



GCBMUN  
2024

# GUÍA ACADEMICA

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## WARREN COMMISSION

**PRESIDENTE**

CAROLINA LÓPEZ

**PRESIDENTE**

SANTIAGO CANO

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**ACADEMIC SECRETARY**  
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**PRESIDENT**  
**CAROLINA LÓPEZ**

**PRESIDENT**  
**SANTIAGO CANO**

# **WELCOMING LETTER**

**UNITED NATIONS GCBMUN XXIV**

Dear Delegates,

We are so pleased that you have chosen this committee. Receive a fellow and warm greeting from your president Carolina López and president, Santiago Cano. We are pleased and honored to introduce and be your dais in this Warren Commission committee in the GCBMUN UN Model.

We hope that during your model experience, you seek to aim to achieve a resolution for President John. F Kenedy's death. We hope you act diligently in order to solve this case. The stated purposes of the Commission is to examine the evidence collected by the FBI, conduct its independent investigation into all circumstances surrounding the investigation, including the death of the alleged assassin, and report its findings to the dais.

We wish you all the best in these three days of debating and expect very grateful and incredible ideas to solve this controversial case. Feel free to contact any of us at any time if you have doubts, and once again, we thank you for choosing our committee and welcome you to the Warren Commission team. Hope you learn valuable lessons during these three days.

Cordially,

**Carolina López** - [carolina.lopez@gcb.edu.co](mailto:carolina.lopez@gcb.edu.co)

**Santiago Cano** - [santiago.cano@gcb.edu.co](mailto:santiago.cano@gcb.edu.co)

# HISTORY OF THE COMITEE

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Image 2: (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.)

The Warren Commission, which is also known as the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy became operational on November 29th, 1963, after President Kennedy was assassinated on November 22nd, 1963, in Dallas, Texas. The commission as mandated was to investigate the events that culminated in the death of Kennedy and determine whether there was a conspiracy or not.

Named after its chairman, Chief Justice Earl Warren, the commission consisted of seven members: Speaking of the Memorandums participants Senators and Congressmen were Robert Kennedy, Senator Richard B. These people were chosen because they did not have an association with one party or another and were viewed as neutral, public utterers.

They had to analyze the physical findings, the testimonies of the witnesses, and reports which included the FBI, Secret Service, and the Commission itself. They announced , had meetings, and examined such individuals associated with November 22, 1963. The commission released its report on September 24, 1964, and they concluded that there was no intentional domestic conspiracy and Lee Harvey Oswald was the only one to blame, President Kennedy was killed by only Oswald and there was no possibility of either domestic or international conspiracy.

On the other hand, the report which has been generated through the efforts of the Warren Commission has not been without criticism let alone controversies in the later years. The opponents pinpoint the speeds of investigation, premature processing of some elements, and the lack of focus on some aspects. These are reflected in various conspiracy theories and debates up to this day, thus making the Warren Commission a historical yet greatly contentious part of America. (Rockwood, 2013

# COMMITTEE SPECIFICATIONS

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The Warren Commission is composed of 7 core members of the committee and 14 other members belonging to the assistant council, a section with less relevance in the council but still part of the process. Voting consisted of a consensus-based system, in which the seven members worked together to find conclusions that convinced them.

While the commission does not have a voting system similar to that of a parliamentary system, it does allow for the expression of disagreement and agreement after each conclusion. Consensus is sought first and foremost; however, if consensus is not reached, the committee will take into account the majority.

Although this committee is not within the UN scheme, within the GCBMUN it will follow the handbook using the same structure of a traditional committee, the same motions, points, and spaces will be used (evidently adapted to the needs of the committee). Parliamentary and formal language will continue to be used at all times; however, the use of the first person will be allowed as it is a character commission.

For the Warren Commission there are 2 papers required: a white paper and a black paper. On the white paper the delegate must state the objectives his character has for the side and the position he wants his character to let the rest of the committee see. On the black paper the delegate must write what personal intentions and personal objectives the character has, this document will be private and will be exclusively accessible by the table. (Rockwood, 2013)

In the "Warren Commission," an unmoderated caucus will prevail as a way to encourage open discussion and enhance conflict resolution from different approaches. Moderated caucuses and speakers list will also be used in order to ensure a clearer and more organized presentation of ideas, understanding that the communication of the reasoning of each member of the



Image 3: (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.)

commission is vital to ultimately discover the truth. As usual, the dais will oversee directing, organizing, and controlling the discussion of each of the theories and topics to be addressed, and the members will be in charge of developing the idea. (Rockwood, 2013)

What makes this committee different from others is its private, focused, and direct discussion nature. At the Warren Commission, decision making is subject to consensus among the small membership; additionally, what is

discussed during the committee is not fully disclosed, but what is shown to the public are the conclusions reached from the available evidence. In an ordinary UN commission, a problem is discussed, resolutions are created, and a working paper is published; however, in this commission the final product is a report containing the results of the investigation, the conclusions, and the actions to be taken as a consequence of what was determined by the board. In addition, as a commission appointed by the President of the United States of America, the Warren Commission has the power to summon witnesses, examine evidence, and issue subpoenas to further criminal and intelligence investigations.



# REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

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## 1.) Directives

These are documents that delegates use in order to carry out some action that will have an effect on the entire committee. The proposed format is as follows:

- a) Nature of the directive: Can be public or private
- b) Date
- c) Encryption method
- d) Sender(s): Delegation(s) drafting the directive
- e) Preamble: A brief statement of the reason for seeking to carry out such actions.
- f) Actions: Answers to what, how, when and where
- g) Objective: The objective of the actions presented is specified.

It is important that the directives are specific and quite detailed, in order to facilitate their approval.

## 2.) Press Release

It is an official document by means of which a character, several characters or the entire side discloses certain information to a specific public. They have the following structure:

- a.) "Press release from \_\_\_\_\_".
- b.) Preamble: Specify who will read the release, through which media the release will be made and to whom it is directed. The media should be consistent with the historical context of the committee
- c.) Press Release: As it should be read.

## 3. Power of Attorney

Document that is made when some character wishes to obtain information regarding the viability of certain actions or the disposition of economic, military, and political resources, among others. Its structure is as follows:

1. Who sends it: Name of the Personage.
2. To whom it is sent: Strategy Center
3. Doubts to be solved

## 4. White Paper and Black Paper

Both are documents that the delegate must complete before the model starts. On the white paper the delegate should state the objectives his character has for the side and the position he wants his character to let the rest of the committee see. On the black paper the delegate must write what personal intentions and personal objectives the character has, this document will be private and will be available to the table. It is important that this document is sent to the chairmen, this will be taken into account when the delegate acts and debates in the committee.

# GENERAL MISSION

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The Warren Commission's general mission was ascertaining the facts that surrounded the murder of President John F. Kennedy, which took place on November 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.). It was set in motion by President Lyndon B. Johnson on the 29th of November in 1963 but it had a formal name of The President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy. This was expected to use all and fair means to ascertain whether Lee Harvey Oswald single-handedly shot Kennedy or if he had company in the crime. In this case, the goal of the Commission was to disband the public speculation and rumors and offer explanations, so the populace and the stability of the nations would not diminish.

