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COPY TO

PIERRE A. FINCK, MD

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MEDICAL TESTIMONY

Team #1

Team #2

Team #3

Team #4

Team #5

Form #2

88037

W1/n 1

CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT
PARISH OF ORLEANS
STATE OF LOUISIANA

.
STATE OF LOUISIANA . 198-059
vs. . 1426 (30)
CLAY L. SHAW . SECTION "C"
.

PROCEEDINGS IN OPEN COURT,
Tuesday, February 25, 1969

VOLUME III

B E F O R E :

THE HONORABLE EDWARD A. HAGGERTY, JR.,
JUDGE, SECTION "C"

Dietrich & Pickett, Inc.
Stenotypists

333 ST. CHARLES AVENUE, SUITE 1221
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130 - 522-3111

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I N D E X

<u>WITNESS</u>	<u>DIRECT</u>	<u>CROSS</u>	<u>REDIRECT</u>	<u>RECROSS</u>
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PIERRE A. FINCK, M.D.	2		13	27
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E X H I B I T S

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>IDENTIFIED</u>	<u>OFFERED</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>
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NONE

W1/N2

2

1 THE COURT:

2 Bring the Jury down.

3 I trust you Gentlemen had a good night.

4 For the record, Mr. Court Reporter, all

5 Counsel are present, the Defendant

6 is present, and I am reminding the

7 witness that his previous oath is

8 still binding.

9 You may proceed, Mr. Oser.

10 PIERRE A. FINCK, M.D.,

11 having been sworn and having testified previously,

12 resumed the stand for a continuation of the

13 CROSS-EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. OSER:

15 Q Colonel, I direct your attention to Page 4 of

16 your autopsy report of November, 1963,

17 and to the fourth paragraph which states,

18 "The complexity of these fractures and

19 the fragments thus produced tax satis-

20 factory verbal description and are better

21 appreciated in photographs and roentgeno-

22 grams which are prepared." Now, Colonel,

23 can you tell me and tell the Court how

24 you refer in your autopsy report that the

25 fractures and the fragments are better

W1/N3

3

1 appreciated in the photographs when you
2 did not see the photographs until January,
3 1967?

4 MR. DYMOND:

5 We object to this unless Counsel says
6 better than what. This report indi-
7 cates a photograph would show them
8 better than they could be described
9 in words.

10 THE COURT:

11 You are coming to the aid of a witness
12 unsolicited.

13 MR. DYMOND:

14 You cannot compare something to nothing,
15 Your Honor.

16 THE COURT:

17 Do you understand the question?

18 THE WITNESS:

19 Yes. When there are so many fractures
20 in so many directions producing so
21 many lines and fragments in the bone,
22 a photograph will be more accurate
23 than descriptions. The photographs
24 were taken but turned over undeveloped
25 to the Secret Service at the time we

W1/N4

4

performed the autopsy, and the
photographs were taken, we did not
know when these photographs would
be processed, this was beyond our
control because they had been turned
over, exposed, taken in our presence,
but the Secret Service took charge
of them.

BY MR. OSER:

Q And you didn't see the photographs until
January of 1967. Is that correct,
Colonel?

A This is correct.

Q Also in your autopsy report on the same page,
Page 4, I direct your attention to the
last paragraph, the last paragraph under
"2," where you said in your report, "The
second wound presumably of entry," and
now you state in Court that you are positive
it was of entry.

A As I recall, it was Admiral Galloway who told
us to put that word "presumably."

Q Admiral Galloway?

A Yes.

Q Told you to put that word "presumably"?

W1/N5

1 A Yes, but this does not change my opinion that
2 this is a wound of entry.
3 Q Is Admiral Galloway a Pathologist, to your
4 knowledge?
5 A Admiral Galloway had some training in
6 pathology. He was the Commanding Officer
7 of the Naval Hospital, as I recall, and
8 at that time, in my mind, this was a
9 wound of entry, it just was suggested to
10 add "presumably" this was.
11 Q Did he suggest you add anything else to your
12 report, Colonel?
13 A Not that I recall.
14 Q Can you give me the name of the General that
15 you said told Dr. Humes not to talk about
16 the autopsy report?
17 A This was not a General, it was an Admiral.
18 Q All right, excuse me, the Admiral, can you
19 give me the name of the Admiral?
20 A Who stated that we were not to discuss the
21 autopsy findings?
22 Q Yes.
23 A This was in the autopsy room on the 22nd and
24 23rd of November, 1963.
25 Q What was his name?

