

Gallays
last changes

with the photographs. Even if the head was in some way reconstructed to make this picture, nothing can discredit the unanimity with which the autopsists insisted that the photographs did not show the entrance wound remotely near where they had seen it. The doctors have many times repeated that there was a corresponding small entrance hole in the skull near the hairline, and this does not show in the present X-rays, either.

The Committee "assumed that if the Parkland doctors are correct, particularly with respect to the gaping hole in the back of the President's head, then it would mean: (1) the autopsy photographs and X-rays had been doctored to conceal this hole; (2) the body itself had been altered, either before its arrival at Bethesda or during the autopsy so that the hole was not obvious in the photographs and X-rays; or (3) the photographs and X-rays were not of President Kennedy. Further, if the Parkland doctors are correct, then the autopsy personnel are incorrect and either lying or mistaken. It did not seem plausible to the committee that 26 persons (at the autopsy) would be lying... If the autopsy doctors are correct, then the Parkland doctors are incorrect and either lying or mistaken. It does not seem probable that they are lying, because it would be difficult to maintain a conspiracy of lying among the approximately 14 persons involved for 15 years. On the other hand, it does seem possible, that the Parkland personnel could be mistaken..."

IGNORING THE EVIDENCE

Both they and the Warren Commission overlooked the fact that the autopsists described just such a large hole in the *back* of the head in their report; they ignored the insistence by the autopsists that the photographs did not show the entry wound anywhere near where they had seen it, and they ignored the possibility that the photographs might be forged. In other words, the findings of some 23 doctors and nurses in Dallas and Washington were simply ignored or lied about. Furthermore, the doctors (like many other witnesses, including co-author Robert Groden) were subject to threats, coaching, and other forms of manipulation to force them to cooperate. For many years the autopsists were threaten-

and all other military personnel ^{never} involved

with court martial.⁹ The observations of the Dallas doctors were consistently disregarded on the pretense that they were mistaken. Moreover, the findings of the Bethesda Naval Hospital autopsists themselves were disregarded by the official panels on the pretext that they too were mistaken. It was never understood that the autopsists agreed with the Parkland doctors on some crucial observations. Perhaps this is why they were also ignored. When it suited them, the official bodies repeatedly lied and distorted the facts.

Each of the four doctors at the autopsy was asked individually to locate the entrance wound after reviewing the photographs, X-rays, and the autopsy report. The Committee's volume on medical evidence goes on to say "They identified the approximate location of the entrance wound on a human skull and within the photographs as being in a position perceived by the panel to be below that described in the autopsy report."¹⁰ For instance, in Brazil and other Iberian countries military courts kept careful records of testimony about torture, because they never thought it would get out, so our official bodies can make conflicting statements within a few pages of the same book because it is "for the use of the Assassinations Committee" only. They state what the final line will be, in total disregard for the facts as they just stated them. This has been the pattern in this case from the time of the assassination.

Yet in 1968 when a panel of doctors, led by the Medical Examiner of Maryland, Dr. Russell Fisher, reviewed the autopsy photographs and X-rays of President Kennedy for Attorney General Ramsey Clark, they found this entry hole to be much rounder, rather than greatly elliptical, and 8 mm. in diameter.²⁰ Not only was the rear head entry wound changed in size and shape, but it was placed 4 to 5 inches higher than it was said to be by the autopsists. In addition, this new entry position is in the center of where the much larger exit wound had been, but no longer was. *Both wounds had moved.*

The basic conflict then, is clear: Where was the large hole in the head, and where was the rear entry wound in the head?

All of the many medical and other witnesses in Dallas who saw the body placed the large hole in the very back of the head, or a little to the right, but basically in the occipital area of the head. The autopsists described this wound as being in the same place but larger. In Dallas, Dr. Robert McClelland (who was ~~present~~ when Kennedy was brought to Parkland Hospital) wrote that the "cause of death was due to a massive head and brain injury from a gunshot wound of the left temple."²¹ Such a shot could blow out the back of the head, just as described by all of the witnesses. The Warren Commission disregarded this evidence. Other evidence which will be outlined later in this book indicates that the President was shot twice in the head, once from behind and once from the front, which would explain the conflict over the head wounds.

The Assassinations Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives, following a 1978 break-in of their safe and the removal of the autopsy photographs,²² published what they called a drawing of the back of the head made from the photo.²³ This was actually a precise tracing, accurate to the hair, as established by artist Ida Dox in her testimony before the House Assassinations Committee. Indistinguishable from the actual autopsy photograph, it shows an apparent entry wound in the cowlick of the head, but the large defect which should be there is not.

The picture of the back of the head may be found in 7 HSCA p. 104, and also in 1 HSCA p. 234, as well as in several books published since. It is reproduced in this book.

CLEARLY FAKED PHOTOS

Co-author Harrison Livingstone wanted to show the picture of the back of the President's head to the medical witnesses in Dallas who had seen the body. The authors have seen the actual autopsy photos, and thus possessed knowledge that had been denied to even the doctors who treated the President at Parkland. In 1979, Livingstone traveled to Dallas on a trip paid for by Steve Parks of *The Baltimore Sun* and was the first person to show some of the Dallas doctors copies of the autopsy pictures. Since then, Livingstone, *The Baltimore Sun*, and Ben Bradlee Jr. of *The Boston Globe* have compiled the testimony of a number of ad-

called to the Emergency Room

break-in
in article

the underlying bony defect is obscured,"⁶⁰ making clear that the large hole was still there.

