

^pictures(

Authors: JFK autopsy photos were fake(

WASHINGTON (UPI) - Two authors charged in a book released Thursday that official autopsy photographs and X-rays of President John Kennedy were forged, which they said pointed directly to a government conspiracy in the assassination. (

In the book, titled "High Treason," authors Robert Groden, who served as a photographic consultant to the House Select Committee on Assassinations, and Harrison Livingston argue that the official autopsy photos show signs of being doctored and are inconsistent with the X-rays. (

The House committee concluded in 1978 that there was a conspiracy and second gunman in the assassination, but it agreed with the Warren Commission that the fatal shot was fired from the rear. (

Groden said the new book "publishes for the first time the testimony of the technicians who took the original autopsy photographs and X-rays. They state that the official autopsy photographs and X-rays are different than those taken on the evening of the assassination." (

The authors contend that the changes in the photos were made to make it appear that the fatal shot came from the rear, which is the official finding of the Warren Commission, instead of from the front, where many critics believe the shot originated. Proof of a second gunman firing from the front would prove a conspiracy in Kennedy's Nov. 22, 1963 murder. (

The book adds to the puzzling mountain of evidence surrounding the state of the president's body during the autopsy. As other Warren Commission critics have done, the authors quote witnesses from the Dallas hospital where Kennedy was taken saying the wounds they saw differed from the wounds shown in the autopsy photographs. (

Another author, David Lifton, has theorized that the president's body was altered between the shooting and the autopsy to make it appear that Lee Harvey Oswald killed Kennedy from the rear. (

The authors of "High Treason" dispute that theory and contend in the book that "the key to the case is the fact that the X-rays and photographs are completely incompatible with each other. This proves they are forgeries. (

"In addition, if the X-rays and photos do not show the wounds as ... Bethesda and Dallas witnesses saw them, then the body was not altered to fake its' appearance, but the pictures were - so as not to show a shot from the front," the book contends. (

Groden noted that if the photographs were forgeries, "the work had to have been done by someone or some agency within the government. The autopsy photographs were always in the possession of the government." (

Groden has studied the assassination for a number of years and is the co-author of another book on the killing, "JFK: The Case for Conspiracy." He also is credited with an optical enhancement of the only film of the killing, made by Abraham Zapruder. Livingstone is an author who said he has studied the Kennedy case for several years. (

-----=
^upi 04-21-89 03:44 ped=

Joe Mianoway