W1/N6

1 A Well, there were several people in charge,
2 there were several Admirals, and, as I
3 recall, the Adjutant General of the
4 Navy.

5 Q Do you have a name, Colonel?

6 A It was Admiral Kinney, K-i-n-n-e-y, as I re-
7 call.

8 Q Now, can you give me the name then of the
9 General that was in charge of the autopsy,
10 as you testified about?

11 A Well, there was no General in charge of the
12 autopsy. There were several people, as
13 I have stated before, I heard Dr. Humes
14 state who was in charge here, and he
15 stated that the General answered "I am,"
16 it may have been pertaining to operations
17 other than the autopsy, it does not mean
18 the Army General was in charge of the
19 autopsy, but when Dr. Humes asked who was
20 in charge here, it may have been who was
21 in charge of the operations, but not of
22 the autopsy, and by "operations," I mean
23 the over-all supervision.

24 Q Which includes your report. Does it not?

25 A Sir?

W1/N7

7

1 Q Which includes your report. Does it not?

2 A No.

3 Q It does not?

4 A I would not say so, because the report I signed

5 was signed by two other pathologists and

6 at no time did this Army General say that

7 he would have anything to do with signing

8 this autopsy report.

9 Q Can you give me the Army General's name?

10 A I don't remember it.

11 Q How did you know he was an Army General?

12 A Because Dr. Humes said so.

13 Q Was he in uniform?

14 A I don't remember.

15 Q Were any of the Admirals or Generals or any

16 of the Military in uniform in that

17 autopsy room?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Were there any other Generals in uniform?

20 A I remember a Brigadier General of the Air Force,

21 but I don't remember his name.

22 Q Were there any Admirals in uniform in the

23 autopsy room?

24 A From what I remember, Admiral Galloway was in

25 uniform, Admiral Kinney was in uniform, I

W1/N8

8

1 don't remember whether or not Admiral
2 Berkley, the President's physician, was
3 in uniform.

4 Q Colonel, in answer to one of the questions
5 Mr. Dymond on direct examination asked
6 you, you spoke of your opinion as to the
7 sequence of shots after you saw the
8 Zapruder film. Is that correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And it was your opinion that the sequence of
11 shots was such that the President was
12 hit in the back area first and then in
13 the head area secondly. Is that basically
14 correct?

15 A Yes, the first shot in the back of the neck
16 and the second shot in the back of the
17 head.

18 Q Now, did you know, sir, at that particular time
19 that you formed your opinion on the se-
20 quence of shots from the Zapruder film,
21 that during the reconstruction of the
22 assassination, that not one expert or
23 anybody had performed the alleged feat
24 of shooting the shot from the Texas School
25 Book Depository in the span of time as it

W1/N9

9

1 had been alleged, were you aware of that?

2 MR. DYMOND:

3 We object, the Doctor was not in Dallas at
4 the time of reenactment. As a matter
5 of fact, I think he said he never
6 had been to Dealey Plaza.

7 MR. OSER:

8 I was asking, Your Honor, whether or not
9 he had this knowledge of his own
10 mind in order for him to arrive at
11 the sequence of events.

12 THE COURT:

13 Break the question down.

14 MR. DYMOND:

15 It would have to be hearsay if he was
16 not there.

17 THE COURT:

18 I am going to rule it out.

19 MR. OSER:

20 We have had a lot of hearsay.

21 THE COURT:

22 When you had a chance to study the Zapruder
23 film, you had access at that time,
24 access to the information, as one of
25 the co-authors of the autopsy report,

1/N10

you either did or you didn't.