The Boston Globe completely ignored the evidence co-author Livingstone had obtained from Dr. Jenkins, and claimed that the doctor agreed with the autopsy photographs (without being shown them by *The Globe*). Dr. Jenkins is not quoted or mentioned in the *Globe* article, but the following statement is used by him to discredit what Jenkins had said before: "I thought it was cerebellum, but I didn't examine it." They wrote in their notes that he was therefore mistaken in his statements concerning the hole in the back of the head, and they presumed that he had never looked at the back of the head. It was this, and only this, that *The Globe* used in their rejection of Jenkins' clear position that the large hole was above and posterior to the right ear, which he in fact pointed out to Bradlee, whom he made lie down for the demonstration.

The House Assassinations Committee interviewed Dr. Jenkins in November 1977. He told the investigator that he "was the only one who knew the extent of the head wound." "His location was customary for an anesthesiologist. He was positioned at the head of the table so that he had one of the closest views of the head wound. Regarding the head wound, Dr. Jenkins said that only one segment of bone was blown out - it was a segment of occipital or temporal bone. He noted that a portion of the (lower-rear brain) cerebellum was hanging out from a hole in the right - rear of the head."⁶¹ They did not show him the autopsy photographs.

The Sun published the fact that Dr. Malcolm Perry hotly denounced the picture, but *The Globe*, although they did not interview him, said that he supported the autopsy photograph. They did not print the denial or any reference to this doctor.⁶² In any event, *The Sun's* intensive interview with Dr. Perry was conducted in front of witnesses, and the results corroborated the testimony of every other witness who had been interviewed up to that time.

The Assassinations Committee interviewed Dr. Perry in 1978, but did not show him the autopsy photographs. Perry told the interviewer that he had looked at the head wound and that it "was located in the 'occipital parietal' region of the skull and that the right posterior aspect of the skull was missing."⁶³ It does not make sense that Dr. Perry and the only other two Parkland doctors (Jenkins and Carrico) the Committee interviewed would have somehow changed their observation that the back of the head was missing - for *The Boston Globe*.

In addition, the testimony of Dr. Perry to the Warren Commission, and his extensive first-hand experience with the wounds, makes any later retraction attributed to him not credible.

The fourth witness, Dr. Carrico, made such contradictory statements to *The Globe* that it would be inaccurate to count him as supporting the picture. Dr. Carrico told the Warren Commission: "The wound that I saw was a large gaping wound, located in the right occipitoparietal area. I would estimate it to be about 5 to 7 cm. in size, more or less circular, with avulsions of the calvarium and scalp tissue. As I stated before, I believe there was shredded macerated cerebral and cerebellar tissues both in the wounds and on the fragments of the skull attached to the dura."⁶⁴

When interviewed in January 1978 by the House Assassinations Committee, Dr. Carrico repeated the same thing: "The other wound was a fairly large wound in the parietal, occipital area. One could see blood and brains, both cerebellum and cerebrum fragments in that wound... The head wound was a much larger wound than the neck wound. It was five by seven centimeters, something like that, 2 1/2 by 3 inches, ragged, had blood and hair all around it, located in the part of the parietal occipital region... above and posterior to the ear, almost from the crown of the head,"⁶⁵ that is, just where the small entry wound shows in the alleged autopsy photograph. It would have been impossible for this to be true without showing on the photograph.

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report placed it, at or near the hairline of the back of the head, would not, and indeed could not, have blown out the portion of the head which was in fact blown away. The fact remains that the autopsists themselves seriously questioned the photos. The common denominator among every witness interviewed was their denunciation of the official autopsy photograph.

This conclusion must be taken together with the fact that there are many more anomalies in the case, with similar questions, each one compelling the conclusion that evidence had been planted, fabricated, faked, destroyed or forged. Perhaps one way of resolving the questions, short of exhumation, is to gather all the Dallas witnesses in one room, together with those who were in the autopsy room in Maryland, and show them the secret pictures. This should be done immediately.

In addition, Dr. Robert Grossman told *The Globe*, "It was clear to me... that the right parietal bone had been lifted up by a bullet which had exited."⁷¹ Thus, one of the doctors who saw President Kennedy before he died observed two large holes in the head, though the hole in the right temple area was largely closed. Dr. James J. Humes, the autopsist, in effect described both of these large wounds as wounds of exit. Co-author Robert Groden found in the films made during the shooting clear, strong evidence of two separate shots to the President's head, the first from behind and the second from in front. Each of these shots blew out a portion of skull. The shot from the rear created a flap of skin and bone over the right temple area, which appeared closed until reflected back at the autopsy; and the second shot destroyed the rear of his head, throwing the President backwards at great speed. The opened flap is visible on the right side of the head in the alleged autopsy photographs.

