

Gar

~~16~~ 17 January 1969

A213NU

Iblyzyy

401 AES
241 PES

URGENT

Precede Washington, Kennedy Autopsy A106

NEW ORLEANS AP - Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's office asked today for a delay in the trial of Clay L. Shaw, charged with conspiring to assassinate President John F. Kennedy. The trial was scheduled to begin Tuesday.

James L. Alcock, assistant district attorney, said at a news conference that there could be no trial if the federal government blocks attempts by his office to get evidence.

The announcement came a short time after a federal judge in Washington, D. C., ordered Garrison's office to produce evidence in order to obtain release of Kennedy's autopsy photographs and X-rays.

The federal judge said Garrison's office would have to back up its claim that Kennedy was fired upon from at least two directions before he would order the release of autopsy materials.

Alcock said he had asked that the case be reset for trial only after his office receives all of the evidence called for in their subpoenas, including evidence Garrison claims is being held secretly by the federal government.

"In the event the federal government does not honor our subpoenas and blocks our attempt to present all of the evidence, this case cannot be brought to trial," Alcock said.

"If the case cannot be tried, the people can only look to the efforts of the attorney general and the government of the United States and examine their motives in refusing to release all of the evidence," he said.

In Washington, Judge Charles Halleck of the Court of General Sessions issued the order in firm terms as Garrison's aides attempted to get release of the autopsy documents from the National Archives for Shaw's trial.

"You have, 3rd graf A106 Wash date

RT101ps Jan 16

(17)

A106WX

czcyvx WX

Kennedy Autopsy Lead 270

WASHINGTON AP - New Orleans Dist. Atty. James Garrison's assistants were ordered by a Washington judge Friday to back up their claim that former President John F. Kennedy was fired upon from at least two directions before the judge would order release of autopsy photographs and X-rays.

Judge Charles Halleck of the Court of General Sessions issued the order in firm terms as Garrison's aides attempted to get release of the autopsy documents from the National Archives for the New Orleans trial next week of Dr. Clay Shaw on charges of conspiring to murder Kennedy.

"You have alleged you have substantial evidence bullets were fired from two directions," Halleck told Numa V. Bertel Jr., of Garrison's staff.

"This court must have some indication this evidence exists. How much time do you need?"

Bertel objected that Halleck was asking Garrison to move the trial from New Orleans to Washington. He asked permission to present affidavits to Halleck, rather than witnesses, but there was no immediate ruling on the request as the court recessed until the afternoon.

It is Garrison's thesis that Kennedy was assassinated in a conspiracy by several men and not by Lee Harvey Oswald alone, as found by the government commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren. Garrison maintains at least one of the bullets which struck Kennedy came from the front; the Warren Commission said he was shot from the rear only.

Thursday, a panel of medical experts which met in secret last year said the autopsy findings were correct as detailed in the Warren report and prove he was shot twice from behind.

The panel report, dealing with autopsy photographs and X-rays, was made public by the Justice Department.

The photographs etc., A022WX at 6th graf

lt-cr102ps Jan 17

↓

AO23WX

lbylzyy

WX

Kennedy Autopsy Bjt 400 2 takes total 830

By MIKE ROUSE

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON AP - A panel of medical experts which met in secret last year says the autopsy findings on President John F. Kennedy were correct as detailed in the Warren Commission Report and prove he was shot twice from behind.

The report was made public by the Justice Department Thursday night on the eve of court proceedings on a petition by New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison to gain possession of autopsy photographs and x-rays in the hope of proving the President was hit by one bullet fired from in front him, and another fired at his back.

Garrison subpoenaed the material as evidence in the trial of Clay L. Shaw, retired 55-year-old New Orleans businessman charged with conspiring to murder Kennedy.

Garrison claims he can use the photographs and x-rays to prove at least one of the bullets which struck Kennedy in Dallas five years ago was fired from his front.

This would show that a conspiracy was involved, whereas the Warren Commission concluded Kennedy was shot by one man, Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone.

The photographs and x-rays were placed in the care of the National Archives in 1966 by Kennedy's widow, Mrs. Aristotle Onassis, and his brother, the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

This was done by letter agreement that the material would not be made public for five years, and then only to government investigators, to prevent "undignified or sensational" use of them.