10

THE WITNESS:

I had access to other reports as I remember, but pertaining to examination of the bullets and fragments.

BY MR. OSER:

Q Do you have any notes in regard to the reconstruction done by the Federal Bureau of Investigation?

A As I remember, --

MR. DYMOND:

We object again, Your Honor. This is the rankest form of hearsay.

THE COURT:

I overrule the objection. He is an expert and we have had his opinion based on hearsay reports. I will permit the question under the circumstances.

MR. DYMOND:

To which ruling Counsel reserves a bill of exception, making the question, the answer, the entire testimony, the objection, the reason for the objection, the ruling of the Court, parts of the bill.

W1/N11

11

1 BY MR. OSER:

2 Q Can I have that answer to my question, Your
3 Honor, please.

4 THE COURT:

5 Yes, answer the question.

6 THE WITNESS:

7 As I remember, I found out about these
8 reconstructions and tests when I read
9 the Warren Report when it was pub-
10 lished in September, 1964, to the
11 best of my recollection.

12 BY MR. OSER:

13 Q Now, Colonel, in regard to your autopsy report,
14 November, 1963, how much time did you
15 spend on this particular report and its
16 preparation?

17 A I cannot give you an exact figure. As I re-
18 member I was called by Dr. Humes who had
19 prepared this report and he read it over
20 to me at the Bethesda Hospital, and I
21 would say I spent several hours with him
22 and Dr. Boswell at the Bethesda Hospital
23 before we signed it on Sunday, 24
24 November, 1963.

25 Q And did you have an occasion to read over the

W1/N12

1 final draft, the one that you signed,
2 Colonel?

3 A I did.

4 Q And you agree with everything that is contained,
5 I believe, in that particular report of
6 November, 1963, that you signed?

7 A Essentially I do.

8 Q And, Colonel, you read this report as you
9 indicate and discussed it for several
10 hours, can you tell me, Colonel, on Page 2,
11 why the name of Governor John B. Connally
12 is spelled C-o-n-n-o-l-l-y when it should
13 be C-o-n-n-a-l-l-y?

14 MR. DYMOND:

15 I object on the grounds of irrelevancy,
16 Your Honor. He has not been qualifie
17 as an expert in spelling.

18 THE COURT:

19 We had a lot of spelling yesterday in the
20 record.

21 Do you know how to spell Governor
22 Connally's name?

23 THE WITNESS:

24 There should be an "a."

25 THE COURT:

W1/N13

1 C-o-n-n-a-l-l-y, it should be an "a"?

2 MR. OSER:

3 That's all.

4 THE COURT:

5 Mr. Dymond?

6 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. DYMOND:

8 Q Dr. Finck, did anyone give you any orders as
9 to what opinion you should render in
10 this report?

11 A No.

12 Q Would you have accepted any orders as to what
13 opinion, professional opinion, you should
14 render?

15 A No.

16 Q Now, Doctor, in the course of performing an
17 autopsy and determining the cause of
18 death which is more beneficial to the
19 performer of that autopsy, the viewing of
20 photographs or the viewing of the actual
21 subject of the autopsy?

22 A They supplement each other. There is a reason
23 for giving the description of what you
24 see to make a record of what you see your-
25 self, and the photographs have the advant-

1/N14

1 age of giving visual results of what you
2 see after the wounds are no longer availa-
3 ble and the body is no longer available.
4 These things supplement each other and as
5 a rule in the autopsy report there are
6 gross descriptions supplemented by photo-
7 graphs, but not always, you will not have
8 photographs in all autopsy reports.

9 Q Doctor, from the standpoint of gathering the
10 necessary information for the purpose of
11 your arriving at a conclusion in connec-
12 tion with a death, which is more important
13 to the doctor who is gathering that in-
14 formation, seeing photographs of the
15 cadaver or seeing the cadaver itself?

16 A The cadaver itself is the most important thing
17 to see.

18 Q Now, did you have available to you prior to
19 drawing your original autopsy report the
20 X-rays of the body of the late President
21 Kennedy?