GRODEN'S REPORT

The House Assassinations Committee published the following report by co-author Robert Groden: "My visual inspection of the autopsy photographs and X-rays reveal evidence of forgery in four of the photographs," showing the back of the head. "Within the circumference of the President's head, there is an irregular line. Within this line the hair appears black and wet. On the outside of the line it is auburn and completely dry. In later generations of these photographs, a large degree of contrast buildup becomes apparent at the line's edge and the line becomes clearly defined. This phenomenon is characteristic of crop lines in matte insert processes used for retouching and recomposition of photographs. It is my opinion that these two photographs are forgeries, composites manufactured to eliminate evidence of an exit wound in the rear of the President's head. The only method I am aware of that could have been used to create these composites is known as 'soft edge matte insertion.'"⁷²

Groden was not allowed to talk about this when he was interviewed on national television during the first day of the Committee's public hearings. He was carefully coached as to what he could or could not say. "Don't volunteer anything," he was told. "Just answer the questions." They lied and told him that he would have another opportunity to appear and present whatever else was on his mind, which never happened.

The Warren Commission^{Staff} often simply rewrote witnesses' testimony, if they didn't want it to go into the record, or ignored it altogether. Coaching of witnesses in our judicial and legislative process is common. In the chapter on acoustics, we will discuss the other major findings the Committee did not want Groden to talk about.

STONEWALLING

In the most recent discussion, Dr. Humes stated "We have nothing to hide. Go ahead and call Dr. Boswell. He has nothing to hide. He is in the Washington phone book." Moments later, when asked whether or not there was a large hole in the back of the head, Dr. Humes became hostile, and said "What business is it of yours?" Later he said, "I'm sorry, I can't discuss this with you. These things don't concern you."

The clear impression was that this evidence was U.S. Navy business, and that it was not anyone's right to know. It is everybody's business. The author felt a steel door slamming shut at those key points in the conversations; he had come face to face with what *The New York Times* has called "The Inner Government." Boswell said, "I can't talk about it" or "I don't remember." Dr. Boswell could recall very precisely and give a description of the morgue where the autopsy was conducted, but he could not remember where the large hole in the President's head was and what it looked like.

Boswell also said that Pitzer was not present at the autopsy (he is not on the list of those officially present), despite several reports that he was not only there but filmed the autopsy. ~~Since he worked in the hospital and was a cameraman, it seems logical that he might have walked in during the autopsy.~~

The overall impression in speaking with these doctors over the years is that they are covering up. It is not just that they were ordered a long time ago not to talk about the case. If the government had nothing to hide with regard to the autopsy, why would they refuse to discuss a simple point of evidence concerning the condition of the back of the head?

In the past, the authors have tried to give these doctors the benefit of the doubt, but their position seems highly questionable. It is clear that something of major importance is being hidden. Nevertheless, the evidence already on the record is important enough. On balance, it is clear that the crimes of murder and obstruction of justice were committed within the jurisdiction of the states of Maryland and Texas. The Federal government does not now have and never has had jurisdiction in the case, but they usurped this authority. For instance, Cmdr. Pitzer may have actually been murdered elsewhere and brought into Bethesda where he was found dead to make it far more difficult for the Maryland authorities to investigate his murder, even though they have jurisdiction over crimes committed on Federal property and military bases within Maryland. The fact that Pitzer's autopsy report has never been released to his widow and family indicates that another murder has been covered up.

THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

What were the right questions which should have been asked of the autopsists? "Where, exactly, was the large exit defect in the head? Did you find a whole bullet? Did you note a large bullet fragment inside?"

Specter asked Dr. Finck: "And could it have been the bullet which inflicted the wound on Governor Connally's right wrist?" referring again to the pristine bullet. The autopsyist replied "No; for the reason that there are too many fragments described in that wrist."¹⁵

"A factor that influenced the panel significantly was the ovoid shape of the wound in the Governor's back, indicating that the bullet had begun to tumble or yaw before entering. An ovoid wound is characteristic of one caused by a bullet that has passed through or glanced off an intervening object."¹⁶ If a bullet strikes leaves, it can yaw and cause a slightly ovoid wound, like this one. Secondly, any bullet striking at any angle does not make a perfectly round hole, but an ovoid one. Third, the position of the muscles at the moment of impact may not be relaxed or the position they end up in after the shot, and the shape of the hole is stretched or changed accordingly. Fourth, the Governor's wound wasn't very ovoid, indicating the bullet had not struck anything beforehand. Dr. Shaw told the Warren Commission that the longest diameter of the hole was 6/10 of an inch¹⁷ which is corroborated by the hole in his coat, which measured .25 by .65 inches.

