

Doctor Inspects Kennedy X-Rays

By FRED P. GRAHAM

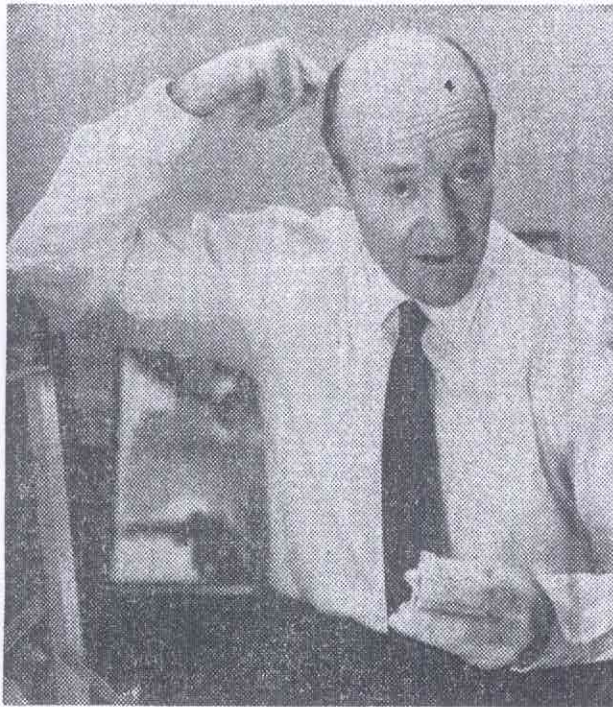
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WASHINGTON, Jan. 8—The family of President Kennedy, which previously allowed only representatives of the Government to inspect pictures and X-rays of the assassinated leader's body, has now begun to let interested medical specialists see the items.

Dr. John K. Lattimer, a New York physician who has written and lectured extensively about the assassination, became the first person not under Government auspices to see the items when he examined them yesterday at the National Archives here.

In an interview last night, he said that they "eliminate any doubt completely" about the validity of the Warren Commission's conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald fired all the shots that struck the President.

The commission, headed by Earl Warren, then the Chief Justice of the United States, found that when Kennedy was killed on Nov. 22, 1963, while riding in a motorcade in Dallas, Oswald did all the shooting,



The New York Times/George Tames

Dr. John K. Lattimer with photo slides used in research

firing from a building behind and above the President.

The 65 X-rays, color transparencies and black-and-white negatives taken in the autopsy have been a focus of controversy because the Kennedy

family previously guarded them so closely that they were not allowed to be seen even by members and staff officials of the Warren Commission, which was appointed by President

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Johnson to investigate the assassination.

Critics of the Warren Commission have asserted that the items could disprove its conclusion that the President was struck by only two bullets, both from the rear.

Unofficial Explanation

It has been unofficially explained that the photographs were suppressed to avoid anguish to the family of the President, whose head was partly destroyed by the second fatal bullet.

Dr. Lattimer said that the wound that destroyed most of the right side of the brain was "horrible" and that the pictures should never be made public.

But he concluded that the Warren Commission might have made a stronger case, if the staff personnel who prepared its report had had access to the pictures and X-rays. He said the items make the following crucial points:

First, the initial bullet passed through the President's body at a distinctly downward angle, more than was shown in the schematic drawings released by the Warren report, he said. The artist who portrayed the path of the projectile into the back of President Kennedy's neck and out the base of his throat made it seem to be traveling almost parallel to the ground, while the pictures show that the front hole is considerably lower than the one in back.

Theory of Grassy Knoll

Some critics have asserted that this shot was fired from the front, by a second assassin hiding on a grassy knoll facing the Presidential car. Dr. Lattimer said that the front hole was so far below the back one that "if anyone were to have shot him from the front, they would have to be squatting on the floor of the car in front of him."

Second, photographs of the wound in the back of the neck show "what appears to be a circular bruise which is typical of wounds of entry," he said.