22 A We did.

23 NO HIATUS HERE.
24
25

W2/P1

Q When were these X-rays taken and when were they made available to you?

A When I arrived at the hospital at approximately 8:00 o'clock at night on the 22nd of November, 1963 X-rays of the head had been taken prior to my arrival, and Dr. Humes had told me so over the phone when he called me at home, asking me to come over. After I found the wound of entry in the back of the neck, no corresponding exit, I requested a whole body X-ray, the purpose of having whole body X-rays of an autopsy is to be sure there is no -- in a case like that, no bullet in some part of the body that would remain there, leave with the body and nobody would know that it was there, that is the reason for X-rays, because X-rays will reveal the presence of a bullet, the presence that no operation or autopsy, as complete as it may be, may definitely reveal, was my reason for those body X-rays.

Q Did you get the whole body X-rays?

A I requested them, and we waited, I would say,

W2/P2

16

1 an hour or more for these whole body
2 X-rays, and they were interpreted by a
3 radiologist of the Bethesda Hospital who
4 had reviewed those, so the X-rays of the
5 head showing numerous fragments, but he
6 stated that there was no entire bullet
7 remaining in the cadaver, there were
8 fragments, metallic fragments in the head,
9 but there was no bullet in that cadaver.

10 Q Was all this before you wrote your autopsy
11 report?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Referring to "Exhibit S-69 and S-70," which
14 appear on the Board over there and which
15 are blow-ups of smaller exhibits of the
16 same nature which the Defense has ex-
17 hibited and offered into evidence, do the
18 sketches purport to be scale drawings?

19 A No.

20 Q Now, under whose supervision were the
21 sketches made?

22 A Under the supervision of Dr. Humes.

23 Q Was he one of the doctors who joined with you
24 in performing the autopsy and signing the
25 autopsy report?

W2/P3

17

1 A It was the Pathologist in charge of the
2 autopsy.

3 Q Now, when you say they were drawn at his direc-
4 tion, what part did Dr. Humes play in
5 this, if you know?

6 A As far as I know, Dr. Humes gave the results
7 of our observations at the time of the
8 autopsy to a Navy enlisted man who made
9 the drawings in the preparation of our
10 testimony before the Warren Commission in
11 March of 1964.

12 Q Now, Doctor, you have testified with reference
13 to S-69 that you did not dissect the track
14 of that bullet through the President's
15 neck. Is that correct?

16 A That is correct.

17 Q Why did you not dissect it, was it necessary or
18 not?

19 A Well, this creates a great deal of mutilation
20 to dissect, and we limited our examination
21 in that respect, not to create unnecessary
22 mutilation of the cadaver. I was satisfied
23 with the aspect of the wound of entry in
24 the back of the neck, a bruise in the upper
25 part of the lung and the lining of the

w2/P4

18

chest cavity which is called the pleura,
and I did not do any extensive dissection
along the bullet path.

Q Was this mutilation of the remains of
President Kennedy necessary in order for
you to gather enough information as to
satisfy yourself as an expert as to the
path of that bullet?

A I did not consider dissection at that time.

Q I say was it, was dissection necessary in order
for you to get enough information to
satisfy yourself as to the path of the
bullet?

A I don't know what it would have shown. I can't
say it was necessary.

Q You cannot say it was necessary, you say?

A I don't know.

Q Well, did you form a firm opinion as to the
path of the bullet which you say entered
the President's back?

A Oh, yes.

Q How did you form that opinion?

A There was a wound with regular edges, they were
inverted, and they had the characteristics
of a wound of entry.

W2/P5

1 Q Is that a firm opinion?

2 A It is a firm opinion that the wound in the
3 back of the neck was a wound of entry,
4 without a dissection.

5 Q Now, Doctor, did you ever have occasion to
6 perform any examinations of the wounds
7 of Governor Connally of Texas?

8 A No, I never met Governor Connally.

9 Q Now, yesterday under cross-examination you were
10 asked whether you had not testified before
11 the Warren Commission that "Commission
12 Exhibit No. 339" which has been marked
13 for identification "State-64" could not
14 have gone through the wrist of Governor
15 Connally. Is that what you testified to,
16 and, if not, I wish you would explain what
17 you did testify to in that connection.