"Based on the evidence available to it, the panel concluded that a single bullet passing through both President Kennedy and Governor Connally would support a fundamental conclusion that the President was struck by two, and only two, bullets, each fired from behind. Thus, the forensic pathology panel's conclusions were consistent with the so-called single bullet theory advanced by the Warren Commission."¹⁸

Dr. Milton Helpern, who was at one time the Chief Medical Examiner of New York City, said, "The original, pristine weight of this bullet before it was fired was approximately 160-161 grains. The weight of the bullet recovered on the stretcher in Parkland Hospital was reported by the Commission at 158.6. This bullet wasn't distorted in any way. I cannot accept the premise that this bullet thrashed around in all that bony tissue and lost only 1.4 to 2.4 grains of its original weight. I cannot believe either that this bullet is going to emerge miraculously unscathed, without any deformity, and with its lands and grooves intact... You must remember that next to bone, the skin offers greater resistance to a bullet in its course through the body than any other kind of tissue... This single bullet theory asks us to believe that this bullet went through seven layers of skin, tough, elastic, resistant skin. In addition... this bullet passed through other layers of soft tissue; and then shattered bones! I just can't believe that this bullet had the force to do what (the Commission) have demanded of it; and I don't think they have really stopped to think out carefully what they have asked of this bullet."¹⁹

The New York Times wrote, "He (Dr. Helpern) knows more about violent death than anyone else in the world." He had conducted more than 10,000 autopsies on people killed with bullets. Where did CE 399 - the magic bullet - come from if it hadn't struck both men? Either it came from another sniper's rifle, or it was planted. The man who found it in the hospital insisted it did not come from the stretcher of either President Kennedy or John Connally. The evidence indicates that ~~the~~ ^{both} Darrell Tomlinson and O.P. Wright, the hospital security director, "declined to identify it as the bullet they each handled on November 22."²¹

(CE 399)

but both

“...The time between the observable reactions of the President and of the Governor was too short to have allowed, according to the Commission’s test firings, two shots to have been fired from the same rifle. FBI marksmen who test fired the rifle for the Commission employed the telescopic sight on the rifle, and the minimum firing time between shots was approximately 2.25 to 2.3 seconds. The time, between the observable reactions of the President and the Governor, according to the Commission, was less than two seconds.”²² Again, the Committee did not consider that there were two separate snipers behind the limousine. Further, it would have been simply impossible for any marksman in the world to fire two shots in less than two seconds at a moving target at such a distance and hit anything. The conclusions of the official bodies are preposterous in view of the weight of the evidence from all these doctors and witnesses.

Not one single witness to the shooting ever suggested that both men were hit at the same time, and in fact all the witnesses in Dealey Plaza who had anything to say about it indicated that the victims were hit by separate bullets.

Nearly half the members of the Warren Commission never accepted the single bullet theory, but the conservative Senators Russell, Cooper, and Congressman Hale Boggs were overwhelmed by the CIA connected persons on the panel: Allen Dulles, former Director of the CIA, whom Kennedy had fired; Gerald Ford, known as the CIA’s man in the House; and John McCloy, Rockefeller’s lawyer.²³

“Senator Richard Russell reportedly said that he would not sign a Report which concluded that both men were hit by the same bullet.”²⁴ Researchers and authors Gary Shaw and Larry Harris write: “Russell later told Harold Weisberg that he had asked Chairman Earl Warren to include a footnote at the bottom of the page saying, ‘Senator Russell dissents,’ but that Warren refused, insisting on unanimity. According to author-researcher Harold Weisberg, Russell was satisfied that there had been a conspiracy, that no one man could have done the known shooting, and that ‘we have not been told the truth about Oswald’ by Federal agencies. Russell encouraged Weisberg to challenge and disprove the Commission’s findings.

“Senator John Cooper said, ‘I, too, objected to such a conclusion; there was no evidence to show both men were hit by the same bullet.’ Representative Hale Boggs said, ‘I had strong doubts about it (the single-bullet theory),’ adding that he felt the question was never resolved.”²⁵

In an internal FBI memorandum from Cartha D. DeLoach to Clyde Tolson, J. Edgar Hoover’s assistant and living mate, DeLoach writes: “the President (Lyndon Johnson) felt that CIA had something to do with this plot.”²⁶

Plot!

Boggs at first believed the theory, but years later changed his mind.

The House Assassinations Committee in 1979 admitted that there was a gunman on the Grassy Knoll to the right front of the President. Why are they sticking with the single bullet theory? The answer is that there were *two* gunmen *behind* the President, not just one, in addition to the gunman the Committee found on the Grassy Knoll. They can't admit it because that would indicate an official cover-up, fabricated evidence, and a much larger conspiracy. The only recourse was to use more phoney drawings, doubletalk, and magic code words to delude us like "scientific," "medical," and "neutron activation analysis."

"In addition to the conclusions reached by the committee's forensic pathology panel, the single bullet theory was substantiated by the findings of a neutron activation analysis performed for the committee. The bullet alleged to have caused the injuries to the Governor and the President was found on a stretcher at Parkland Hospital... Neutron activation analysis, however, established that it was highly likely that the injuries to the Governor's wrist were caused by the bullet found on the stretcher in Parkland Hospital."³³ Not very likely. The main problem with this test was that Dr. Guinn stated afterwards that none of the fragments he tested weighed the same as any listed as evidence by the Warren Commission. That is, along with the many missing fragments, it would appear that his evidence had been ~~impoverished~~ *switched* before he got it. (Certainly, many bullets could have come from the same lot of lead.)

