

Excerpt from 11/27/67 letter from W.C.Thompson, retired engineer:

"...His Physics calculations of the mass of Pre ident Kennedy's head moving forward with an acceleration of 69.6 f/s/s over an elapsed time of 56 mills seconds - stopping dead in nothing flat-not even (.001milliseconds, and reversing its motion to an acceleration of 100.3 f/s/s in .056 seconds (note extreme accuracy of measurements by the decimals in 69.6 and 100.3) If he had kept his watercooled slide rule working he would have found that it would have needed a ft/lb not even possessed by a 20mm cannon shell to achieve this..."

Excerpt from letter to Editor, Saturday Evening Post, by E.J.Bunker, 1804 Thornbury Road, Baltimore, Md., 11/27/67:

"The acceptance of the amounts of movements obtained by the measurements as being accurate and of the author's algebra as being correct, does not validste the acceleration figures 69.6 and 100.3. In fact the possibility that these values are as precise as implied by the text is very remote indeed. That they are even approximately correct would be the result of mere chance. Whether or not the "complicated mathematical equations" mentioned...apply to the acceleration ~~calculations~~ calculations per se, is not indicated. In any case, only three factors are involved in this phase of the problem. They may be expressed in the formula $s = \frac{1}{2}at^2$, where S is the distance in feet over which uniform acceleration took place, a is the acceleration in feet per second and t is the time in seconds during which the acceleration takes place. With s and t known it is of course simple arithmetic to find the value of a. However, there is only a fantastically remote chance ~~of~~ that the impact occurred and the President's head began to accelerate uniformly precisely at the beginning of 2 1/18th of a second interval and that the full force of the impact of the bullet and the movement continued until at least the end of that interval. It is obviously impossible to determine from the data available in what part of such an interval the impact occurred, how long the force of the impact lasted or how much the head moved during the time the force was exerted. It is thus further obvious that his calculated acceleration figures are completely unreliable. If they were accurate, of what value would such figures be, anyway, other than to give the impression of investigative ability, which in this case does not seem to be justified."

Additional question: could a camera whose shutter works at approximately 1/30 second capture a distinct image at Thompson's speed or would there be but a blur? The frames here are clear.