18 A I testified before the Warren Commission that
19 this bullet, "Commission Exhibit No. 399,"
20 or S-64 did not disintegrate and there
21 were too many fragments in the wrist of
22 Governor Connally to be compatible with
23 an injury caused by such a bullet.
24 As I remember, I made that statement
25 because I was referring to metallic

W2/P6

1 fragments to the best of my recollection, 2
2 a word which I don't see in my testimony
3 before the Warren Commission. I don't
4 think that such a bullet having lost such
5 little weight could cause a wound in the
6 wrist in which many metallic fragments are
7 seen.

8 Q Did you have occasion to examine X-rays of
9 Dr. Connally's wrist or not?

10 A I don't remember, sir.

11 MR. OSER:

12 I think it is Governor Connally.

13 MR. DYMOND:

14 Governor Connally, that's right.

15 THE WITNESS:

16 I may have had the reports at the time of
17 our testimony before the Warren
18 Commission regarding the injuries of
19 Governor Connally, but I don't recall
20 seeing X-rays or photographs of
21 Governor Connally.

22 BY MR. DYMOND:

23 Q Now, Doctor, you testified yesterday on
24 Cross-Examination that under certain con-
25 ditions the wound of entrance in a fleshy

W2/P7

1 area can be larger than the wound of
2 exit. Is that correct?

3 A It could be.

4 Q Does the same apply to a skull wound or a
5 projectile going through the skull under
6 those circumstances, can the wound of
7 exit be smaller than the wound of
8 entrance?

9 A Most of the time when the bullet goes through
10 bone, in and out, in a through-and-through
11 wound, the wound of exit is larger than
12 the wound of entry, the reason being that
13 the bullet often disintegrates, creates
14 fragments, producing a larger wound.

15 Q Now, Doctor, when an individual is hit in a
16 fleshy area, that is an area not backed up
17 by bone, and is hit by a high velocity
18 bullet, is it possible for there to be
19 some stretching of the skin in connection
20 with the penetration and a retraction of
21 the skin after the penetration?

22 A Definitely. Very often the skin retracts after
23 the passage of the bullet to some extent.
24 The skin is more elastic, the tissue, then
25 bone, it is a very common finding to find

W2/P8

22
some retraction of skin after the passage
of a bullet, the position of the bullet
in relation to the target will have an
influence on the shape of the wound, of
course.

Q Now, Doctor, referring to State Exhibit-68,
and more particularly the sketch on the
lower portion of this, and the red dot
which you placed on the right-hand figure
of that sketch, does that purport to
represent accurately the location of the
back head wound as described in the
reviewing pathological report of 1968?

A It does not, and let me explain this. I was
asked yesterday by Mr. Oser to place a
wound 4 inches or 100 millimeters,
approximately, above the external occi-
pital protuberance. The reason for doing
so was that in the 1968 panel, P-A-N-E-L,
in the chapter entitled "X-rays," this
is S-72 on page 11, you will find this
figure of 100 millimeters above the
external occipital protuberance, but in
the first line of that paragraph you see
the word "films" on one of the lateral

W2/P9

23

1 films of the skull, a hole measuring
2 approximately 8 millimeters in diameter
3 on the outer surface of the skull and as
4 much as 20 millimeters on the external
5 surface can be seen in profile approxi-
6 mately 100 millimeters above the
7 external occipital protuberance, so this
8 measurement of 100 millimeters or 4 inches
9 refers to a measurement made on X-ray
10 film and not on the photographs or skull
11 itself. I saw that wound of entry in the
12 back of the head at approximately 1 inch
13 or 25 millimeters to the right and slightly
14 above the external occipital protuberance,
15 and it was definitely not 4 inches or 100
16 millimeters above it, so I was asked to
17 put on the drawing a measurement coming
18 from the X-ray measurement.

19 Q Now, Doctor, when you take an X-ray picture of
20 an individual or individual's head, does
21 the size of that X-ray picture coincide
22 exactly with the size of the individual's
23 head?