"Further, the committee's wound ballistics expert concluded that the bullet found on the stretcher - Warren Commission exhibit 399 (CE 399) - is of a type that could have caused the wounds to President Kennedy and Governor Connally without showing any more deformity than it does."³³ (It could have, but it didn't.) "In determining whether the deformity of CE 399 was consistent with its having passed through both the President and Governor, the committee considered the fact that it is a relatively long, stable, fully jacketed bullet, typical of ammunition often used by the military. Such ammunition tends to pass through body tissue more easily than soft nose hunting bullets. Committee consultants with knowledge in forensic pathology and wound ballistics concluded that it would not have been unusual for such a fully jacketed bullet to have passed through the President and the Governor and to have been only minimally deformed."³⁴ All this speculation doesn't measure up against the weight of the evidence that these were three separate shots, rather than one.

The bullet that hit President Kennedy in the head fragmented into many pieces. It was clearly not a military jacketed bullet.

It would be unusual for a bullet to pass through a President and he

switched
Guinn couldn't validate the genuineness of the specimens given to him, assuming they were genuine.
(SP)

"John Kennedy wasn't a virtuous man; he just looked towards virtue and they shot his head off. America became an 'anything goes' country with his death."

- Mort Sahl

Can't you make these look more like poems or quotes?

CHAPTER 5

THE AUTOPSY AND THE AUTOPSY PHOTOGRAPHS

We have been leading up, obliquely, to the Assassinations Committee's problem of the "Authentication of the Kennedy autopsy photographs and X-rays." The three autopsists signed ~~an~~ ^{the} autopsy report that was undated, meaning that it could have been written at any time after the original autopsy notes were destroyed. It was ~~apparently~~ written by Dr. J. J. Humes, Commander U.S.N., who signed it, ~~whether or not he wrote it?~~ What we are concerned with here is the veracity of the official witnesses, the official evidence, and the integrity of the government and its panels, which have consistently been in question since November 22, 1963. The Warren Report, the Gulf of Tonkin incident, Vietnam, Watergate, El Salvador, the Libyan hit squad, the Iran-Contra Affair and many other events have all called into question that integrity.

DR. HUMES TESTIFIES

Arlen Specter questioned Commander (Dr.) Humes regarding the photographs and X-rays for the Warren Commission. Humes stated, "...the photographs and the X-rays were exposed in the morgue of the Naval Medical Center on this night, and they were not developed, neither the X-rays or the photographs. They were submitted to... either the Federal Bureau of Investigation or to the Secret Service. I am not sure." "Did you submit..."

...about something while he was saying it, to see whether it is supported by the conclusions in the autopsy and so forth, and then we have volumes of material in which people have purported to have said, or say to various agents certain things, they are not sworn..."

FILM SEIZED

A Secret Service statement claims that "the X-ray films were used for the briefing of the Warren Commission staff on the autopsy procedure and results,"⁴ and that the evidence was turned over to the National Archives and/or the Commission.

The autopsists said, "One roll of 120 film (processed but showing no recognizable image) which we recall was seized by Secret Service agents from a Navy medical corpsman whose name is not known to us during the autopsy and immediately exposed to light."⁵

Other witnesses at Bethesda stated that the Naval photographer had taken photographs of the autopsy room itself and those present. Somebody didn't want that kind of a record: Texas Highway Patrolman, Hurchel Jacks, in his statement of November 28, 1963, said, "We were assigned by the Secret Service to prevent any pictures of any nature to be taken of the President's car or the inside." We will learn in a later chapter that on the following day, the President's limousine, a crucial piece of evidence since it had been struck in several places by bullets or fragments, was taken to Detroit, torn apart, and rebuilt, thus deliberately destroying the evidence. The boundary between coincidence and deliberate action seems to have again been overstepped.

"I, James J. Humes, certify that I have destroyed by burning certain preliminary draft notes relating to Naval Medical School Autopsy Report A63-272 and have officially transmitted all other papers related to this report to higher authority." (24 November 1963.) This certificate was apparently required by the President's personal physician, Admiral George Burkley, who wrote on it "accepted and approved this date."⁶

~~It might be noted that Burkley had required Humes to destroy his notes~~
~~to the Naval Medical School. Burkley, a crucial eyewitness present~~
at both Parkland and Bethesda, was never called to answer any questions about anything. *Why not?*

In a separate certificate signed the same day by Humes, again apparently required by Burkley, who again wrote "accepted and approved," Humes wrote: "I, James J. Humes, certify that all working papers associated with Naval Medical School Autopsy Report A63-272 have remained in my personal custody at all times. Autopsy notes and the holograph draft of the final report were handed to Commanding Officer (J. H. Stover, Jr.), U. S. Medical School, at 1700, 24 November 1963. No papers relating to this case remain in my possession." Why two separate certificates when one would suffice? Humes first certifies that he destroyed his notes, and then says he handed them to his commanding officer.

George Burkley

COURT-MARTIAL THREATS

The autopsists were threatened with courts-martial as follows: "You are reminded that you are under verbal orders of the Surgeon General, U.S. Navy, to discuss with no one events connected with official duties on the evening of 22 November - 23 November, 1963.

