

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

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NAME Edward Francis Reed, Jr. Date 4/21/78 Time _____
Address 54 Blake Avenue Place Via telephone
Rockledge, Pennsylvania 19111 Tel: 215 ES 9-4140

Interview:

I ~~contacted~~ Reed on April 21, 1978 by telephone regarding his presence at the autopsy of President Kennedy. Reed stated that in 1963 he was a student in the X-ray Department of the Bethesda Naval Medical Center. He said he was the only person who "knew the portable machine well."

On Friday, November 22, 1963 Reed received a call to bring the portable machine to the morgue. Reed became involved because he just happened to be pulling duty. Reed stated that he arrived at the morgue around 6:30.

Reed was present in the morgue when President Kennedy's body arrived and he helped carry the body into the morgue. Reed said that approximately twenty-five people were present.

Reed stated that during the autopsy he would remain about fifteen feet from the body and move closer for various shots. Reed also said that he would take the X-ray film upstairs by himself to have it developed.

When Reed first saw the body it was lying in a casket in a clear, plastic bag. Reed recalled seeing three wounds. The

Interviewer

Mark Flanagan
(Signature)

Mark Flanagan
(Typed)

Date Transcribed May 11, 1978

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first was very large and located in the right hemisphere in the occipital region. The second was in the anterior neck and measured about two inches in diameter. The third wound was situated in the back. Reed could not recall any other wounds.

Reed said that to his recollection the photos were taken before the actual autopsy.

After developing the X-ray films, Reed said he gave them to the pathologist.

Reed said that the doctors removed the brain and retained it for future examination. He also recalls the pathologist measuring the size of the fragments (missile) removed from the head. To the best of his recollection, Reed feels that Commander Humes gave the orders during the autopsy.

Reed stated that the pathologist searched for the bullet that entered the upper back in the femur and lower abdomen. He also said that he recalled a bullet was found in Dallas. Reed had no recollection concerning where the direction the bullets entered from, the type of bullets used, what fragments were removed, or any discussion of the wounds. Reed said he could not hear much of what the doctors discussed, although he does remember them mentioning a tracheostomy that was performed in Dallas.

Reed mentioned that he basically believed the Warren Commission adequately covered the area.

001565