24 A It does not. There is a distortion, there is a
25 change in size related to the distance

W2/P10

24

1 between the X-ray tube and the film.

2 There are many technical factors that
3 the X-ray film you see does not give a
4 scale reproduction of the subject.

5 Q Now, Doctor, the measurement that you have
6 related as to the location of the wounds
7 on President Kennedy, did you take those
8 measurements from the actual cadaver it-
9 sel f?

10 A I did.

11 Q Do the locations of the wounds as pointed out
12 yesterday by you on the back of
13 Mr. Wegmann's shirt by a pen mark and on
14 the back of my head with a finger coincide
15 with the measurements that you actually
16 took from the cadaver?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Now, Doctor, referring again to this blow-up,
19 "Commission Exhibit 385," which is "State
20 Exhibit-69," with respect to the angle of
21 the wound in the President's neck, would
22 that angle be affected by his leaning
23 either forward or backward at the time he
24 was hit?

25 A To some extent, yes.

W2/P11

1 Q Referring to State Exhibit No. 60, State
2 Exhibit No. 70 which is a blow-up of
3 Commission Exhibit 388, with the direction
4 of the President's head, that is whether
5 it were turned to one side or the other,
6 or straight ahead, affect the angle of
7 entrance of the bullet which went into
8 the back of his head, I mean the angle
9 through the head of that bullet?

10 A Yes, it would, to some extent.

11 Q Now, Doctor, you testified that you did not
12 conduct an examination of the left half
13 of the brain of President Kennedy. Is
14 that correct?

15 A At the time, when we signed the autopsy report
16 the brain was still preserved in formula,
17 which is a hardener, for future studies.
18 The brain was examined after the autopsy
19 report was signed and you will find this
20 examination in the supplementary autopsy
21 report signed by Dr. Humes.

22 Q Did Dr. Humes ultimately render a supplementary
23 report covering the President's brain?

24 A He did, and you will find it on page 987 of
25 Volume XVI of the hearings before the

W2/P12

26

1 President's Commission on the Assassina-
2 tion of President Kennedy, it is
3 Commission Exhibit No. 391, this report
4 was forward on 6 December, 1963, by
5 Dr. Stover.

6 Q Now, Doctor, what was the purpose of the
7 autopsy which you and Dr. Humes and
8 Dr. Boswell conducted?

9 A The purpose of the autopsy was to determine the
10 nature of the wounds and the cause of
11 death. When we signed the autopsy report
12 we were satisfied with the nature of the
13 wounds, the direction, and the cause of
14 death. This was the purpose of the
15 autopsy, and in my opinion this autopsy
16 report fulfills this mission.

17 Q Now, Doctor, as a result of having performed an
18 autopsy, to what firm opinions did you
19 arrive?

20 A At the time we signed the autopsy report --

21 Q That is correct.

22 A -- I had the firm opinion that there was a
23 wound of entry in the back of the neck,
24 a wound of exit in the front of the neck,
25 which had been included in a tracheotomy

W2/P13

27

1 incision, a wound of entry in the back
2 of the head and a wound of exit on the
3 right side of the head. The head wound
4 was the fatal wound, we had the cause of
5 death.

6 Q As of this date, Doctor, have you gotten any
7 information which has caused you to change
8 those firm opinions?

9 A No.

10 MR. DYMOND:

11 We tender the witness.

12 RE-CROSS-EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. OSER:

14 Q Colonel, in referring to State Exhibit-68,
15 the autopsy descriptive sheet, can you tell
16 me whether or not the mark placed on the
17 rear portion or the rear diagram of a body
18 which is indicated with the arrow and
19 marked ragged, slanting 15 x 6 millimeter,
20 can you tell me whether or not this spot
21 on this diagram corresponds to a position
22 on the head of 1 inch, approximately 1
23 inch above the external occipital protuber-
24 ance or does it apply to 100 millimeters
25 above the external occipital protuberance?

W2/P14

A It refers to an approximate location on this drawing and it refers to the wound I saw at 1 inch from the external occipital protuberance.