The Warren Commission, which was headed by the chief justice of the USA Earl Warren, to achieve its goal reviewed a great number of proofs: the witnesses, the results of ballistics and other forensic examinations, and the film made by Abraham Zapruder. The Commission however ensured probity in its investigation process through interviews of hundreds of witnesses and analysis of thousands of documents. The presidential commission under the Chairmanship of Chief Justice Earl Warren submitted its report on September 24, 1964, wrapped up Oswald as the lone gunman and no finding of conspiracy existed (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.). The report was to give the American people a way to move on and to remind everyone and reestablish America's government as proper during a time of instability in American history.

However, in this GCBMUN, we are going back in history to fill all these blanks in the investigation made in order to determine the real assassin of President John F. Kennedy. The committee will focus on specific Global Politics related topics, such as

- The use of power (Soft Power, Hard Power, and Smart Power)
- Sovereignty
- Violation of Human Rights
- Global Violence and Wars affecting countries economically and socially

Delegates will be given, as a delegation, a person who was involved in this crime negatively or positively. It is crucial for delegates to evaluate the following theories that are going to be discussed during our debate:



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## -The Theory of Hidell:

The “Hidell” theory, examines the fact that Lee Harvey Oswald used the name of Alek James Hidell and is associated with the death of President John F. Kennedy. It



came to light at the time of the investigation into Kennedy’s assassination in 1963 when, Oswald ordered a pistol and rifle used to execute a Dallas police officer, J. D Tippit (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.). This is as Oswald’s alias was cited by the Warren Commission as a strong connection to the murder weapon.

**Image 4: (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.)**

According to the theory, the use of the name Oswald was to mask his identity, which the Commission also noted he used when carrying out the Congressional actions alone. However, there are some academics and conspiracy theorists who would argue the alias might have signified the fact Oswald belonged to certain groups such as intelligence agencies, mafia, or anti-Castro Cuban groups, or merely, Oswald was a code name. Skeptics claim that the alias and the orders of guns under it were possibly made with an aim to pin the blame on Oswald as the would-be assassin whether or not it was true in reality. The Warren Commission claimed officially that Oswald’s use of the alias “Hidell” was part of his cover in order to conceal his actions from others.

## --Theory of the CIA:

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There is information and evidence constituted in the CIA theory of the agency's ability to assassinate President John F. Kennedy. According to this theory, the CIA officials felt dissatisfied with the Kennedy administration, which mainly fostered tensions between the two parties. Kennedy especially used public media to accuse the CIA of being responsible for the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961 making results worse.

Kennedy's approach toward Cuba and the Soviet Union was not quite tactful and hardliners within the CIA saw these steps as highly dangerous for them, which was a Cold War behemoth, these actions were quite dangerous. The local assets of the CIA together with some members of the agency or combined with other conspirators including anti-Castro Cuban exiles and criminals eliminated Kennedy as he continued to oppose the agendas that were to be executed by the CIA and planned the change of the foreign policy of the United States of America in Latin America.

The following are the evidential pieces supporting this theory: Oswald's profile, activity and irregularities, testimonies and assertions, and non-released documents such as the Family Jewels. Some critics, however, claim that the CIA was implicated in helping Kennedy's assassination, though there is no concrete evidence tying the agency to the event and the Warren Commission found no evidence of any CIA involvement in the plot and stated that Oswald did the shooting on his own.

Although there is nothing that can confirm its actual existence up to the present, the CIA theory has been one of the most publicized theories, mainly, because of the general public's distrust of government agencies and the fact that there are some people who feel that there are some powerful forces in this world that would rather hide important information to keep up their interests. (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.)

## -The Theory of the Soviet Union and Cuban Government:

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The argument that the Soviet Union and the Cuban government were involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy stems from Cold War politics and Kennedy's policies towards the two socialist governments. The relations between the United States, Soviet Union, and Cuba were rather tense during early 1960 when the US launched the Bay of Pigs Invasion in April 1961 and the Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962 (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.). The Cuban government, as well as the Soviet leadership, had solid reasons to desire Kennedy out of the picture since, for them, he was a constant menace both to their sovereignty and existence.

The theory holds that the Soviet Union, Cuba, or the two in collaboration were involved in the killing of Kennedy and probably used Oswald as a tool. This theory finds support in Oswald's personal history and activities such as their defection to the Soviet Union in 1959 and joining pro-Castro and pro-communist groups on his return to the U.S. (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.)



*Image 5: (November 22, 1963:  
Death of the President, n.d.)*

Several studies have been conducted to see if the Soviet Union and Cuba had any hand in Kennedy's assassination, but the Warren Commission dismissed the possibility of foreign connection and stated that Oswald single-handedly assassinated the president. However, the House Select Committee on Assassinations HSCA in 1979 stated that Kennedy was probably killed because of conspiracy though did not point fingers at the Soviets or the Cubans. Although both the Soviet Union and Cuba have always denied being involved in the assassination of Kennedy, the publication of the CIA/U. S. documents and other research studies explain the level of spying and counter-spying between the two countries during the Cold War.

## **-The theory of Lyndon B. Johnson:**

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The view that Lyndon B. Johnson had some involvement in the murder of President John F. Kennedy refers that Kennedy's vice president plotted to see the president killed to succeed him. This theory is a mixture of political and personal gain due to rigidity and so-called circumstances. Critics' main evidence consists of stating that Johnson had political and even personal reasons to participate in a conspiracy against Kennedy. Politically, Johnson was quite unhappy being a vice president because he was unable to make any major decisions or exert any authority. (Rockwood (2013))

On individual aspects, Johnson was competitive and motivated, willing to do anything to get the presidency. He was further accused in many scandals some of them involved corruption and election malpractices, and these could have been made public if he stayed on as the vice president.

The theory specifies that Kennedy was killed, and Johnson helped to bring it, using his power and contacts. This following theory has several proofs in favor: first, Johnson's connections with Texas political and business elites, second, he exerted control over the investigation, third, testimonies and accusations, and, finally, the actions of Johnson on the day of the assassination.

The critics of the LBJ theory have alleged that although Johnson may have been involved in the assassination plan there was no clear link between him and the death of the President. As for Johnson, there was no proof that he participated in the assassination, though he was a suspect, and this fact was established by the Warren Commission. Furthermore, many historians and academic specialists dispute the LBJ theory and think that it has numerous weak points, including the idea that organizing the assassination of such a well-known person would have required the formation of a large, complex conspiracy.

## -The Theory of the Two Assassins:

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This notion holds to the belief that there was more than one individual who shot at President John F. Kennedy contrary to what has been considered as the general narrative of the shooting. This theory suggests that it was planned to murder Kennedy, and this was achieved by using more than one shooter who aimed at him. Some theories, that support the two-assassins theory include the following: theories of testimonies, HSCA 1978, Zapruder film, and the medical/ballistic theories (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.).

Some people have utilized these videos to argue that indeed there was a second shooter, and he was on the grassy knoll. An acoustic examination of the police motorcycle's radio enhances the forensic probability of four shots fired, at least shot from a grassy knoll. It suggested the Zapruder film shows that Kennedy's head was jerking backward and to the left after the shot, some people believe that there was a conspiracy, and someone shot at Kennedy from the grassy knoll.

