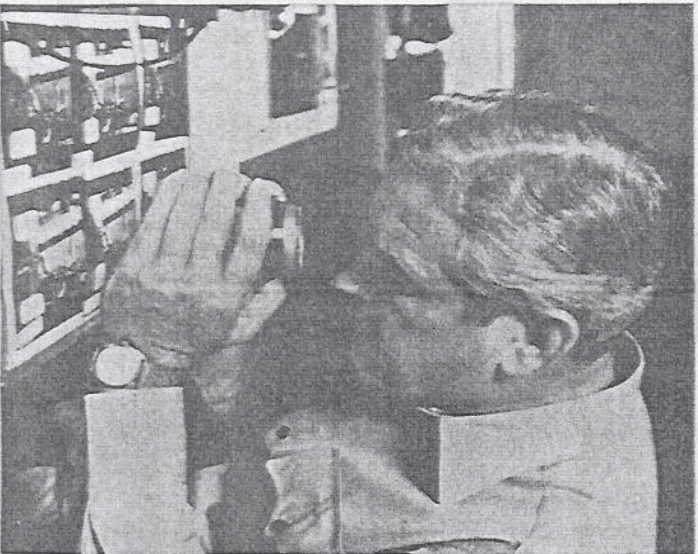


Frame by frame, Governor Connally reviewed the film.



“There’s no question about it. I haven’t been hit yet.”

Three years ago tomorrow, John Fitzgerald Kennedy was shot and killed in Dallas.

In the 888 closely reasoned pages of its Report, the Warren Commission dismissed the conspiracy concept and named Lee Harvey Oswald as the lone assassin.

Yet today, the controversy grows over the circumstances of that tragic day and the assessment of the Commission.

To question the Commission’s conclusion is a painful matter. But there have been so many books written about that day in Dallas and so much commentary, that LIFE has asked Governor John Connally to reexamine those fatal seconds of Nov. 22, 1963.

We took the frame-by-frame enlargements of the famous Zapruder film to Texas. For the first time,

John Connally was able to study the pictures, one by one, under a magnifying glass. He believes, firmly, that he was hit at least nine frames (one-half second) later than the Warren Report says he was.

His comments, based on what the pictures show, cast reasonable doubt on the Commission’s “single bullet” thesis. In this week’s LIFE you can study these color pictures along with the Governor. He agreed to review these for LIFE because “history is bigger than anyone’s feelings.”

On the anniversary of this tragedy, on this Thanksgiving week, we take no great satisfaction in reviewing the circumstances of the assassination. But in the face of reasonable doubt—doubt that Oswald acted alone—the conclusion is clear: the case should be re-opened.

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