Q All right.

A It was definitely not 4 inches or 100 millimeters above it.

Q Does that report of the panel show or make any reference to a hole in the President's head approximately 1 inch in the vicinity of the external occipital protuberance?

A I haven't seen that.

Q Now, I believe you told Mr. Dymond that at the time, preparing your original autopsy report of November 1963, that all the X-rays were available to you. Is that correct?

A I had seen them in the -- I had seen the X-ray films of the head and the radiologist had reviewed the whole body X-rays before we prepared, before we signed the autopsy report.

Q Do you know whether or not the X-rays that you viewed were all of the X-rays that were taken?

W2/P15

29

1 A Well, here again, this review was made by the
2 radiologist, I am not a radiologist and
3 a qualified man to look at the X-rays
4 was the Bethesda radiologist. He did it
5 at our request and he said there was no
6 bullet remaining in the cadaver.

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NO HIATUS HERE.

W3/N1

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1 Q I believe you said, Colonel, there was a
2 radiologist present during the 1968
3 panel report. Is that correct?

4 A Yes, one of these four names is a radiologist.

5 Q Do you know, Colonel, whether or not to your
6 knowledge that two rolls of the X-ray
7 film taken of the President on the
8 autopsy table did not come out?

9 A To my knowledge, the film that did not come
10 out were gross photographs, --

11 Q Do you know whether --

12 A Not X-ray films.

13 Q Do you know whether or not all of the X-ray
14 films came out or not, to your knowledge?

15 A To my knowledge, they came out all right.

16 Q Now, if, Colonel, you viewed the X-ray film
17 of the head or had been viewed by a
18 radiologist, can you tell me why there
19 was no mention in your report of a three-
20 quarter by one-half inch rectangular
21 shaped object in the President's brain?

22 A No.

23 Q Can you tell me why there is nothing in your
24 report making mention of metallic substances
25 in the track?

W3/N2

31

1 A Before you go to that second question, if I
2 may say something, in that panel review
3 of 1968 there was a rectangular structure
4 and they say it is not identifiable to
5 this panel.

6 Q If it was there, Colonel, in the X-rays, would
7 you say it was there in the brain at the
8 time of the autopsy?

9 MR. DYMOND:

10 What page are you referring to, Doctor,
11 what page are you referring to?

12 MR. OSER:

13 The panel of 1968, the pages are not
14 numbered.

15 THE WITNESS:

16 That is "S-72."

17 MR. OSER:

18 Page 8, Mr. Dymond.

19 THE WITNESS:

20 "There can be seen a gray-brown rectangular
21 structure measuring approximately
22 13 by 20 milimeters, its identity
23 cannot be established by the panel."
24 I don't know what this refers to.

25 BY MR. OSER:

W3/N3

32

1 Q Did you see such at the time of your autopsy,
2 did you see such a substance in the brain
3 of the President?

4 A I don't remember.

5 Q I believe you told Mr. Dymond, Colonel, the
6 reason you did not dissect the track of
7 the bullet through the throat was because
8 you did not want to mutilate the body of
9 the President. Is that correct?

10 A I did not consider this dissection --

11 Q Did you or did you not tell Mr. Dymond a
12 few moments ago that you did not dissect
13 the track of the President's throat be-
14 cause of the mutilation of the body that
15 would result?

16 A Yes, I did say that.

17 Q And you also told me yesterday you were told
18 not to go into the throat area?

19 A Yes, I don't remember the details about this,
20 who said what.

21 Q You were told?

22 A From what I remember.

23 Q And you did not do it?

24 A We did not remove the organs of the neck,
25 obviously.

W3/N4

33

1 Q Describe to me what you did with the body in
2 autopsy, what did you do with the body
3 and how did you perform this autopsy?

4 A Please repeat your question, I did not hear it.

5 Q Will you describe for me what incisions you made
6 into the body of the President.

7 A I did not make the incisions into the body, as
8 I recall I was called to examine the wounds
9 and the incisions were made by the other
10 two pathologists who performed the
11 autopsy, Dr. Humes and Dr. Boswell, and
12 who signed this autopsy report. My role
13 in this autopsy was to emphasize the
14 wounds, to examine the wounds, that is why
15 I was called.