"This letter constitutes official notification and reiteration of these verbal orders. You are warned an infraction of these orders makes you liable to Court Martial proceedings under appropriate article of the Uniform Code of Military Justice." *This order applied to all officers and enlisted men concerned. Apparently it still binds them after retirement.*

Although the Dallas doctors presented evidence that two shots hit the President from in front, the Secret Service claimed they "obtained a reversal of their original view that the bullet in his neck entered from the front.

"The investigators did so by showing the surgeons a document described as an autopsy report from the United States Naval Hospital at Bethesda. The surgeons changed their original view to conform with the report they were shown."

TESTIMONY IGNORED

In fact none of the doctors, with one possible exception, changed their opinion when they later testified to the Warren Commission. What they had to say was simply ignored. The possible exception was Dr. Marion Jenkins, who has a consistent track record of waffling. Specter asked him, "Have you ever changed any of your original opinions in connection with the wounds received by President Kennedy?"

Dr. Jenkins: "I guess so. The first day I had thought because of his pneumo-thorax, that his wound must have gone - that the one bullet must have traversed his pleura, must have gotten into his lung cavity, his chest cavity, I mean, and from what you say now, I know it did not go that way. I thought it did." *Something* must have gotten into the chest cavity, because chest tubes were inserted in the President to drain all the blood that was collecting there. The transcripts make it clear that Specter bullied all these doctors and anyone else with testimony contradicting the theory he was about to invent. The government was in serious trouble because the evidence demonstrated far too many shots from too many directions, and far too many gunmen.

The New York Times reported on December 5, 1963, "Most private citizens who had cooperated with newsmen reporting the crime have refused to give further help after being interviewed by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation."

At this point, the FBI report on the assassination had been leaked out to the press long before the Warren Report was issued. It said that John Connally was not hit by the same bullet that hit the President in the throat, meaning that at least four shots had been fired: two hitting Kennedy and ~~two more~~ hitting Connally and ~~by a~~ ~~standby~~. Only later did they discover that this was impossible with the alleged weapon.

James Tagues
They ignored the missed shot and Tagues wound from a cement fragment.

A NEW STORY

When the limitations of the Mannlicher-Carcano became public knowledge, the known facts had to undergo change and a new story invented. On December 6, 1963, *Life Magazine*, which owned the Zapruder film, reported that "the 8 mm. film shows the President turning his body far around to the right as he waves to someone in the crowd. His throat is exposed - towards the sniper's nest - just before he clutches it." ~~None~~ outside of the government and Time/Life Inc. had seen the film until years later, and the Warren Commission knew that this description was not true. But *Life Magazine* is admitting, still, that the throat wound is an entry wound. The Warren Commission reversed the frames of the film to have the frontal head shot coming from behind, and Dan Rather stated on television that the President was thrown rearward. Next, Gerald Ford had Kennedy waving at the crowd in order to bunch up his coat and shirt so that Ford could explain the holes so far down on his clothes. This invention didn't work either, because there were too many photographs taken during the shooting. Note the FBI-SS reenactment of the crime and where they have the entries pinned on the victim in the illustration.

When news of the autopsy ~~report~~ was originally leaked, around December 18, 1963, Nat Haseltine wrote, "President Kennedy was shot twice, both times from the rear, and could readily have survived the first bullet which was found deep in his shoulder." The Associated Press admitted on the same day that this bullet "penetrated two or three inches." *The New York Times* also said "that bullet lodged in his shoulder." As some newspapers noted, why was the President not thrown down and protected when his life could have been so easily saved? Why didn't the car drive off at top speed upon the first shot?

Haseltine went on to write: "The second bullet to hit the President, however, tore off the right rear portion of his head so destructively as to be 'completely incompatible with life.' A fragment was deflected and passed out the front of the throat creating the erroneous belief he may have been shot from two angles." *The New York Times* repeated this on January 25, 1964.

This lie didn't work either, because there were too many photographs to show that the President was struck ~~in the chest~~ long before he was hit in the head.

Secret Service Agent Glenn Bennett, who was just behind the President in the next car, said: "I looked at the back of the President. I heard another firecracker noise and saw the shot hit the President about four inches down from the right shoulder."

Haseltine continued: "These are the findings of the as yet unofficial report of the pathologists who performed the autopsy on the President's body the night of Nov. 22... The disclosure that a bullet hit the President in the back shoulder, 5 to 7 inches below the collar line, ..." ~~The government via the Warren Commission~~ tried this ~~out~~ on us until they found that the bullet would have had to go upwards through the President's body at much too high an angle to also strike John Connally, so the entry place on the back was moved upwards by six inches.

AN EXIT WOUND?

Dr. Humes wrote in the autopsy report: "2. The second wound presumably of entry is that described above in the upper right posterior thorax... The missile path through the fascia and musculature cannot be easily probed. The wound presumably of exit was that described by Dr. Malcolm Perry of Dallas in the low anterior cervical region. When observed by Dr. Perry, the wound measured 'a few millimeters in diameter,' however it was extended as a tracheotomy incision and thus its character is distorted at the time of autopsy." The thorax is the chest, not the neck. We have massive testimony from the doctors in Dallas that the throat wound was an entry wound, and they ~~still~~ insist on it today.¹⁰ Where did Dr. Humes get the idea that the throat wound

conclusions

Barry - see
HWS note

What kind of an autopsy was this? Dr. Perry certainly never told him that the throat wound was a wound of exit. In fact, all the doctors who saw the throat wound said that it was an entry wound, and that it was very small, even made by a small caliber weapon.² An entry wound closes up somewhat so that its diameter is smaller than the diameter of the transiting bullet, because of the elasticity of the skin.

