

AS:mln

Investigation and Evidence

MEMORANDUM

May 12, 1964

TO: Mr. J. Lee Rankin

FROM: Arlen Specter

SUBJECT: Agenda for On-The-Site Tests at Dallas

I. Objectives

- A. The precise positions on Elm Street of President Kennedy and Governor Connally should be determined where they were when:
  1. Frame 199 was photographed by Zapruder;
  2. Frame 225 was photographed by Zapruder;
  3. Frame 240 was photographed by Zapruder;
  4. Frame 313 was photographed by Zapruder.
- B. The precise positions on Elm Street of President Kennedy and Governor Connally should be determined and the corresponding frame number on the Zapruder film should be ascertained where:
  1. Oswald would have had his first clear shot at President Kennedy after President Kennedy emerged from behind the tree.
  2. Oswald would have had his first clear shot at Governor Connally after Governor Connally emerged from behind the tree.
  3. Oswald would have had any clear shot through the tree.
  4. Oswald would have had his last clear shot at President Kennedy before President Kennedy went behind the tree.
- C. A determination should be made whether the wounds on President Kennedy or Governor Connally could have been caused by a shot fired from the Triple Underpass.

II. Preparatory Steps Before Departing for Dallas

- A. Arrange to simulate the car to be used so that its dimensions correspond with the President's car. To that end, Inspector Kelley has been requested to ascertain the following measurements:
1. The height from the ground to the seat of the President's car without any automatic elevation of the seat which corresponds to the positioning of the seat at the time of the assassination.
  2. The height of the back rest on the President's seat so that we may determine how much of the President's back was exposed.
  3. The dimensions of the jump seat, including:
    - a. the distance between the right edge of the right jump seat to the right door.
    - b. the distance between the back of the right jump seat and the front of the President's seat.
    - c. the height of the jump seat from the floor.
    - d. the height of the jump seat on the President's automobile from the ground.
- B. Construct a dummy with the measurements of the President's body so that it may be positioned in the precise location where President Kennedy sat. Inspector Malley of the FBI is arranging to have such a dummy prepared. I suggest that Commander Hines mark the points of entry and exit of the neck wound and the point of entrance of the head wound when he reviews the x-rays and photographs of the autopsy.

III. Proposed Measurements, Calculations and Photography

- A. The precise location of President Kennedy should be ascertained at each position itemized in I above, with linear measurements from the center of the intersection of Elm and Houston Streets.
- B. The precise location of Governor Connally should be ascertained at each position itemized in I above, with linear measurements from the center of the intersection of Elm and Houston Streets.



- C. The angle of declination should be calculated from the position where we believe Oswald held the rifle to the points of entry on President Kennedy's back and head at the positions specified in I.
- D. The angle of declination should be calculated from the position where we believe Oswald held the rifle to the points of entry on Governor Connally at the positions specified in I.
- E. The distances should be ascertained of all the possible shots considered in C. and D. above.
- F. Motion pictures and still photographs should be taken of all the positions specified in I. from:
  - 1. the view through the Oswald rifle.
  - 2. the place where Zapruder stood.

#### IV. Necessary Personnel, Equipment and Facilities

- A. Under your supervision, this project should be handled by the same people who worked on these problems during the numerous viewings of the films and slides:
  - 1. Inspector James R. Malley, Inspector Tom Kelley, Inspector Leo Gauthier, SA Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt and SA John Joe Howlett should be present!
  - 2. Norman Hedlich and I should be stationed interchangeably at the window and on the street.
- B. We should have a surveyor available to make the calculations and measurements and provide the necessary trigonometric readings. To that end I have asked Inspector Malley to obtain the services of Robert Jones who has worked with the Secret Service on this project before.
- C. We should have a 6-foot, 2-inch man available to simulate Governor Connally.
- D. Governor Connally's clothing should be taken to be worn by the man sitting in his position.
- E. We should have available at the Texas School Book Depository Building a room for showing the movies and slides. Inspector Malley advised that it can be arranged without difficulty.

- F. Radio communications should be available at the site. Inspector Malley advised that four walkie-talkie radios will be available.
- G. The Zepruder, the Wix and the Muchmore cameras (if each is available) should be present. We should also have a polaroid camera. Inspector Malley advised that there may be difficulty in obtaining the Zepruder camera but that the effort is being undertaken.
- H. A moving picture camera, focused through the telescopic sight, should be attached to Oswald's rifle. Inspector Malley and SA Shaneyfelt advise that the FBI will do so, if possible.
- I. Photographs should be made from the slides so that they may be available for reference at the site. Inspector Malley advised this will be done.
- J. All still photographs, including the album prepared by the Secret Service, should be available.