The testimony and evidence produced by the medical and ballistic experts as well as the blood spatter analysis also point to inconsistencies, for instance, the Kennedy's position as well as the nature of his wounds particularly the head wound that was most probably fired from different positions. The critics, who accept the two-assassins theory, argue that there are some facts that, as they claim, may support their theory as opposed to the findings of the Warren Commission. Contrasting and counter perspectives engage the reliability of witness accounts, admissibility of audio analysis, ballistic and wound proof, and the single bullet theory. Rockwood (2013)

While the Warren Commission decided that Oswald alone killed Kennedy, other theories, including conspiracy ones where there was more than one shooter in Dallas, are still popular at present.



Image 6: Rockwood, B. (2013, November 19). Conspiracy: cases for and against. *FRONTLINE*.  
<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/conspiracy-cases-for-and-against/>

## TOPIC A

# WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY?



# INTRODUCTION

The Warren Commission was established by President Lyndon B. Johnson through Executive Order No. 11130 on the 29th of November 1963 and was charged with the responsibility of investigating the assassination of John Fitzgerald Kennedy on the 22nd of November 1963, who was the 35th President of the United States of America. The President ordered the Commission to examine all the circumstances relating to the assassination and the subsequent death of the assassin and submitted the findings and conclusions to the President. (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.)

Speaking of their actions shortly after the assassination, it can be said that both State and local officials of Dallas dedicated their energies to the arrest of the assassin. the U. S. Secret Service which has under its jurisdiction to protect the President falls, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation launched an investigative action following a directive from President Johnson. It has emerged that Lee Harvey Oswald, who was accused of murdering Patrolman Tippit, was arrested by the Dallas police within 35 minutes of the killing of this police officer. By violation of due process as the evidence specified during the examination of federal state and local agencies, the state of Texas arraigned Oswald within 12 hours of arrest on the charge of assassination of President Kennedy and the murder of Patrolman Tippit. On November



Image 7: (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d)

24, 1963, the murder-accused Oswald was transferred to the Dallas Police Department where, less than 18 hours before his trial, he was shot dead by Jack Ruby, a Dallas nightclub owner. This shooting was snapped in front of live television viewers nationwide. (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.)

The happenings of these two days were watched with coupled disbelief by a Nation in mourning of its young leader. Regarding these events, the reports that went around the world were explosive in every sense with elaborate descriptions. Theories and speculations were made on the kind of death the president was to meet. Often, to satisfy the public's thirst for information, the media provided selective and often inconsistent information coming from Dallas and other places. When Oswald was arrested and he denied all the accusations and scandalous points, two things attracted the public, the amount of proof against him and the theory of conspiracies. Further generating interest and activating prior-incident-based media and cultural fears, his later death contributed to additional suspicions and rumors. Rockwood (2013)

# THE INVESTIGATION

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After December, the Commission began to receive more reports from Federal and particularly from State investigation agencies. The one of greatest magnitude was the FBI's five-volume report, which was presented on 9th December 1963 entailing the analysis done by the bureau soon after the shooting incident. The summary report on this report was provided to the Commission, and following submission, the Commission asked the Federal Bureau of Investigation to provide the investigative documents used in preparing the summary report, on page XII. The first reports containing results of investigations fulfilled within the framework of this request reached the Commission on December 20, 1963. Following is the submission of the Secret Service dated December 18 detailing security measures in connection with President Kennedy's trip to Texas and a brief narrative of the events in President Kennedy's assassination on

November 22 by a Secret Service Agent. A few days later, the Department of State sent a report which concerned Oswald's defection to the USSR in 1959, and subsequent arrival to the United States in 1962. A large collection of investigative materials was sent by the attorney general of Texas on January 7 and 11 1964 and these reports were mostly in the form of police reports surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy and the killing of Oswald.



Image 8: Rockwood, B. (2013, November 19). Conspiracy: cases for and against. FRONTLINE. <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/conspiracy-cases-for-and-against/>

As such, the staff that received these investigative reports started profiling and synthesizing them. Judging by the cases investigated by the members of the legal staff and divided into teams, the interrelated facts were systematized; the issues were defined; the open prejudices were distinguished and demarcated from the unsolved problems; forwarded to the Commission proposals were made for the further investigation of the problems. In parallel to this, to ensure that no information would be wasted, the Commission requested from the ten principal departments of the Federal Government fourteen independent agencies or commissions, and four congressional committees, all information about the assassination and any information connected with the past and the previous activity of Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby.

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Ideas concerning the degree of thoroughness that was invested by the Federal and State investigating agencies can be partially inferred from statistics culled from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Secret Service. When more than 80 of its members were temporarily assigned to the Dallas Bureau after the assassination, the FBI had more men than ever before. Starting only from November 22, 1963, the FBI itself conducted some 25,000 interviews or

reassessment interviews of persons, including the witnesses, who would seem to have information that could have a bearing on the investigation and by September 11, 1964, prepared and submitted to the Commission some 2,300 reports running to approximately 25,400 typewritten pages in all. For the same period, the Secret Service conducted approximately 1,550 interviews and submitted 800 reports extending to a sizable number of over 4,600 pages (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.)



Due to the extended cooperation of federal investigative agencies and the adequate facilities of investigative agencies, the commission had to engage any other separate investigator except the members of the legal staff of the commission. The Commission, however, understood that it was necessary to apply special measures in those cases when facts involved or rumors that demanded an assessment of the activities of the agencies as their subjects. The staff examined in considerable detail some of the activities of several Federal agencies that are headed by the Attorney General like the FBI, the Service Division, CIA, and the Department of State. First, the Commission asked all the agencies involved to provide all of their reports concerning the assassination and any contacts they had with Oswald/Ruby. Consequently, according to these reports, the Commission has submitted special questions to the given agency. Employees continued the answers explaining that the members of the staff followed the answers by reviewing the files of each agency. Sometimes, members of the Commission physically consulted the files, on the spot as it were. Last came the time for those concerned agencies to retort on oath about the problem stated above. Main civil officers and heads of agencies such as Secretary of State – Dean Rusk, Secretary of the Treasury – C. Douglas Dillon, and Head of the CIA – John A. McCone among others like the FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover and Chief of Secret Service James J. Rowley all testified before the Commission and offered detailed testimonies of their agencies' involvement in issues investigated by the Commission.

## The Assassination:

On the fatal day, November 22, 1963, President John F. Kennedy with his wife, Mrs. Kennedy, landed at Love Field for the originally scheduled Texas tour in May earlier in the year. Thus, the trip was intended to show that the President was popular in Dallas which lost the 1960 election. The Secret Service was told that 45 minutes were provided for the



*Image10: Rockwood (2013)*

motorcade to move from Love Field to the site of a luncheon scheduled by Dallas merchants and industrialists in honor of President Kennedy. The Trade Mart was selected to be the place for the luncheon and the route was agreed with the local host committee and the White House on November the 18th.

