

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/26/63

1

On November 22, 1963, I, SA VINCENT E. DRAIN, contacted Chief of Police JESSE E. CURRY relative to the following listed items of evidence which had been collected by the Dallas Police Department in their investigation of the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY on November 22, 1963. Chief of Police CURRY, accompanied by Lieutenant CARL DAY, made available these items for examination by the FBI Laboratory. Chief CURRY made available the following listed items which were received from Captain WILL FRITZ and Lieutenant CARL DAY of the Dallas Police Department, Dallas, Texas:

1. Live round rifle shell 6.5 millimeter, which was found in rifle, Serial Number C 2766, which was believed to be the gun used in the above assassination.
2. Spent hulls of 6.5 millimeter shell believed to have been fired in rifle, Serial Number C 2766, believed to have been the gun used in the assassination. (2 spent hulls)
3. One blanket found at the scene where the rifle was located, which may have been the blanket used as a cover for carrying this rifle.
4. One shirt taken from suspect LEE HARVEY OSWALD.
5. Brown paper which was found at what was believed to be the point of firing of the fatal bullets used in the assassination. This paper possibly may have been used to carry above rifle to the scene of the building from which it was fired.
6. Sample of brown paper used by Texas School Book Depository and sample of paper tape used by Texas School Book Depository.
7. Fragments of spent bullet found in the body of Governor JOHN CONNALLY.

159

on 11-22, 23, at Dallas, Texas and Washington, File # DL 89-43
24/63 D. C.

by Special Agent VINCENT E. DRAIN/jt Date dictated 11/26/63

8. One Smith and Wesson snub-nose revolver, Serial Number V 510210, which was taken from suspect OSWALD at the time of his arrest.
9. One bullet recovered from the body of deceased Officer J. D. TIPPIT.
10. One 6.5 millimeter bolt action rifle, inscribed "1940, made in Italy", serial number C 2766. Also inscribed on the rifle is a crown which appears similar to an English crown, and under this is "R-E." Also inscribed is "Rocca" which is enclosed in rectangular lines and that is on the plunger on the bolt action on the rear of the gun. On the scope of the gun is a gun site inscribed "Ordnance Optics, Inc., Hollywood, California, O10 or O10, Japan." Also inscribed is a cloverleaf and inside the cloverleaf is "OSC."

On November 23, 1963, at 3:10 a.m., I left with the above mentioned items aboard a U. S. Air Force C-135 Tanker made available by the Commanding Officer of the Carswell Air Force Base, and arrived in Washington, D.C. at 6:30 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, November 23, 1963. I was accompanied aboard this flight by the crew and U. S. Secret Service Agent WINSTON LAWSON. Upon arriving in Washington, D. C., I immediately delivered this evidence to the office of Assistant Director IVAN CONRAD of the FBI Laboratory in Washington, D.C.

I remained at the FBI Headquarters while this evidence was being examined, and after examination by the FBI, Assistant Director IVAN CONRAD of the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D.C., returned this evidence to me for transportation back to Dallas, Texas.

I departed Andrews Air Force Base aboard a U. S. Air Force Air Craft November 23, 1963, arriving at Dallas, Texas November 24, 1963. Upon arrival at Dallas, Texas, I went directly to the FBI Office, Dallas, where the above mentioned items were deposited in a locked vault.

On the morning of November 24, 1963, I contacted Chief of Police JESSE E. CURRY, Dallas Police Department, who stated that he would be available to take possession of the

DL 89-43

3

above listed items of evidence from me on that date. I immediately made arrangements to take this evidence to the Dallas Police Department, and was accompanied by SA C. RAY HALL of the FBI, Dallas Division, and SA JOHN J. FLANAGAN of the FBI, Oklahoma City Division, who was on special assignment at that time to the Dallas FBI Office.

Upon arrival at the Dallas Police Department, I was notified that LEE HARVEY OSWALD had been shot during his removal from the Dallas City Jail to the Dallas County Jail, and that Chief CURRY was at that moment preoccupied.

I waited with this evidence until 3:40 p.m. in Deputy Chief M. W. STEVENSON's Office at the Dallas Police Department where I maintained personal custody of this evidence until 3:40 p.m., November 24, 1963, at which time it was delivered into the custody of Chief of Police CURRY of the Dallas Police Department, for which a receipt was received from him.

The sample of brown paper used by Texas School Book Depository, and sample of brown tape used by Texas School Book Depository were not returned since Chief CURRY stated these were not evidence and had only been sent to the FBI Laboratory for comparison purposes.

161

1
DL 80-43

Under date of November 23, 1963 the FBI Laboratory, furnished the following information to S. Jesse E. Curry, Chief of Police, Dallas, Texas, Chief, U.S. Secret Service, and FBI, Dallas, Texas:

"Specimens:

"Evidence received from Special Agent Elmer L. Todd, Washington Field Office of the FBI on 11/22/63:

"Q1 Bullet from stretcher

"Evidence received from Special Agent Orin Bartlett of the FBI on 11/22/63:

"Q2 Bullet fragment from front seat cushion

"Q3 Bullet fragment from beside front seat

"Evidence received from Special Agent James W. Sibert and Special Agent Francis O'Neill, Jr., of the Baltimore Office of the FBI on 11/23/63:

"Q4 Metal fragment from the President's head

"Q5 Metal fragment from the President's head

"Evidence received from Special Agent Vincent E. Drain of the Dallas Office of the FBI on 11/23/63:

"Q6 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge case from building

"Q7 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge case from building

"Q8 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge from rifle

"Q9 Metal fragment from arm of Governor John Connolly

"Q10 Wrapping paper in shape of a large bag

"Q11 Suspect's shirt

"Q12 Blanket

"Q13 Bullet from Officer Tippit

"K1 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano rifle, with telescope sight, No. C2766

"K2 Paper and tape sample from shipping department, Texas Public School Book Depository

"K3 .38 Special Smith and Wesson revolver, Serial No. V510210, Assembly No. 65248

162

2
DL 89-43

"Evidence obtained by FBI Laboratory personnel during examination of the President's limousine:

"Q14 Three metal fragments recovered from rear floor board carpet
"Q15 Scraping from inside surface of windshield

"Also submitted: Photograph of rifle, K1
Finger and palm prints of Lee Harvey Oswald

"Results of examinations:

"The bullet, Q1, is a 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano rifle bullet. Specimen Q1 weighs 158.6 grains. It consists of a copper alloy jacket with a lead core.

"Specimen Q2 is a portion of the core of a rifle bullet. Specimen Q2 weighs 44.6 grains and is composed of a portion of the copper alloy jacket and a portion of the lead core. Specimen Q3 is a portion of the base section of a copper alloy rifle bullet. Q3 weighs 21.0 grains and is composed of a section of the jacket from which the lead core is missing. It could not be determined whether specimens Q2 and Q3 are portions of the same bullet or are portions of two separate bullets.

"The rifle, K1, is a 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano Italian military rifle Model 91/38. Test bullets were fired from this rifle for comparison with specimens Q1, Q2, and Q3. As a result, Q1, Q2, and Q3 were identified as having been fired from the submitted rifle.

"Specimens Q6 and Q7 are 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge cases. They were manufactured by the Western Cartridge Company, East Alton, Illinois, as was the 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge, Q8.

"Test cartridge cases obtained from the submitted rifle were compared with specimens Q6 and Q7. As a result, specimens Q6 and Q7 were identified as having been fired in this rifle. The bullet, Q13, from Officer Tippett, is a .38 Special copper-coated lead bullet. Q13 weighs 156.6 grains and possesses the physical characteristics of 158 grain Western-Winchester revolver bullets. The surface of Q13 is so badly mutilated that there are not sufficient individual microscopic characteristics present for identification purposes. It

163

3
DL 89-43

"was determined, however, that the .38 Special Smith and Wesson revolver, K3, is among those weapons which produce general rifling impressions of the type found on Q13.

✓ "The lead metal of Q4 and Q5, Q9, Q14 and Q15 is similar to the lead of the core of the bullet fragment, Q2.

"A small tuft of textile fibers was found adhering to a jagged area on the left side of the metal butt plate on the K1 gun. Included in this tuft of fibers were gray-black, dark blue and orange-yellow cotton fibers which match in microscopic characteristics the gray-black, dark blue and orange-yellow cotton fibers composing the Q11 shirt of the suspect. These fibers could have originated from this shirt.

"A single brown viscose fiber and several light green cotton fibers were found adhering to the Q10 paper bag. These fibers match in microscopic characteristics the brown viscose fibers and light green cotton fibers present in the composition of the Q12 blanket and could have originated from this blanket.

"It is pointed out, however, that fibers do not exhibit sufficient individual microscopic characteristics to be positively identified as originating from a particular source to the exclusion of all others.

"No fibers were found on the K1 gun that could be associated with the Q12 blanket and no fibers were found on the Q10 paperbag that could be associated with the Q11 shirt.

"The debris, including foreign textile fibers and hairs, removed from the Q12 blanket and Q11 shirt has been placed in pillboxes for possible future comparisons. These pillboxes and the glass microscope slides containing fibers removed from K1 and Q10 are being temporarily retained in the Laboratory for possible future comparisons with additional items of the suspect's clothing should they be recovered.

"The Q12 blanket has been folded double and one corner has been folded in and pinned with a safety pin. A length of white cotton cord has been tied around this corner giving it a triangular-shaped appearance as if it had once contained a long object.

164

4
DL 89-43

"The paper of the wrapping and the tape, Q10, were found to have the same observable characteristics as the known wrapping paper and tape, K2, from the Texas Public School Book Depository.

"The inside surface of specimen Q10 did not disclose markings identifiable with the rifle, K1. A number of indentations, folds and extraneous markings appear on the inner surface of the Q10 wrapping.

"The latent prints appearing in the photograph taken of the rifle, K1, by the Dallas Police Department, are too fragmentary and indistinct to be of any value for identification purposes. Photographs of this weapon taken by this Bureau also failed to produce prints of sufficient legibility for comparison purposes.

"A latent fingerprint was developed on the wrapping paper, Q10, which was identified with the left index finger impression of Lee Harvey Oswald. In addition, one latent palm print developed on specimen Q10 was identified with the right palm print of Oswald.

"No latent prints of value were developed on Oswald's revolver, the cartridge cases, the unfired cartridge, the clip in the rifle or the inner parts of the rifle.

"Specimens Q1 through Q5, Q14 and Q15 are being retained in the Laboratory until called for by a representative of the U. S. Secret Service.

"Specimens Q6 through Q13, K1, K2 and K3 are being returned to the Dallas Police Department by Special Agent Vincent E. Drain of the Dallas Field Office of this Bureau. The photograph of the latent print on the rifle is being returned separately. The fingerprints and palm prints of Oswald are being retained."

165