

Reasons to Depose Dallas Doctors

Numerous treatment physicians at Parkland Hospital wrote contemporaneous descriptions of President Kennedy's head wound shortly after his death on November 22, 1963, and testified under oath to the Warren Commission in March, 1964, as to the size and location of the single cranial wound they observed in Dallas. Treatment lasted for 40 minutes, and involved the best medical professionals available at Parkland; some of them inspected the wound after the President's death.

Their descriptions are remarkably consistent with each other, and almost universally describe a single defect the size of a large egg, or a small orange, in the posterior skull, *i.e., at the back of the head behind the right ear*. They further described the wound as avulsive, that is, of having the visual characteristics of a wound of exit. The only Dallas physician to ascribe a numerical dimension to the wound when under oath in 1964 said it was *only 5-7 centimeters in diameter*.

In opposition to their collective recollections, the autopsy photographs in the Archives show massive trauma to *the top and right side of President Kennedy's head*. *Furthermore, the autopsy photographs in the archives show the rear of the head to apparently be intact*. The two FBI agents deposed by the ARRB in 1997 both testified that the photos of the back of President Kennedy's head did not look correct--and that they both remembered a defect there, where it looks intact in the photographs. In an historic document created at the Bethesda autopsy, Dr. Boswell, after measuring the large defect in the skull, drew a diagram showing the *top* of the skull gone, and wrote "10 X 17 (centimeters) missing." When Dr. Humes unwrapped the body at Bethesda, the FBI agents present recorded in their written FD-302 report that he said there had been "surgery of the head area, namely, in the top of the skull." They verified that he made this statement to the FBI in 1966, and in their 1997 ARRB depositions. This is of great interest to many, since there was no surgery of the head area at Parkland Hospital.

ARRB interviews of 3 relatively minor Parkland Hospital trauma room one witnesses in Texas in March, 1997 resulted in them producing diagrams of the head wound quite inconsistent with the autopsy photographs. All three ARRB 1997 Parkland witnesses said the top of the head was *undamaged*. Dr. Boswell's markings on a plastic skull for the ARRB in 1996 show an exit defect *5 to 7 times bigger than that drawn by our Dallas witnesses, and show the top, rear, and right side of the skull to be missing*.

The Bethesda pathologists (Humes and Boswell) have testified to the ARRB that the views of the cranium under discussion here (6 different views) were taken *before they made any incisions on the body*. Therefore, it can be argued that it *is relevant* to show the Dallas doctors these particular autopsy photos, and ask them whether this is the condition in which they saw the body leave Texas. If not, the implications are enormous. Neither the Warren Commission nor the HSCA attempted to authenticate any of the autopsy photographs with any of the Dallas doctors from Parkland Hospital.