President posed to those present in his open limousine without the “bubble top,” and behind the car was an open “follow-up” car with eight agents from the Secret Service. The motorcade was moving through the residential districts; twice Kennedy asked the driver to stop to wave to the Roosevelt Island people. Again, when the motorcade got to Main Street, the welcome became a bearer of power – with the people. On reaching the extreme western end of what is Main Street, the motorcade swung right into Houston Street and traveled one block north to make a left turn into Elm Street, which was the shortest and best route to the Stemmons Freeway and the Trade Mart.

As the President's car approached the Texas School Book Depository, Agent Rufus W. Youngblood of the Secret Service noticed that the clock atop the building indicated 12:30 p.m., the Trade Mart arrival time according to the plan. The President's car took a sharp right to the southwest on Elm Street, as it attained a speed of approximately 11 mph, and proceeded downhill to the railway overpass before Stemmons Freeway. Within a matter of seconds, more gunshots were fired this time in a string and because of this, the President slumped left on Mrs. Kennedy.

President of the United States, Lyndon B. Johnson was involved in an assassination attempt while in a moving car. One of the bullets lodged at the nape of his neck and came out the front to tear off a bit of the necktie. Governor Connally was shot in the right side of his back, came out at the area below his right nipple, and through his wrist. Another bullet hit President Kennedy in his neck and head at the rear, resulting in severe and immediately fatal injury.

Secret Service Agent Clinton J. Hill heard the sound behind him and noticed suddenly the President stretching forward and to the left. He alighted from the car and ran towards the Presidential limousine. In the Vice-Presidential car, Agent Youngblood heard an explosion and observed some strange activities of the people around. He jumped into the back seat to safeguard himself. Presidential limousine front passenger seat Agent Kellerman looked at the President and ordered the driver to get them to the nearest hospital. Rockwood (2013)

In Parkland Memorial Hospital the President was attended to by several doctors who observed rapid and irregular thoraco-abdominal motion, and apical pulse. They had to do a tracheotomy to help the president breathe but never rolled the president for a check-up of his back pain. At 5:58 p.m., or 9:58 p.m. on November 22, 1963, the President of the United States of America Kennedy died (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.). Governor Connally also suffered a bullet wound and would require surgery – he recovered from his critical injuries.

At the post-mortem examination, a large wound was discovered on the head, slightly damaged mandible in the rear of the skull, and another beneath the skull near the base of the back of the neck. These bullets were fired from a position behind and slightly at a higher level than the position of the deceased.

Witnesses testified that they observed a shooting originating from the southeast corner window of the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas. Howard L. Brennan, who was standing from the front Elm Street watching the parade, testified he had seen a thin man about 5 feet 10 inches in age roughly in his early thirties kneeling consciously, taking a position on the corner of the sixth floor and fired rifle in the direction of the car in which the President of America was seated. The Dallas police radio mentioned the Depository Building as a possible source of the shots, and at 12:45 p.m., the police over the radio described the suspected killer using Brennan's account almost entirely. Rockwood (2013)

One of the motorcycle officers in the motorcade was Marrion L. Baker, a Dallas patrolman; when they heard the shot, they questioned the building superintendent, Roy Truly. They got into the structure and headed for the two elevators which were at the end of the building. The blowing curtain made them turn their heads towards the door which was of glass at the second-floor landing and for a split-second Baker felt that he saw somebody through it as it opened into the hall area near the stairs through access to the small vestibule that led to the lunchroom. The man rose and started walking towards Baker, and Truly walked back to see why the patrolman had not moved on.



The man that they met was Lee Harvey Oswald who joined the Texas School Book Depository Building as a book depositor on the 16th of October 1963 (November 22, 1963:



Avoye JJ, Blackwood, B. (2013, November 19). Conspiracy: cause for and against. PWDATLINE. <https://www.pdw.org/ghb/foodline/article/conspiracy-cause-for-and-against>

Death of the President, n.d.). About one minute later, Oswald could be observed moving through the second-floor offices holding with one hand what appears to be a full “Coke” bottle. He boarded a bus at 12:7:40 p.m., walking west in the opposite direction of his previous entry coming out of the same building.

About fourteen minutes later, and forty-five minutes after the assassination, another act of violent shooting was

reported in Dallas. Police Patrolman J. D. Tippit of Dallas was shot about nine-tenths of a mile west of Oswald’s rooming house from the intersection of 10th Street and Patton Avenue.

The man in the shooting range in Oak Cliff was described as a man wearing a revolver, and he said phrases such as, “poor dumb cop” or “poor damn cop.” He then fled in the southern direction of Jefferson Boulevard before meeting a taxicab driver and a gas station. A shoe store manager and his employee saw the siren of a police car and, later, a man entering the Texas Theatre without paying for the ticket. The police radio also observed the line of the suspects who are related to both the Tippit shooting and the assassination.

The police radio sounded the alarm at 1:45 p.m., and she surrounded the theater. Patrolman M. N. McDonald and other police officers went up to the man; the latter pulled a gun from his waist and hit the police officer. Again, McDonald and other police officers engaged the man for a few minutes of shooting before he was subdued, handcuffed, and driven to the police station.

The Dallas Police Department answered the shooting incident by dispatching patrol cars to the Texas School Book Depository. Police officer J. Herbert Sawyer came to the scene and looked around the building for traces. Deputy Sheriff Luke Mooney found three spent shell cases on the sixth floor which the snipers directed at the motorcade which was pulling away from the building.

The police turn over the investigation to Capt. J. Will Fritz, chief of the homicide and robbery bureau. Deputy Sheriff Luke Mooney located a bolt-action rifle with a telescopic sight lying in the northwest corner of the two rows of boxes and opposite the staircase. RIFLE: Lieutenant Day of the police identification bureau discovered the rifle with the serial number C2766 and inscriptions 1940 MADE ITALY and CAL 65. The length of the gun was 40

inches in length and could be put into a handmade paper sack found on the southeast corner of the above building, a few inches away from the above-mentioned cartridge cases.

Born in 1939 in New Orleans Lee Harvey Oswald, a man who was alleged to have killed Eisenhower was alleged to have also killed a policeman (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.). Marguerite Claverie Oswald has two elder children John Pic Oswald and Robert Oswald. Fostered out at the age of 3, she went to an orphanage and later lived in Dallas, Texas where she married Edwin A. Ekdahl, her third husband. Lee's record in school shows that he had a mediocre performance in a school located in Fort Worth; however, his behavior worsened progressively in the later years.

After that, in August 1952, Lee moved to New York City because his oldest son, John Pic, served in the Coast Guard there. The year and a half in New York that followed, saw Lee's gross behavior as she refused to attend school and had emotional and psychological issues. He undertook psychiatric examination in the facility known as Youth House for juveniles who are truants or have been involved in unlawful activities.

However, after Lee had returned to New Orleans, he received rather low results for his work, but he did not exhibit any problematic behavior. He was rather shy and did not like to mix much; often could be seen reading a lot and was well-off in vocabulary. The protagonist sends his mother a note where in one of the lines, he writes that the family is moving to California in 1955. He got out of school and attempted to sign up for the Marine Corps and they turned him down. The last year that Lee was in school, he claimed to be a Marxist, and read the literature of communism, after school, Lee worked for a company in New Orleans as either an office messenger or clerk.