It is of crucial importance here to know that the autopsists really had no way to judge how many shots had been fired. They fixed the brain in preserving solution and did not section it. They would not have known if a frangible or exploding bullet had also struck the President in the head, which would not appear so obvious to them, without much more of an examination than the one they performed.

DR. FINCK TESTIFIES

One of the autopsists previously testified in New Orleans, before District Attorney Jim Garrison. His testimony offered a fascinating insight into how the autopsy was conducted. It also reveals the sort of pressure the autopsy doctors were under to arrive at the "official" predesignated conclusions. Q. "Did you have an occasion to dissect the track of that particular bullet in the victim as it lay on the autopsy table?" Dr. Pierre Finck was asked, about the bullet in the back.

A. "I did not dissect the track in the neck."

Q. "Why?"

A. "This leads into the disclosure of the medical records."

"You should answer, doctor," the judge said.

A. "We didn't remove the organs of the neck."

Q. "Why not, doctor?"

A. "For the reason that we were told to examine the head wounds, and that the -"

Q. "Are you saying someone told you not to dissect the track?"

A. "I was told that the family wanted an examination of the head, as I recall, the head and chest, but the prosecutors in this autopsy didn't remove the organs of the neck, to my recollection."

Q. "You have said they did not, I want to know why didn't you as an autopsy pathologist attempt to ascertain the track through the body which you had on the autopsy table in trying to ascertain the cause or causes of death? Why?"

A. "I had the cause of death."

Q. "Why did you not trace the track of the wound?"

A. "As I recall I didn't remove these organs from the neck."

Q. "I didn't hear you," Mr. Oser said.

A. "I examined the wounds but I didn't remove the organs of the neck."

Q. "Why did you not dissect the track of the bullet wound that you have described today and you saw at the time of the autopsy at the time you

Secret Service agent Roy Kellerman told the Warren Commission: "A Colonel Finck - during the examination of the President, from the hole that was in his shoulder, and with a probe, and we were standing right alongside of him, he is probing inside the shoulder with his instrument and I said 'Colonel, where did it go?' He said 'There are no lanes for an outlet of this entry in this man's shoulder.'"¹⁴

At this point, we must conclude that someone is lying, and that this is where the coverup begins.

DISTORTED PERSPECTIVE

The alleged autopsy photo of the President's back was taken, not by turning him over and photographing the wound, but by lifting up the head and shoulders so that there is a distorted perspective of how far down the back wound lies. That wound has been placed all the way from the back of the neck, as in the official Warren Commission illustration shown by the Committee as JFK Exhibit F-47,¹⁵ to six inches down from the shoulder, as the holes in the President's suit and shirt clearly show.

~~Warren Commission Document~~ ^{FBI Document} 7 states, "During the latter stages of this autopsy, Dr. Humes located an opening which appeared to be a bullet hole which was below the shoulders and two inches to the right of the middle line of the spinal column. This opening was probed by Dr. Humes with the finger, at which time it was determined that the trajectory of the missile entering at this point had entered at a downward position of 45 to 60 degrees. Further probing determined that the distance traveled by this missile was a short distance inasmuch as the end of the opening could be felt with the finger." Where was the bullet? We have a receipt for "one missile" recovered during the autopsy signed by FBI agents. "We hereby acknowledge receipt of a missile (sic) removed by Commander James J. Humes, MC, USN on this date... (signed) Francis X. O'Neill, Jr. and James W. Sibert."¹⁶ What happened to this bullet? Since four large "fragments" were also recovered, the "missile" (sic) must be a bullet. The FBI and other authorities later denied that any bullet had been found.

So far, this bullet, entering at a downward angle, could not have turned upward and come out of the neck. Note that they state the bullet was two inches to the right of the spinal column, but do not say how many inches down it is from the shoulders.

The important thing is that this entry wound in the back could not have come out of the throat, because it did not go anywhere. "The end of the opening could be felt with the finger."

All three doctors at the autopsy probed the wound in the back with

wc doc 7

"No, no, that's no wound," Dr. Humes said, pointing to the newly discovered apparent bullet hole in the cowlick.

"I interpret that as a wound, and the other, lower down in the neck, as just being a contaminant, a piece of brain tissue," Dr. Davis said.

Humes: "No, that was a wound, and the wound on the skull precisely coincided with it."

"But they describe, some of them, the entrance wound they feel being 10 centimeters above the occipital protuberance," Dr. Coe said.

"Well, there have been all sorts of changes from the original - I mean, right and left and up and down,"²³ Dr. Petty said. Clearly the doctors were seeing different things, different pictures, different evidence.

