

11/23/63

Doctor's Report *citron*

# Two Wounds--- Throat and Head

### Dallas

President Kennedy was shot through the throat and head, possibly by the same bullet, his attending surgeon said yesterday.

Dr. Malcolm Perry, 34, said "there was an entrance wound below his Adam's apple. There was another wound in the back of his head."

Two of the ten physicians in attendance on the President said it was possible that one bullet entered the throat and went through the back of the President's head. It was possible, they said, that he was hit by two bullets, but they doubted it.

### SURGERY

The President's throat was opened in a tracheotomy to relieve breathing, blood and fluids were administered intravenously. Physicians labored to keep respiration at a life-sustaining level.

Dr. Perry, said he was summoned immediately after the President was brought to the emergency entrance of Parkland Hospital.

"I noticed he was in critical condition from a wound in the neck and head," Perry said, and Dr. Kemp Clark, chief of neurosurgeons was called in.

"Immediate respiration methods were taken and Dr. Clark was summoned along

with other members of the surgical staff.

"They arrived immediately, but at his point, the President's condition did not allow complete resuscitation.

"He was critical and moribund. Dr. Clark assisted respiration with oxygen, an anesthetic machine and an endo-tracheal tube. A tracheotomy was performed."

### FLUIDS

The President's throat was opened.

"Blood and fluids were given," Perry said.

Dr. Clark said, "They called me because the President had a brain wound. Tracheotomy and resuscitation were done to relieve the possibility of air being in the pleural space, between the lung and the chest.

"We inserted chest tubes.

"Shortly after I arrived, the President lost his heart action."

Dr. Perry tried "closed chest cardiac massage," to no avail.

The pulse was detected briefly, "but to no avail," Clark said.

The physicians were too busy to notice the time, but arbitrarily declared 1 p.m. (CST), the time of death.

Clark said the President lived 40 minutes from the time of the shooting until death was pronounced.

*United Press*

## 'He Never Knew What Hit Him'

DALLAS — (UPI)—Staff Physicians at Parkland Hospital and the University of Texas Southwest Medical School who attended fatally wounded President John F. Kennedy agreed today the late President never knew what hit him.

"He was dead for all practical purposes when he arrived in the emergency room," said Dr. Malcolm Perry, one of the surgeons and specialists with the President the fading minutes of his life.

KENNEDY WAS rolled into the Parkland emergency room within five minutes after being shot.

"The severity of the wound made it instantly noticeable that it was mortal," Dr. Perry said.

"He never had a chance. I guess we worked on him about 20 minutes — I couldn't tell how long, we were working so frantically. After a while Dr. M. T. Jenkins turned to me and said, 'It's too late, Mac.'

"I WAS NEVER able to detect a heart beat after the President arrived. It was obvious he never knew what hit him."

The President actually was shot twice, it was learned today.

An authoritative White House source said one bullet entered Kennedy's head and another penetrated the "neck and chest."

The source said White House officials did not know until this morning about the second wound.

Previously there had been some question. There was a wound in the back of his head and another in his throat.

11/23/63

11/23/63

# Stor

AP UPI

From Page 1

CONNALLY

open presidential limousine, was hit in the back. He was hospitalized at Parkland, and his condition, after four hours of surgery, was described as good.

Mrs. Kennedy was not hurt. She screamed as he toppled over on the seat and then cradled her husband's head in her arms as he was sped, dying, to the hospital.

"Oh, no. Oh, no," she cried as she fell to the floor of the car to try to help him.

Mrs. Nellie Connally, the Governor's wife, also was in the limousine. She was not injured.

### PANDEMONIUM

Secret Service men and motorcycle police escorts were caught off guard by the swiftness of the attack, apparently from the sixth floor of a nearby building.

There was pandemonium. Police ran up a nearby grass hill in the general direction from which the shots were fired. Many people in the sidewalk crowds fled or sought shelter out of range. Secret Service men unlimbered their automatic rifles and pistols, but no more shots were fired.

When it was clear that the President was gravely wounded the Secret Service driver roared off to the hospital with the President's White House physician, Admiral George Burkley, in a car close behind.

### HOSPITAL

At Parkland Hospital ten doctors fought in vain to save the President's life. While they worked over the unconscious figure, the last rites of the Roman Catholic Church were administered.

Mr. Kennedy had served in the highest office of his people and his country for two years, ten months and two days.

He was the fourth President of the United States to be slain.

The chief executive, first Roman Catholic President of the United States was in Dallas on a two-day political mission. He was smiling broadly as he rode through the downtown streets.

At 12:30 the shots rang out.

### AWFUL LOOK

"Then that awful look crossed his face," said a man at curbside only 15 feet away.

A crowd of 2000 was waiting in the nearby Dallas Trade Mart for Mr. Kennedy to speak at luncheon. The cavalcade had almost reached the new building when the assassin struck.

The President's car had just started down an incline toward an underpass leading to the freeway and the nearby Trade Mart. The car was in full view of the suspect building at a 45-degree angle.

At Parkland Hospital, Dr. Malcolm Perry said Mr. Kennedy suffered a neck wound—a bullet hole in the lower part of the neck—and a second wound in the forehead.

The physician said the President lost consciousness as soon as he was hit, and never revived.

"We never had any hope of saving his life," said Perry.