16 Q Well, Colonel, you were present at the autopsy
17 room, were you not, the entire time?

18 A I arrived after the -- a short time after the
19 beginning of the autopsy.

20 Q Did you or did you not see the chest cavity of
21 the President open?

22 A Yes, I did, and there was a bruise, there was
23 a bruise in the upper part of the chest
24 cavity, a bruise produced by the bullet
25 that entered in the back of the neck.

W3/N5

1 Q Did you or did you not see the scalp and
2 head area of the President open at
3 autopsy?

4 A I saw the skull and the scalp of the President
5 open.

6 Q And during autopsy, am I not correct that the
7 standard operating procedure is a Y in-
8 cision down to this area (indicating),
9 and then another incision down in the
10 rib cage to expose -- so you can get to
11 the vital organs of the body you are per-
12 forming the autopsy on?

13 A The usual Y-shaped incision is made, I don't
14 remember making that incision because I
15 again was not the pathologist performing
16 the autopsy.

17 Q You saw the President on the table after the
18 incision had been made, did you not?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And you are telling me that you did not go into
21 the throat area because you did not want
22 to mutilate the body, is that correct?

23 MR. DYMOND:

24 I think he answered that three times.

25 BY MR. OSER:

3/N6

1 Q NOW, Colonel, also along the line of the
2 dissecting of the throat area, you were,
3 at the time of the autopsy, on that night
4 I believe puzzled by what you found be-
5 cause you found no exit wound at that
6 time of the hole you found in the back.
7 Is that correct?

8 A It is.

9 Q I believe you answered Mr. Dymond before that
10 you were not taking orders from anybody
11 in the autopsy room. Is that right?

12 MR. DYMOND:

13 I think that is a misquotation of the
14 witness.

15 MR. OSER:

16 I asked the Colonel whether or not he
17 told Mr. Dymond on redirect examina-
18 tion that he was not taking orders
19 from anybody in the autopsy room.

20 MR. DYMOND:

21 I asked the witness on redirect whether
22 anybody gave him any orders as to what
23 his professional opinion should be.

24 MR. OSER:

25 Your answer was no, is that correct,

W3/N7

Colonel?

THE WITNESS:

Right.

BY MR. OSER:

Q But you did take orders and did not dissect
the throat area?

A Well, these are not direct orders, these are
suggestions and directions. I was not
told, "I give you a direct order" or that
sort of thing.

Q And at the time, Colonel, you were a Lieutenant
Colonel, were you not?

A Yes.

Q And there were Admirals and Generals in that
room, were there not?

THE COURT:

We are going over the same thing.

MR. OSER:

Orders were brought up on redirect.

MR. DYMOND:

We object on the grounds --

THE COURT:

I sustain the objection, repetitious.

MR. OSER:

That's all.

W3/N8

37

1 THE COURT:

2 Is Dr. Finck released from the obligation
3 of his subpoena?

4 MR. DYMOND:

5 He is.

6 At this time may we have five minutes?

7 We have a couple of witnesses whom
8 we are expecting.

9 THE COURT:

10 Take the Jury upstairs.

11 We will have a recess.

12 (Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.)

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16 NO HIATUS HERE.
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, the undersigned, Paul W. Williams, do hereby
certify:

That the above and foregoing (37 pages of type-
written matter) is a true and correct transcription
of the stenographic notes of the proceedings had herein,
the same having been taken down by the undersigned and
transcribed under his supervision, on the day and date
hereinbefore noted, in the Criminal District Court for
the Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana, in the matter
of the State of Louisiana vs Clay L. Shaw, 198-059 1426
(30) Section C on the 25th day of February, 1969, before
the Honorable Edward A. Haggerty, Jr., Judge, Section
"C", being the testimony of Pierre A. Finck, M. D.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 25th day of February,
1969.

Paul W. Williams

PAUL W. WILLIAMS