In 1956, Lee joined the Marine Corps where he underwent training in aviation fundamentals and radar scanning. He was painted as a 'reclusive' person who disliked delegation of authority by other people. Most of his spare time went to reading; he was court-martialed once on charges of owning an unregistered Private Defense Rifle and using obscene language to an NCO.

Lee Harvey Oswald traveled overseas in 1958 for 15 months, mainly in Japan. He worked in Santa Ana, California, and expressed a strong interest in the Soviet Union. Oswald admired Fidel Castro and wanted to join the Cuban army. He left the Marine Service in 1959 due to

his mother's illness. Oswald saved around \$1,500 during his service and used it to go to the Soviet Union. He tried to become a Soviet citizen but failed and got married to a Russian woman. They returned to the United States in 1962, helped by a loan from



Image12: (November 22, 1963: Death of the President, n.d.)

Oswald moved to Dallas in October 1962 after leaving his job in a sheet metal plant. While in Fort Worth, he was not well-liked by some Russian-speaking people who gave him small amounts of food and clothing.

In 1963, Oswald lost his job and tried to kill a big army man with a gun. His wife told him to leave and find a job in a new place. So, he went to New Orleans and made a group that did stuff for Cuba. Cops took him in for a fight. He asked the cops to talk to a guy from the cop group. Oswald went on the radio and said he led the Cuba group. He lost his greasing job and his wife's friend took her and the kids away. Oswald said he'd find work but went to Mexico. He found a job in a book place. He had a new kid and would see his wife on the weekends. He and his wife fought but he told a guy where he'd go. His wife learned the press got shot and she saw his rifle. The cops came to ask if he had a rifle. She confirmed the allegation.

In 1963, Lee Harvey Oswald was accused of killing a policeman. Captain Fritz said so. Oswald said he didn't do it and didn't kill Kennedy. He said he ate lunch and talked to his boss on that day before going home. He also said he didn't have a gun, and someone stole his picture. Lots of reporters followed him when police took him for questioning. They shouted lots of questions. Oswald tried to call a lawyer. He talked about the charges against him on the 22nd of November.

The police said they got a rifle from the place where Oswald worked. They found out who bought it from somewhere else too. They said someone called A. Hidel paid for it. The police also told the news some wrong stuff. They got mixed up a lot. The reporters got mixed up too. They didn't get the story right.

## **Commission Procedure for Taking testimonies:**

Under Executive Order No. 11130 of November, the 29th of 1963, the Commission was allowed to prescribe its own procedures. Thereby, it came with resolutions for the questioning witnesses by members of the Commission.

### **1.) Sworn Depositions:**

a.) Members are allowed to administer oaths and affirmations, examine witnesses and receive information by sworn depositions

b.) These said sworn depositions may only be considered if said by a witness registered by the Commission, questioned by a member or by the General Counsel

c.) A transcript should be made of all depositions, its copies should be available for further review.

d.) A witness has the right to be accompanied by a counsel of his selecting, who will be authorized to advise the witness about his rights on the Constitution of the United States of America. He may also perform brief objections to questions

e.) At the beginning of every questioning a member must read a statement where the purpose of the summoning of the sworn deposition was.

f.) Any witness who refuses to answer a question should clearly justify its reasons for doing so.

## **TI.)Rules for Hearings:**

- a.)There should always be one or more members present in all hearings, the chairman should appoint the order in which the members preside.
- b.)Any member is allowed to manage oaths, affirmations, examine witnesses and receive evidence
- c.)At the opening of every hearing a brief statement should be emitted in which the reasonings for summoning a witness to testify are clearly stated.
- d.)Every witness should be able to make an oral statement and to a file to a sworn statement
- e.)Objections should be made by the member presiding the hearing at the moment.
- f.)A transcript should be made in all the hearings. (Report of the president's commission on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Washington, dc: united states government printing office, 1964. 1 volume, 888 pages)

# BRIEF HISTORY OF PRESIDENTIAL PROTECTION

The History of USA has been strongly stained by the assassination attempts to 8 different presidents, 4 of which were unfortunately successful in its mission. A real presidential protection program had never been truthfully implemented; since, it wasn't until the third attempt that a formal entity was formed.

Before the civil war, chief protection wasn't even a real concern, former president used to roam freely, giving speeches and attending meetings by themselves. On the morning of January 10, 1835, President John Quincy Adams was victim of a murder attempt when he was shot with 2 guns but both misfired, letting him live. This attack didn't trigger any protection system whatsoever (Millikan, 2019). Even though many presidents who took charge of the US constantly received threats and were subject of conspiracies about murder or kidnap, the protection force never surpassed the 15 men.

When Lincoln assumed the power, he strongly refused to be accompanied by guards, knowing well he found himself in the middle of political turmoil thanks to the civil war. Despite many efforts to assign him some security by high ends of the military branches none of them worked to keep Abraham comfortable with himself (Wallenfeldt, 2024). Eventually in the closing days of the war, the rumors of an assassination attempt grew wider. As the Confederation fell apart resentment became evident in the country



Image 13: (Lincoln's Assassination — Ford's Theatre, n.d.)

coincidentally, President Lincoln went to watch a play at the Ford theatre where John Wilkes Booth (a well-known confederate) was the star of the play. About halfway into the play, Booth managed to get upstairs and end with Lincolns life with a shot in the head (Wallenfeldt, 2024). Booth was captured 10 days later, and the need of presidential protection was for the first time proven



The need of protection was further proven by President Garfield's assassination in 1881. He was killed by Charles Guiteau, a man of trust who helped him get into power but ultimately resulted to kill him after denied requests for an appointment to office. When called to testify, Guiteau admitted that he had not one, not two, but three other opportunities clear to attack the president prior to the actual shooting (Library of Congress, n.d). This fact immediately alerted the secret service who started to develop the first forms of presidential protection

The third assassination of a president on a span of just 36 years did trigger the formal establishment of protection. Hence, in 1902 the secret service which at the time served as an investigation agency assumed the full-time responsibility of protecting and veiling for the well-being of the president. Theodore Roosevelt was the first president to ever experience the protection as it is nowadays. He used to hate it; nevertheless, it



Image 15: Stolaru, C. (2018, July 17). The principle of "self-determination" at the Paris Peace Conference. Europe Centenary. <https://europecentenary.eu/the-principle-of-self-determination-at-the-paris-peace-conference/>

was pertinent for him to make to most of this privilege as he was the first president to travel abroad while in office, when he went to Panama in 1906. President Woodrow Wilson followed in 1918 when he went to the Paris Peace Conference with a group of 10 secret service agents (Britannica, 1998).



Image 16: Joseph Downs hurt in assassination attempt of President Truman. (1950, November 2). Newspapers.com. <https://www.newspapers.com/article/the-cincinnati-enquirer-joseph-downs-hurt/20618021/>

As time progressed an assassination attempt became more often than rare, the number of men assigned for this task grew wider. From the 2 men assigned in 1902, 5 in 1914 and 10 after WW1 it kept expanding, it eventually got 16 and 2 supervisors (with international flights) and up to 37 men after WW2. However, the straw that broke the camel's back was the attempt on the life of President Harry S Truman in November of 1951. In this occasion Oscar Collazo and Griselio Torresola, Puerto Rican Nationalists infiltrated into the Blair House and initiated a gun fight (Kratz, 2015). The secret service was effective and controlled the situation; thus, demonstrating the need for a full prepared team for protection

This attempt led to the 1951 enactment of legislation that declared law to protect the president, its family and the vice-president. Congress eventually became concerned about the possible misuse of the Secret Service by the President; Therefore, they imposed certain restriction. These prevented

the Secret Service from becoming a broad investigative agency, creating the opportunity for another agency to step in (Northwest & Northwest, 2024). That agency turned out to be the



Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), which was created within the Department of Justice in 1908.

