-called pristine bullet
- 2- The second bullet went through Governor Connaley's chest and wrist and the film clearly demonstrates Connaley's wrist against his chest wall. I feel that this is the bullet that is missing
- 3- The third bullet struck JFK in the head and one fragment of this bullet struck Connaley in the left thigh and also struck the windshield of the car

8- I feel that Oswald was the sole assassin who fired the three shots.

9- This is not an unusual deduction with high velocity missiles and we are compounding this investigation because it happens to be the President of the U.S. who was assassinated.

10- I have waited so long to express my thoughts, because I did not realize that the testimony given by my colleagues at Edgewood, was so different from what we had discussed and proved by experiments at Edgewood.

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PAGE III

11- I am in the private practice of General Surgery & trauma and have had a great deal of experience in my private practice with gun shot wounds, also I served 37 years in the U.S. Army and Army reserves and have had wide experience with wounds caused by high velocity missiles.

12- I am a retired colonel of the U.S. Army Medical Corps.

I am a board certified surgeon and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and also, the Army's ballistics expert and I feel that I should be given the opportunity to express my thoughts before a responsible group of people.

I have been awarded the following decorations for my work in Wound Ballistics

- 1- The Distinguished Civilian Service Medal- the Army's highest civilian service award
- 2- The Legion of Merit- the Army's fifth highest military award

JOSEPH R. DOLCE, M. D. F.A.C.S.

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The Palm Beach
Post-Times

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1975

SECTION B

000668

Ballistics Expert Criticizes Show On JFK Death

By BARBARA LEVIN

Post Staff Writer

RIVIERA BEACH — The U.S. Army's chief expert on wound ballistics and a consultant to the Warren Commission which investigated the assassination of President Kennedy yesterday criticized a recent television program on the mysteries surrounding the assassination.

However, Dr. Joseph Dolce, a Riviera Beach surgeon, repeated his call for full disclosure of the Warren Commission report and for a new inquiry into the circumstances of Kennedy's death in Dallas more than 11 years ago.

"There are so many doubts, so many theories that have been advanced, and for these reasons I feel another investigation should be made," Dr. Dolce said yesterday.

Dr. Dolce, who "investigated the assassination four months later in Washington from the basis of ballistics," said he was "very much disappointed" with Thursday night's "Goodnight America" program on ABC. The program, hosted by newsmen Geraldo Rivera, was a 90-minute discussion of recent theories of the assassination, with most of the guests claiming wound trajectories indicate more than one person shot Kennedy during his motorcade and urging Congress to undertake a new probe.

"If the American people are led to believe what was on that program," he said, "they have an entirely different concept of what took place."

He refused to comment on activist-comedian Dick Gregory's theory that the assassination may have been a CIA-backed operation. Gregory appeared on the ABC program and previously released photos he said show Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis, of Watergate-CIA fame, in Dallas on the day Kennedy was shot.

However, Dr. Dolce said, "I'm sure some type of conspiracy was involved."

"I definitely believe that Oswald was the only man who did the shooting. But I also feel it was a very well-planned murder, I feel a conspiracy was involved and I feel Oswald was not brilliant enough to plan such a perfect assassination."

Dr. Dolce added, "I have always felt Castro himself was involved because of (Kennedy's involvement in) the Bay of Pigs. But I have always been disturbed that if the true facts were known, America would get up in arms."

"President Kennedy was so well liked by the American people that I think it would create mass hysteria in this country if they knew the true reasons for his assassination."

The Warren Commission's full report will not be made public until the year 2000. "I hope I live long enough to see the full report," Dr. Dolce said.

He said there is a possibility the investigation may be reopened two or three years from now. A Senate intelligence committee was reported Friday to be considering an investigation of charges of a CIA-Kennedy assassination link.

000668

RICHARDSON PREYER
5TH DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

December 23, 1976

The Honorable Lawton Chiles
2107 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Lawton:

I appreciate your sending on to me the material sent you recently by Dr. Joseph R. Dolce of Riviera Beach, Florida and explaining Dr. Dolce's interest in the staff of the Select Committee on Assassinations.

The staff of the committee is being formed now but there is some delay because of the necessity for the committee to be re-established by the new Congress and for its budget to be approved.

I am sending the material Dr. Dolce provided on to Dick Sprague, the Chief Counsel, and expressing also our interest in the Committee's being aware of Dr. Dolco's services.

Cordially,

Richardson Preyer

RP:bb

Reference copy, JFK Collection; HSCA (RG 233)

2c

Select Committee on Assassinations
U.S. House of Representatives
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

TO: Tanenbaum
FROM: Sprague
DATE: 1/6/77
RE: Richardson Preyer, M.C.
Senator Lawton Chiles

Thank Preyer for sending the material to us.

Acknowledge receipt of material to Senator Chiles.

Discuss this with me.

Lib Ballistics and Autopsy

bgl

Reference copy, JFK Collection: HSCA (RG 233)

January 12, 1977

000608

Reference copy, JFK Collection: HSCA (RG 233)

The Honorable Richardson Preyer
Room 403 Cannon HOB
Washington, D. CC 20515

Dear Congressman Preyer:

Thank you very much for sending me the material concerning Dr. Joseph R. Dolce.

I am sure that during the course of our investigation, we will consult with medical experts. It may become necessary to call upon Dr. Dolce in the future.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Sprague
Chief Counsel and Director

RAS/RKT/slb

January 13, 1977

The Honorable Lawton Chiles
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Chiles:

I am in receipt of the correspondence concerning
Dr. Joseph R. Dolce of Riviera Beach, Florida, that
you passed on to Congressman Richardson Preyer.

Thank you for taking the time to send us Dr. Dolce's
material. In the event that Dr. Dolce's expertise is
required during the course of our investigation, we will
most certainly contact him.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Sprague
Chief Counsel and Director

RAA\$RKT/nj

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