Garrison asked that the District of Columbia General Sessions Court order the national archivist, James B. Rhoads, to appear with the material at Shaw's trial Jan. 21. Rhoads was ordered to a show-cause hearing today to explain why he should not.

He filed an application in the court Thursday listing several reasons. For one thing, Rhoads said, violating restrictions under which the National Archives received the material "would completely destroy the public confidence in the federal government to honor its commitments to donors of papers, oral history transcripts and other historical material."

Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, who released the review panel's findings said Mrs. Onassis and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., the only surviving Kennedy brother, were consulted before the material was shown to the panel.

Burke Marshall, former assistant attorney general who represents the Kennedys in the matter, said Sen. Kennedy and Mrs. Onassis "both asked me to say that they will have no comment to make on the report or its release."

A231WX

lbylbyl

Kennedy Autopsy correction

WASHINGTON Kennedy Autopsy AO23 original, sub for 10th and 11th graphs "atty gen ramsey xxx release.

Burke Marshall, former assistant attorney general who represents the Kennedys, said Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark told him last year about the panel report, but he saw no reason then "to concern members of the Kennedy family, and did not do so."

Since then, he added, he had informed Mrs. Onassis and Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., about the matter. He said Mrs. Onassis and Sen. Kennedy, the only surviving Kennedy brother, "both asked me to say that they will have no comment to make on the report or its release."

Clark did not say why the review was kept secret. The report of the panelists was signed last spring. It says they met to review the autopsy material last Feb. 26 and 27 in Washington.

AO70WX

eeozzc

WX

Kennedy Autopsy insert

Washington Kennedy Autopsy AO23WX insert after 12th graf: in Washington.

Existence of the panel was not known publicly until the report was released.

Members 12th graf AO23WX.

CZ92:acs Jan. 17

JAN 16

See NOSI
17 Jan 69
→

↓

In 13th graph "Members of, make read:
xxx Carnes, a professor of pathology at the University of Utah
at the time the panel prepared its report and now in a
similar position at UCLA; Dr. T. Russell etc
SR-22aes Jan. 17

Members of the panel were Dr. William H. Carnes, professor of pathology at the University of Utah; Dr. Russell S. Fisher, professor of forensic pathology at the University of Maryland; Dr. Russell H. Morgan, professor of radiology and radiological science at Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. Alan R. Moritz, professor of pathology at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.
MORE
SR-22aes Jan 17

AO26WXX
lbylyyx
WX

WASHINGTON Take 2 Kennedy Bjt AO27WX: Cleveland. 300
Their report said, "Examination of the clothing and of the photographs and x-rays taken at the autopsy reveal that President Kennedy was struck by two bullets fired from above and behind him, one of which traversed the base of the neck on the right side without striking bone and the other of which entered the skull from behind and exploded its right side.
"The photographs and x-rays discussed herein support the above-quoted portion of the original autopsy and the above-quoted medical concl

"The photographs and x-rays discussed herein support the above-quoted portion of the original autopsy and the above-quoted medical conclusions of the Warren Commission Report."
The original autopsy was performed by a three-man team of naval surgeons headed by Dr. James J. Humes, then commander of the Navy Medical Corps, the night Kennedy was killed.
One of its members, Dr. J. Thornton Boswell, wrote Clark a year ago that he and Humes felt that because of the controversy over the Warren Report "an impartial board of experts including pathologists and radiologists should examine the material available." Clark appointed the board a short time later.
James Alcock, Garrison's chief assistant, said Thursday night the panelists' report "doesn't satisfy our subpoena. It just seems we're getting the same old slight-of-hand."

The report said:
"One bullet struck the back of the decedent's head well above the occipital protuberance base of the skull. Based upon the observation that he was leaning forward with his head turned obliquely to the left when this bullet struck, the photographs and x-rays indicate that it came from a site above and slightly to his right. This bullet fragmented after entering the cranium, one major piece of it passing forward and laterally to produce an explosive fracture of the right side of the skull as it emerged from the head.
"The other bullet," the report continued, "struck the decedent's head and spine and emerged from the front of his neck near the midline."
The Warren Commission said this bullet then probably struck TEXAS Gov. John Connally, who was riding in the front seat of the open-air limousine carrying Kennedy. Connally was seriously injured.
The report said that if this bullet had taken any path other than the one through the wound through Kennedy's neck it "would almost surely have been intercepted by bone, and x-ray film show no bony damage . . ."
SR-22aes Jan 17