As to modern days the Secret Service has remained as a small and very focused team with very limited tasks and overall, largely restricted and monitored by the Congress. By the year 1963 its main mission was fight against counterfeit and protect the president's family, focusing mainly on four fields: Investigation, Inspection, Administrative, and Security (The National, 2021). It had 65 offices across the country which reported directly to Washington, an overall force of 513, of whom 351 were special agents.

## **Medical Reports by Physicians at Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Texas**

This report of resuscitation efforts was written by the Chairman of Anesthesiology to the Hospital Administrator on November 22, 1963. In it, he recounts all the efforts made by the hospital's medical staff. Recognizing the importance of the patient's admission to the hospital, Dr. Jenkins, as chairman of anesthesiology, sent Drs. Giesecke and Caza with the anesthesiology and resuscitation team. By 12:30 p.m. in the Emergency Operating Room, Drs. Carrico and Delaney had inserted the orotracheal tube connected to the ventilator. Simultaneously, Drs. Baxter, Perry, and McClelland began a tracheotomy due to damage to the trachea and chest.



Image 17: Kennedy Connection | Parkland Health. (n.d.).  
<https://www.parklandhealth.org/kennedy-connection>

At the same time, Drs. Peters and Clark performed manual chest compressions to ensure circulation. Dr. Jenkins, to improve President Kennedy's articulatory breathing, changed the initial equipment to an anesthesia machine and continued artificial ventilation. Drs. Akin and Giesecke assisted with respiratory problems and Drs. Hunt and Giesecke with cardiac activity (Commission exhibit no. 392).



Image 18 : Rockwood, B. (2013, November 19).  
Conspiracy: cases for and against. FRONTLINE.  
<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/conspiracy-cases-for-and-against/>

During the resuscitation efforts, they also elevated his feet on the gurney on which he was lying, made a venous cut and began the process of blood transfusion while ordering additional blood from the blood bank, completing all of these activities by 12:45 p.m., but still without electrocardiographic evidence of cardiac activity (University of Texas, 1963).

After the activities mentioned above, they checked the other injuries, such as the laceration on the right side of the head, which caused a large defect in the skull plate, causing fragmented parts of the brain to be on the stretcher and the cerebellum to protrude from the wound. There was also a large flow of blood from the cranial cavity, indicating that there was a lot of vascular damage as well as damage to the brain tissue.

# EXPERT TESTIMONY

## 1. FIREARMS AND FIREARMS IDENTIFICATION

Three experts testified for firearms identification, they were: Fraizer with 23 years of experience in the field with the FBI, Cunningham with over 5 years of experience with the FBI and Nicol with over 20 years of experience in the field of firearms identification, all having made thousands of firearms identifications. Each was dedicated to one task, Fraizer was dedicated to the testimony of the rifle, cartridges and bullets; Cunningham testified on the revolver, cartridges and bullets from the revolver, as well as the kerosene test; and Nicol on all bullets, cartridges and kerosene tests, with all three concurring in the conclusions (Appendix 10, 2016).

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

cartridge has primer, a cartridge case has powder and a bullet. The primer fits in the base of the cartridge case and the bullets in the neck of the cartridge case. When the trigger is pulled the primer causes flames that ignite the powder which propels the bullet forward down the barrel. The barrels have several grooves that give stability to the bullet (Scientific American, 2005). All guns depending on the make and model have a certain number of grooves and twist. Also, each gun has similar microscopic characteristics.



For this reason when Frazier was asked if he could explain how he came to the conclusion that a particular gun's cartridge case was fired he explained that there are unique characteristics that are left in each branch during the manufacturing process that will develop a particular microscopic pattern in each gun, and he shows the enlarged photograph of the 139 rifle bolt to show and explain these details (Appendix 10 (Report of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1964. 1 volume, 888 pages. ), 2016). He is also asked if he has examined two consecutive bolt faces from one factory and indicates that he has, and that he has found no similarities in the microscopic characteristics of each

He is further questioned as to how he can conclude that a particular bullet was fired from a particular gun, to which he again indicates that this is determined by the microscopic marks left on the fired marks, and that the bullets analyzed were fired from a barrel where the barrel was striated to remove the striations that make it a unique feature, which are identified only by experts in the field. There may even be differences in the bullets fired from the same branch, but in these analyzed the general and contour patterns are present. They may even present differences, but these are generated by wear, but they are always identified through similarities even if they are small.

As for the rifle found on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository, they found several inscribed markings and several accessories installed to provide stability, this rifle was Italian military and pre-World War II, identification that was confirmed by the intelligence department of the armed forces of Italy. This rifle is imported to the USA as military equipment and is quite common in the country. This rifle can fire up to seven rounds before reloading. When the rifle was



Image 20: Exhibit showing a duplicate copy of the 6.5 x 52 mm Italian Carcano M91/38 bolt-action rifle, equipped with a 6x Hollywood brand scope, used by Lee Harvey Oswald, the presumptive assassin of President John F. Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas. [n.d.]. The Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2014632047/>

found it still had a cartridge in the chamber. It was noted that this type of cartridge is very reliable and almost never fails and is available for purchase even by mail order. They also found three spent cartridge cases. Tests were conducted and they were able to determine from where they had been fired which was the southeast window. These bullets were found in the front of the car and in Governor Connally's stretcher. e car and in Governor Connally's stretcher.

The revolver taken from Oswald at the time of his arrest was a .38 S&W, with a unique serial number made in the USA, and in good working condition, the barrel was cut down to facilitate concealment and held 6 rounds. When he was arrested there were 6 cartridges in the revolver and 5 additional cartridges in his pocket. Four spent cartridge cases were found near where Officer Tippit was killed and a comparison identified that they could have been fired from that revolver, but no conclusion could be drawn from the microscopic characteristics as the bullets used were smaller for the revolevr barrel which would not leave conclusive microscopic marks. Possible conclusions were drawn for this: 1. the killer fired 5 cartridges of which 3 were Western and 2 Remington, but the bullet that killed Tippit was not found, 2. the killer fired only 4 cartridges, 3. the killer used only 4 cartridges. 4. the killer used cartridges to save money, this last one is more improbable since the four boxes found there was no evidence of this process (Appendix 10, 2016).



Image 21: National Rifle Association. [n.d.]. An official journal of the NRA | The .38 Smith & Wesson: History and Performance. An Official Journal of the NRA. <https://www.americanrifleman.org/content/the-38-smith-wesson-history-and-performance/>

ere was a struggle for the revolver, Officer McDonald, who arrested Oswald, struggled with him to obtain the revolver, but none of the cartridges found bore the remaining print of the revolver, although Oswald argued that it had been fired in the struggle, this is not possible because there was an audible sound which was not heard.