"STRUCK IN THE HEAD"

As we discuss the credibility of the witnesses and the evidence upon which this whole cover-up hangs, let us examine the death certificate signed by Admiral George G. Burkley, President Kennedy's personal doctor. Unbelievably, he simply says that the President "was struck in the head." Then he says, "A second wound occurred in the posterior back at about the level of the third thoracic vertebra."²⁴ This is almost six inches below where the Warren Commission finally moved the wound. We note that the Assassinations Committee has now moved the wound several inches closer to this back position than it previously was with the Warren Commission.

Humes had placed the wound roughly in the same location where Burkley placed it: "Situated on the upper right posterior thorax just above the upper border of the scapula there is a 7 x 4 millimeter oval wound. This wound is measured to be 15 cm. from the tip of the right acromion process and 14 cm. below the tip of the right mastoid process."²⁵ These are not the landmarks of autopsy protocol. The mastoid process is on the head.

Under pressure during his interview with the medical panel, from which Dr. Cyril Wecht had been expressly excluded, Humes would not retract his statement about the entry wound in the head. Afterwards Dr. Humes was prepped for his public national TV appearance during the hearings on September 7, 1978: "Yes, I think that I do have a different opinion. No. 1, it was a casual kind of a discussion that we were having with the panel members, as I recall it... We described the wound of entrance in the posterior scalp as being above and to the right of the external occipital protuberance, a bony knob on the back of the head... and it is obvious to me as I sit here now with this markedly enlarged drawing of the photograph that the upper defect to which you pointed (in the cowlick area) or the upper object is clearly in the location of where we said approximately where it was, above the external occipital protuberance; therefore, I believe that is the wound entry." This is a movement of some four inches from where he placed it in 1963, and not "slightly above the occipital protuberance" as the autopsy report said.

The death certificate was found by Harold Weisberg during his search of the files in the National Archives.

placed it, and where they could now see a bit of "dried brain tissue," or somewhere else - at the cowlick. These fabricated pictures were the basis for the conclusion that there was only one bullet which struck the President's head.

"THAT'S NO WOUND"

Dr. James Humes, the autopsyist, was shown the pictures and cried "What's that?" at the new point of entry. Both he and Dr. Boswell insisted that the neat little mark at the cowlick was not the point of entry, but that it was four inches away, near the hairline. "No, no, that's no wound," he said.⁵⁰ His evidence, and that of his colleague, Dr. Boswell, was ignored by the distinguished panel of doctors. There was one exception: Dr. Cyril Wecht who, interestingly, was not told about the meeting with Humes, and so wasn't there. The first microscopic footnote of the un-indexed report appears: "In many of its conclusions, the forensic pathology panel voted 8 to 1, with the dissenting vote being consistently that of Cyril H. Wecht, M.D., coroner of Allegheny County, PA. In all references to conclusions of the panel, unless it is specifically stated that it was unanimous, it should be assumed that Dr. Wecht dissented."⁵¹

The autopsyists didn't go quietly, either. But almost no-one heard them. The "expert" panel of doctors failed to ask the autopsyists where the large hole was, what Dr. Boswell's drawing meant, or any of the other questions that would have shed light on the real location of the wounds.

TROUBLING DISCREPANCIES

On January 12, 1982, Dr. Cyril Wecht wrote co-author Livingstone about the autopsy pictures he saw: "The massive head wound does not involve the occipital region in the photographs that I studied. It involves the right parietal-temporal zones with slight extension into the right frontal area. In other words, the 'back of the skull' was not blown away or shattered." These are the same pictures that Dr. Lattimer and the Clark Panel saw in 1968.

On January 19, 1982, Dr. Wecht insisted to Livingstone over the phone that the large defect he saw in the pictures and X-rays did not extend back behind the ear. This agrees with what the authors saw. The pictures Dr. Wecht, the authors and others have seen do not depict the massive defect extending behind the ear. Neither of these two positions shows the massive defect where it was in Dallas and Bethesda: Dr. Jenkins insisted to the Assassinations Committee that "only one segment of bone was blown out - it was a segment of occipital or temporal bone... a portion of the cerebellum (lower rear brain) was hanging out from a hole in the right - rear of the head."⁵² Dr. Perry repeated to the Committee that he believed the head wound "was located in the occipital-parietal region of the skull and the right posterior aspect of the skull was missing."⁵³ Dr. Carrico told the Assassinations Committee, "The head wound was a much larger wound than the neck wound. It is 5 by 7 cm., two and a half by three inches, ragged, had blood and hair all around it, located in the part of the parietal-occipital region... above and posterior to the ear, almost from the crown of the head."⁵⁴

How can another set of photographs and X-rays exist, neither of which agrees with the reports of the doctors in Dallas or the autopsyists in Bethesda?

In Harold Weisberg's *Postmortem* and Josiah Thompson's *Six Seconds In Dallas*, Dr. Humes ~~states~~ ^{we find} that the X-rays and photographs that were taken were exposed and destroyed.⁵⁵ We have other testimony that the Secret Service did this.⁵⁶ Then where did the pictures we do have come from? Certainly, these pictures do not remotely resemble the wounds we know about, which are supported with overwhelming evidence.

Walter Commission Testimony