

12/19/63

Med

Government Officials Decline to Comment on Bullets That Killed Kennedy

Special to The New York Times.
 WASHINGTON, Dec. 18—Officials declined all comment today on a description of what pathologists were said to have found in an autopsy on President Kennedy's body.

The account, printed in The Washington Post, gave detailed support to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's finding that two bullets had hit Mr. Kennedy from the rear: The F.B.I. came to this conclusion in its report on the assassination. The pathologists were said to have found that a first bullet

hit the President in the back of the right shoulder, five to seven inches below the collarbone. The bullet lodged in the body.

According to The Post account, it caused a hematoma, or a pooling of blood, inside the neck and shoulder muscles. The second shot, it was said, hit the right rear of Mr. Kennedy's head and caused such destruction as to be "completely incompatible with life."

A fragment of this bullet, according to the report, passed out the front of the throat. This presumably would account

for various reports suggesting on the basis of the hurried observations of doctors in Dallas after the shooting there on Nov. 22—that there was an "entry wound" in the front of the throat.

It was pointed out that during the short time the President was at Parkland Hospital in Dallas he was on his back as efforts were made to revive him, and no examination was made of his back that would have revealed a shoulder wound.

The talk of a front "entry wound" had caused wide speculation about a second assassin's firing at Mr. Kennedy from in front of his car. The man who was accused of the killing, Lee Harvey Oswald, was said to have shot from a window above and behind the car.

The F.B.I., in its report to the special commission investigating the assassination, stated flatly that both bullets had come from the window where Oswald assertedly was. But the report did not mention the pathologists performed the autopsy after Mr. Kennedy was brought to Bethesda Naval Hospital in Bethesda, Md., the night of the assassination. Their report is now in the hands of the Secret Service and will be included in a general report to the Treasury Department to the commission of inquiry. The Secret Service is part of the Treasury Department.

He said the President was on his back from the time he arrived at the hospital until his body was removed.

Dr. William Kemp Clark, neurosurgeon who pronounced the President dead, said at earlier news conferences that no detailed inspection of the interior of the body was made at Parkland.

Bullets' Course Not Traced

Special to The New York Times.
 DALLAS, Dec. 18—Dr. Malcolm O. Perry, a surgeon at Parkland Hospital who attended President Kennedy shortly