

~~Kitty~~

Tests Q3

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1 Q. Do they now?  
2 A. Yes. We've thought a lot about it.  
3 Q. Your department has carried on -- or had carried  
4 on some studies of it, have they not?  
5 A. We've done it because I've done it personally.  
6 Q. Then -- so, now, in the answer to this, you've  
7 indicated that -- you seem to indicate that the reason that  
8 it wasn't done in '63 was because it might destroy the mark-  
9 ings on the items of evidence, is that correct?  
10 A. That's what I said here, yes.  
11 Q. What markings are you talking about?  
12 A. As I recollect, item "Q3" had some firearms  
13 identification element to it. Those are the markings I'm  
14 talking about.  
15 Q. And that would have precluded performing these  
16 other tests on it?  
17 A. If it involved removing those markings, it cer-  
18 tainly would have.  
19 Q. Why?  
20 A. Well, the markings associated with the firearm  
21 from which it was fired and to destroy those is just simply  
22 not done. The value of this test is nothing compared to the  
23 value of identifying the item with a gun. This, certainly,  
24 this is...  
25 Q. What was the value at that point? Oswald was  
26 dead, was he not?  
27 A. Well, I'm talking, generally, the value of fire-  
28 arms identification markings. Its application in this case,

1 I don't know, but I know that nobody destroys markings on a  
2 bullet whether Oswald was dead or not.

3 Q. Why not take a portion of "Q3", which had no  
4 markings, and subject it to chemical separation and test it?

5 A. I'm not aware that there was a portion that did  
6 not contain markings.

7 Q. What about the inside of the bullet. That's  
8 not normally marked, is it -- the jacket?

9 A. Well, there are some problems with getting  
10 samples from the inside of a jacket...

11 Q. Well, you can make a scraping, couldn't you?

12 A. Scrapings are not good. Nobody likes to take...  
13 Those are really very poor materials to examine for anything.

14 Q. Or you can shave off the edge.

15 A. Shavings...

16 MR. COLE: I object to any further questions along  
17 this line. I mean the witness has already told you what he  
18 thinks. To go into his mental processes as he makes his  
19 decisions as a scientist, I think, just is pursuing a dead  
20 horse.-- beating a dead horse.

21 Q. If you have several samples and they don't all  
22 have markings, how can you tell that they don't all have a  
23 common source?

24 A. I don't know that you can.

25 Q. Let me ask this. Is it possible... There were  
26 samples taken from the President's clothing for spectrographic  
27 analysis. Is it possible to subject those to neutron activa-  
28 tion analysis?