

# The Bulletin

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## Was it Oswald?

### Theory on Russian contradicts bulk

By **JOSEPH R. DAUGHEN**  
*Of The Bulletin Staff*

The contention that President John F. Kennedy was murdered by a Soviet agent masquerading as Lee Harvey Oswald appears to fly in the face of a considerable body of evidence gathered over the last 16 years.

Nevertheless, the contention surfaced again Thursday when controversial British author Michael Eddowes succeeded in having Dallas authorities seek the exhumation of the corpse of Oswald, the man said

by the Warren Commission to have been Kennedy's assassin.

Eddowes first propounded the theory of a Russian KGB (secret police) agent posing as Oswald in a 1975 book he wrote called "The Oswald File."

Oswald lived in Russia from October 1959 to June 1962, when he is recorded as returning to this country. The man identified as Oswald was arrested on Nov. 22, 1963, shortly after Kennedy's assassination, and was himself shot to death in Dallas

police headquarters by Jack Ruby two days later.

On Thursday Eddowes persuaded Dallas County Medical Examiner Charles Petty and his assistant, Dr. Linda Norton, that physical discrepancies between Oswald's Marine Corps records and the 1963 autopsy report on the assassin warrant a re-examination of the body.

Petty has asked Tarrant County District Court to authorize exhumation of the body from Rose Hill Cemetery in Fort Worth, Tex. Among the

### of records

discrepancies outlined by Eddowes to Petty's office last August and used as a basis for the exhumation request were these:

— Oswald's height, listed as 5 feet, 11 inches in Marine Corps records and 5 feet, 9 inches in the autopsy report.

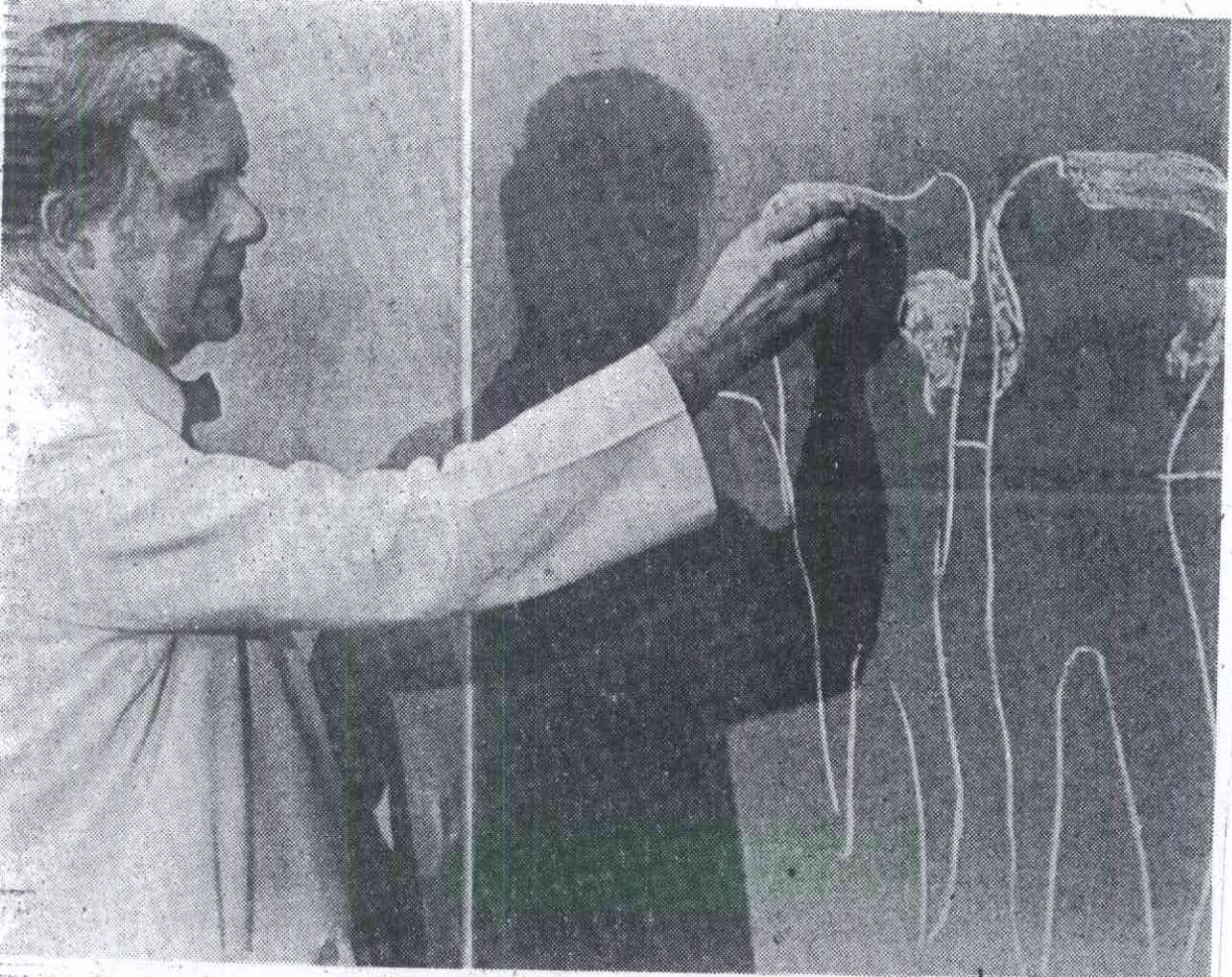
— Eye color, identified as blue on Oswald's draft registration card, as gray on his Defense Department identification card, and blue-gray in police records.