As for the kerosene test, Oswald was positive for the test on the hands but not on the cheek, which indicated that the suspect had recently fired a gun, Cunningham argues that in a revolver where it is built leaving a space between the cylinder and the barrel when it is fired, nitrate gases come out in that space and can leave residues, while this does not always happen when a rifle is fired due to the same principles of manufacture. On April 10, 1963, a bullet was recovered from General Walker's house after his assassination attempt, but after several tests it could not be concluded that it had been fired from the same rifle used in the Kennedy assassination, there was only "a probability".

## 2. FINGERPRINTS AND PALM PRINTS

Two experts testified on the subject Latona, FBI with over 32 years of experience and expert on the subject, and Madella, NYPD detective and fingerprint instructor with over 19 years of experience on the subject. Both have testified in court and have conducted a large number of such examinations. Both concurred in their conclusions.

Fingerprints are made by the ridges that cover the surfaces of the fingers and palms, which are formed before birth and remain until death. A fingerprint has between 85 and 125 points and there can be common ones, there are no two prints that have the same points and no relation between them. There are two types of fingerprint impressions, the inked impression which is the one that is carefully taken so that all the characteristics are seen, and the latent impression which is the one that is left at a crime scene (Interpol, n.d). In the USA they are experts on the subject and know how the similarities and relative positions of these points can lead to an identity.

Fingerprints are more common for expert analysis because they are easier to file than palm prints, although they are also unique, but they are more difficult to find because people take and leave prints more often with their fingers than with their hands, except on heavy objects. Although a latent print is not always left if the surface is not susceptible or if the finger had no transpiration



Image 22: <https://www.history.unt.edu/eric/07531/mefapm48626/>

The FBI processed a number of items found at the Texas School Book Depository Building after the murder for latent fingerprints, finding a paper gift bag near the sale where it was determined he had shot, the rifle, 3 small stacked cardboard boxes, a box near the 3 shell casings and a rifle cartridge and the findings were as follows:

On the paper bag, a palm print and a fingerprint were discovered and determined to have been made from Lee Harvey Oswald's right palm and left index finger.

On the rifle, fingerprints were found with latent fingerprint ridges that were not easily identified by the material of the rifle and a palm print that was identified as Oswald's right palm.

In the boxes the FBI using the silver nitrate method found latent fingerprints and palm prints, in box A they identified Oswald's prints, one from the right index fingerprint and the other from the left palm print. Boxes B, C and D had prints from FBI employees and detectives, except for one that could not be identified.

No prints were found on the casings and cartridge cases.

### **3. QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS**

These documents were analyzed by Cole and Cadigan, experts in document examination, the former at the Treasury Department and the latter at the FBI, and they concurred in their conclusions.

The mail order to Klein's Sporting Goods of Chicago, by which the rifle was shipped was made out to "A. Hidell" and signed for 'Lee H. Oswald'. This had several address changes, and all were signed by Oswald. They also found authorizing "AJ Hidell" to receive the order in one of the zip codes, and at the time of Oswald's capture in his wallet were some forged U.S. Marine Service certificates and another Selective Service certificate, both in the name of "Alek James Hidell", they also found in his hotel room several items such as: a false vaccination certificate issued to Oswald by Dr. AJ Hidell, a card dated June 15, 1963, which read "Fair Play for Cuba Committee New Orleans Chapter, with the name 'LH Oswald' and signed by 'AJ Hidell', an unsigned note in Russian in which Marine testified that Oswald had previously left him an attempt on General Walker, and a homemade paper bag like the one found on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository.

Cole explained that every handwriting is different for each person and that no one is able to reproduce it exactly, as each person produces his or her own distinctive handwriting habits. And this has been confirmed through observation of a large number of specimens and other evidence. In handwriting both similarities and variations are important for the identification of a person's handwriting. It is very unlikely that a forger could imitate the handwriting of another and successfully deceive an expert





The examination compared the handwriting on the documents known to have been prepared by the suspect such as the mail order rifle and the envelope with Oswald's documents found such as checks, job application, membership application and others, and concluded that they were his as they were determined to have been written in a fluid manner. The mail order rifle was also determined in writing to have been written by Oswald.

The mail order and the envelope of the rifle Klein was in charge of photographing them although later they were destroyed, although he was able to determine also in the writing that they had been written by Oswald, after analyzing numerous characteristics in the writing, although they were questioned because they had some differences.

The mail order of the revolver also the handwriting analysis resulted that it was the handwriting of Lee Harvey Oswald, generally the post office box applications consist of three parts: instructions for use, the second part applicant's name and signature, and the third part with instructions to receive along with the names of the persons entitled to use the box, and all corresponded to Oswald applications, additional that had been included as authorized person "AJ Hidell" and "Marina Oswald",

As for the Notice of Selective Service System Classification Notice and Marine Corps Service Certificate that Oswald had at the time of his arrest, they were in the name of "Alek



James Hidell" and others in his name. After several analyses it was determined that the cards in Hidell's name were forgeries by photographing Oswald's cards and retouching them through various techniques and processes, it was further concluded that forging them did not require great skill or experience, but knowledge of forgery and a dozen attempts to get them right, all the negatives used in this process were found.

The smallpox vaccination certificate was found in Oswald's belongings, which was in his name and signed "Dr. AJ Hidell", and with the same PO BOX for both of them and after several analyses Cole and Cardigan identified the handwriting as Oswald's, and the stamps also matched Oswald's rubber-stamping kit found.

The Fair play for Cuba committee card had two signatures "LH Oswald" and "AJ Hidell", they determined that Oswald's was a perfect match but not Hidell's, the theory applied after investigation was that Marina Oswald would have helped with this signature, but after she testified, she stated as much.

The unsigned note in Russian, Cardigan determined, had been written by Oswald after analysis with other Russian documents found in Oswald's belongings.

The paper bag had no watermarks or other characteristics, and it was impossible to determine if they came from the same manufacturer, although analysis of the tape with those obtained from the shipping department through visual observation, under ultraviolet light and microscopically to determine some kind of pattern indicated that it might have come from the shipping room of the Texas School Book Depository.



#### 4. WOUND BALLISTICS EXPERIMENTS

These were done to determine if the wounds to Kennedy and Connally would have been caused by the rifle and bullets found, as well as the trajectory from the sixth floor to the scene of the incident.

