

MEMORANDUM

July 14, 1995

To: Anne Buttimer
cc- Jeremy Gunn

From: Joe Freeman

Subject: Preliminary Feedback: Connally Medical Records and the HSCA

Pursuant to your E-mail request of July 7th, I have reviewed relevant sections of the HSCA volumes and done a preliminary search of the HSCA database for information regarding what the Committee gathered concerning Governor Connally's medical records.

The Forensic Pathology Panel of experts convened by the HSCA was provided a great deal of information on this subject, including but not limited to:

- Admittance Summary from Parkland Hospital (Nov. 22, 1963)
- Admittance Note from Parkland Hospital (Nov. 22, 1963)
- Operation Record from Parkland Hospital (Nov. 22, 1963 -- three different doctors operated on the three separate wounds Gov. Connally sustained: Dr. Shaw, chest; Dr. Gregory, wrist; Dr. Shires, thigh)
- Reports of Diagnostic X-Ray Consultation (Nov. 22, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 29; Dec. 2 and 4, 1963)
- Narrative Summary -- Anesthesia Care (Nov. 23, 1963)
- Surgical Pathology Report (Nov. 30, 1963)
- Body Diagrams of Wounds (from CE 326)
- Secret Service Report on Gov. Connally's Wounds (Feb. 14, 1964)
- FBI Reports on Metal Fragment from Gov. Connally's Wrist (Nov. 23 and 30, 1963)
- Suit Coat, Shirt and Trousers Worn by Gov. Connally on Nov. 23, 1963

Gov. Connally testified before the Committee (during which he was asked about the long-term effects of the wounds sustained in Dallas) and also submitted to a physical examination of his scars (both Sept. 6, 1978). The examination yielded a short memorandum which is in Volume 7. The HSCA, in addition to reviewing Warren Commission testimony and exhibits, reinterviewed the doctors who worked on the Governor the day of the assassination. The HSCA also commissioned an electron

scan analysis and energy dispersive X-ray analysis of tissue which had been taken from the Governor's wrist and thigh on November 22, 1963. These interviews and the report on the tissue analysis are in the HSCA record. Of perhaps minor interest is that the HSCA panel disagreed with the Warren Commission on the specific location of the remaining bullet fragment believed to be in Governor Connally's thigh: the Commission believed it to be near or lodged in the bone, while the HSCA panel concluded it was located in the fatty tissue close to the skin.

My database search yielded a large number of documents in the HSCA collection whose RIFs cite Gov. Connally (close to 400). From my review of these RIFs, I would say a majority of them reference the Governor's medical records/condition from/on the day of the assassination. I intend to look at all these documents on my next trip to Archives II, which I've tentatively scheduled for next Wednesday, July 19th (I will be at Archives I on Tuesday, the day before). I will attempt to identify which medical records actually remain in the HSCA collection, as opposed to those records which may have been examined by the Committee but then returned to another location/owner.

Warren Commission Exhibits on the subject include body diagrams of Gov. Connally's wounds (CE 679, 680, 689 and Gregory Exhibit No. 1), X-rays (CE 681, 682, 690-696), photographs of the Governor's clothes (CE 683-688, 700) and the bullet fragment taken from his wrist (CE 842). During my trip to Archives I, I will also attempt to ascertain how many of these Warren Commission exhibits are currently 'original'.

Freeman e:\wp-docs\071495

File 4.21.2.6

4.0.2. Connally, John