**Lee Harvey Oswald**

*... new doubts arise*

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Dallas County Chief Medical Examiner Dr. Charles Petty shows how fillings in teeth are dif-

ferent with each person. Petty said the body of Lee Harvey Oswald should be exhumed.

UPI Photo

## Russian-spy theory contradicts bulk of the evidence on Oswald

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— A mastoidectomy scar about one inch long behind the left ear, according to Marine records, but not observed by the autopsy physicians.

Dr. Norton said she has obtained Oswald's dental records from the Marines and would like to compare them to X-rays of the mouth of the body buried in Oswald's grave. Such a comparison was not made at the time of Oswald's death.

At the time, however, authorities were convinced the dead man was Oswald, and they had substantial evidence to back up that conviction:

— Oswald's mother, Marguerite, positively identified the body as that of her son.

— Fingerprints taken of the assassin after his arrest matched exactly the fingerprints on file for Oswald.

— Fingerprints taken after the assassin was murdered by Ruby

matched exactly the prints on file for Oswald and the prints taken at the time of the assassin's arrest.

— A palm print lifted off the Mannlicher-Carcano rifle used in the Kennedy assassination matched exactly a palm print taken from the assassin after his arrest.

— Handwriting analyses showed that the money order and purchase request filed with a Chicago sporting goods store for the purchase of the rifle, made in the name of A. Hidell,

matched exactly the handwriting samples on file with the Marine Corps for Oswald.

— A phony draft registration card in the name of A. Hidell was found in the wallet of the assassin after his arrest.

Some of the discrepancies cited in the exhumation request were apparent to authorities the day of Kennedy's assassination.

Police found the draft registration and Defense Department ID cards in the wallet of the man identified as Oswald. Both of these cards listed his height as 5 feet, 11 inches. Yet, when police asked the assassin his height, he said it was 5 feet, 9 inches, the same height attributed to him on the autopsy report.

The draft card said Oswald's eyes were blue, the DOD card said gray. The assassin, in response to a police question, said his eyes were blue-gray.

When Eddowes published his book in 1975, autopsy physician Dr. Earl F. Rose was asked about his failure to indicate a one-inch mastoidectomy scar behind the left ear of the assassin.

"I wouldn't say that we couldn't have overlooked a mastoidectomy," Dr. Rose said. "That is a possibility and I certainly won't deny it. You know, it could have been in the hair."

On Feb. 10, 1964, in testimony delivered to the Warren Commission investigating the assassination, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald was asked by Chief Counsel J. Lee Rankin whether she was "satisfied" the body she viewed in Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas on Nov. 24, 1963, was

that of her son.

"Yes, sir," she replied. "I wanted to see the body. I wanted to make sure it was my son."

On April 2, 1964, Sebastian F. Latona, an FBI agent for 32 years and supervisor of the FBI's latent fingerprint section, testified before the commission that fingerprints taken from the assassin after his arrest matched exactly the fingerprints in Oswald's Marine Corps file. And, said Latona, fingerprints taken from the corpse of the assassin also matched exactly.

Latona was supported by Arthur Mandella, a fingerprint expert from New York City's police department.

Fifteen years later, Vincent J. Scalice, a fingerprint expert hired by the House Select Committee on Assassinations, reviewed Latona's findings and came to the same conclusion: The prints were made by Lee Harvey Oswald.

Eddowes has a checkered history in England, where he once worked as a lawyer and gained attention there with his involvement in the Profuma case.

In 1963, Eddowes briefly represented call girl Christine Keeler, who was romantically linked to War Minister John Profumo.

During that scandal, Eddowes said Miss Keeler told him that Soviet naval attache Yevgeny Ivanov had tried to get her to obtain military secrets from Profumo.

Subsequently, Miss Keeler denied ever telling Eddowes such a story. And Miss Keeler's mother said Eddowes had suggested that Miss Keeler tell the story, which he estimated could earn her 5,000 to 10,000 pounds.