These tests were conducted by the Wound Ballistics Division of the U.S. Army Chemical Research and Development Laboratories. They were conducted by Dr. Oliver and Light, with the supervision of Gr Dziemian, all with many years of experience and study in the field

The commission made available all pertinent data including Kennedy's autopsy, and the governor's x-rays, to analyze in detail the trajectories. They also made available to them all known data on the source of the shots, the rifle and bullets used, and the distances involved. They did several tests and concluded that the western bullet had **a**

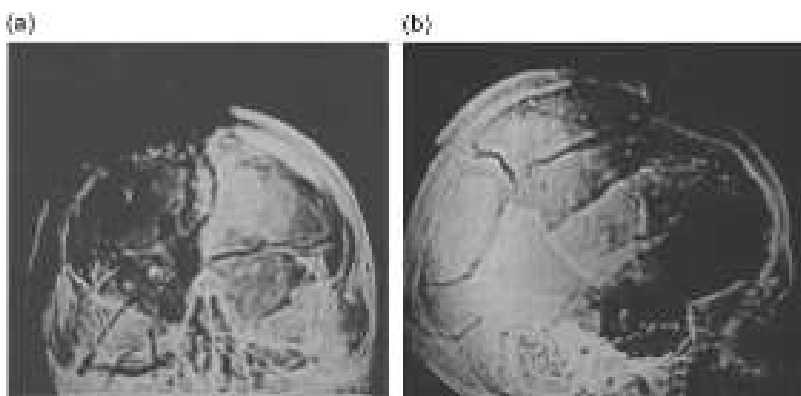


Image 25: Ther, C., Nelson, K., Vogl, T., & Roth, K. (2022). Computational ballistic analysis of the cranial shot to John F. Kennedy. *Forensic Science International*, 334, 111264. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foresint.2022.111264>

tremendous penetration capacity and maintained its velocity and could match the trajectory made, they simulated the part through which the bullet passed through gelatin substance and animal flesh, and determined that the president was hit at a distance of approximately 180 feet and concluded that the trajectory matched and that upon impact on the neck and at the moment of impact had been substantial (Office of Justice Programs, 1979).

They also did a similar exercise to analyze the governor's chest and wrist injuries and concluded that the actual injuries were similar to the tests performed. Both Drs. Olivier and Dziemian agreed that one bullet caused all of the Governor's wounds, the wrist wound was explained by the circumstances in which the bullet passed through the Governor's chest, lost substantial velocity in doing so, passed through the wrist and then slightly penetrated the Governor's left thigh



In addition, ballistic evidence of the wounds indicated that it was very likely that the same bullet passed through the President's neck and then proceeded to inflict all of the wounds on the Governor. The sustained trajectory was that it first passed through the President's neck and losing velocity passed through the

Governor's chest and then through the wrist with almost no velocity left.

The next tests performed were to simulate a skull, to analyze the wounds on the president's head and determined that President Kennedy was struck in the back of the head at a distance of 265.3 feet with the assassination weapon, blowing out the right side of the president's head. For this they used as evidence the fragmented bullets found in the president's skull and limousine.

Testimony on hairs and fibers was given by FBI expert Paul M. Stombaugh, who examined and testified on the green blanket found in Paine's garage and the homemade bag found on the sixth floor. They explained the general principles of how hair is made up which are different from those of animals and although individual hairs are not unique, an expert can distinguish the hairs of different individuals.

They also explained that the various types of natural and artificial fibers can be distinguished from each other under the microscope. Like hairs, individual fibers are not unique, but an expert can distinguish fibers from different fabrics.

When analyzing the blanket, the first thing they noticed was that it was folded in a triangle shape and tied with a rope tightly, and after analysis they determined that the folds could have been caused by a hard object sticking out, even the hump that was made in the blanket was approximately the same length and shape as the telescopic sight of the rifle (Appendix 10, 2016). When they analyzed the fibers on it, they found a number of hairs on the extremities, pubic area and head that matched Oswald's.

The analysis they did on the paper bag and the fibers found inside the bag were compared to brown and green fibers taken from the blanket and matched some of the blanket in all characteristics observed.

They also analyzed fibers on the shirt and rifle and after several analyses determined that they matched the fibers found between them in all observable characteristics

Within the evidence they found photographs and negatives of Lee Harvey Oswald holding a rifle, among Oswald's belongings, in Mrs. Ruth Paine's garage, behind Gr Walker's house, and a camera where Marina Oswald was found to match in all characteristics with the rifle used.

# PREPARATION QUESTIONS

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- 1.) To what extent is the evidence presented irrefutable proof of a certain theory, and why can this be asserted?
- 2.) What witnesses are required to be called at a hearing to arrive at theories that are much more concrete and closer to the truth?
- 3.) How can the discrepancies between the different testimonies and physical evidence collected be reconciled?
- 4.) What role did the intelligence agencies play in the investigation and what was the extent of their cooperation with the Commission?
- 5.) How can the credibility of key witnesses be assessed and what criteria should be used for this purpose?
- 6.) What political and national security implications should be considered in formulating the findings of the investigation?
- 7.) How can the objectivity of the investigation be ensured in the face of public and political pressure for quick answers?
- 8.) What forensic and technological methods available at the time could have been used more effectively in the investigation?
- 9.) How can conspiracy theories that emerged during and after the initial investigation be addressed and evaluated?
- 10.) What lessons can be drawn from this investigation to improve presidential security protocols and national crisis response?
- 11.) How can the need for public transparency be balanced with the protection of sensitive information related to national security?

# GLOSSARY

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- 1.) Sworn Depositions:** A witness's sworn testimony given in court. Who emits the testification is called a "deponent". (Cornell, n.d)
- 2.) Objections:** Formal protest stated by one side or party of the legal procedure, which indicates a misuse or mistake in the procedural law, or which is contradicted by the evidence presented. (Legal Information Institute, n.d)
- 3.) Legislation:** The enactment or action of proposing, modifying and creating laws by a local state. They are most commonly done by the legislative brach; nevertheless, it may be done by the executive (like in this case) if it's of national importance or relevance. (Britannica, 2017)
- 4.) Electrocardiographic Test (or Electrocardiogram):** Else known as ECG is a test used to determine the state and health of the heart, simple and fast; thus, is used for emergencies. (Johns Hopkins medicine, 2024)
- 5.) Notice of Selective Service System Classification:** Notification given to males between the 18 and 25 years of age in which they were called for duty in a branch of the military.
- 6.) Caucus:** A meeting of members of a political party or committee to discuss and make decisions on specific issues.
- 7.) Directive:** A document used by delegates to carry out actions affecting the entire committee, detailing the nature, date, sender, preamble, actions, and objectives.
- 8.) Press Release:** An official document that communicates information to the public, specifying the intended audience and the media through which it will be disseminated.
- 9.) Power of Attorney:** A legal document that allows one person to act on behalf of another in legal or financial matters.

# IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

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- -1.) Autopsy Report: <https://www.archives.gov/research/jfk/warren-commission-report/appendix9.html>
- 2.) Agency Postponement Documentation:
  - a.) Central Intelligence Agency:
    - Letter to the President from the Director of Central Intelligence
    - CIA Letter to the National Security Council
    - CIA Document Index
    - Central Intelligence Agency Transparency Plan
  - b.) Department of Defense:
    - Letter to the President from the Secretary of Defense with Document Index and Transparency Plan
    - Department of Defense Letter to the National Security Council with Document Index and Transparency Plan
  - c.) Department of State:
    - Memorandum for the President from the Secretary of State
    - Department of State Letter to the National Security Council with Document Index and Transparency Plan
  - d.) Federal Bureau of Investigation:
    - Letter to the President from the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
    - FBI Letter to the National Security Council with Document Index and Transparency Plan
  - e.) National Archives and Records Administration:
    - Memorandum for the President from the Acting Archivist
    - National Archives Document Index
    - National Archives Transparency Plan

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Gracias por ser parte del  
modelo

