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# New Inconsistencies Found In Warren Report

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is Part I of a two-part article concerning new inconsistencies found by Cyril Wecht of Duquesne University in the Warren Commission Report.

**BY JOHN COVERT**  
Alternative Features Service  
You'd think people would listen to a man like Cyril Wecht. He's a forensic pathologist—a person with degrees in both law and medicine. He's Research Professor of Law and Director, Institute of Forensic Sciences, at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh; and a Clinical Assistant Professor of Pathology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical School. He's also a recent past president of both the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and of the American College of Legal Medicine. Besides that, he's the Coroner of Allegheny County (Pittsburgh).

findings. Lattimer spent just three hours in the Archives last January and immediately afterwards released his conclusion that the autopsy items supported the Warren Commission's findings.

Wecht, then, was the first critic of the Warren Commission Report to be allowed entrance, and this only after he spent nearly a year attempting to get permission from Burke Marshall, a law professor at Yale Law School who acts as an official representative for the Kennedy family. Wecht says he probably wouldn't have gotten permission at all if Marshall hadn't been prodded by others interested in the autopsy items.

"Now, the autopsy at Bethesda Naval Hospital should not have been any cause for confusion. Unfortunately, instead of the time lapse being used to get the most qualified pathologists for the autopsy, the situation got worse."

Wecht said three staff doctors were given the task, only one of whom had experience with forensic pathology. "It was essentially a military undertaking. Admirals, generals, FBI and Secret Service personnel were present in the room to oversee the autopsy. The doctors acted as military subordinates."

According to records made at Parkland Hospital, Wecht said, doctors there noted two wounds: one, a huge gaping hole, on the right side of Kennedy's head, and the other a round circular hole in the middle front of his throat.

Doctors performing the autopsy in Washington, however, noted these wounds: the huge gaping hole in his head, a smaller hole in the upper back of his head, and a hole in his back six inches below shoulder level. This latter wound was puzzling because no exit wound was found for it, yet the bullet was not in the body. "They concluded," said Wecht, "that the bullet which had entered his back fell out of the same hole onto a stretcher when doctors at Parkland administered

pressure to the President's chest to revive his heart." And, indeed, a bullet had been found on a stretcher by a janitor at Parkland during the early evening of the 22nd.

The wound in the throat was not even examined at Parkland because doctors had, in the haste, used the bullet hole to insert a breathing device into the President's throat. Thus, Bethesda physicians noted "an incision" in their report. One there had enough forensic experience to realize the incision was actually a bullet wound, said Wecht.

And so, Wecht went on, doctors at Bethesda released the body for burial and gave the results: Kennedy had been shot twice, once in the back (the hole of which fell out later in the head (the bullet of which was not found)) and once in the head (the bullet of which was not found). Nothing was said about the smaller wound on the back, and, of course, nothing was said about the throat wound.

Wecht said the embarrassing part of the autopsy came the day after the body was released—when the doctors learned for the first time that there also been a wound in the throat. Rather than admit their mistake and re-examine the body, Wecht said the doctors made a "despicable" choice and "chose to be about it."

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TAMU Town Hall

This August, Wecht became the second non-governmental medical expert allowed to view the items from the autopsy of President Kennedy stored at the National Archives in Washington.

In a recent interview, Wecht said he questioned the Warren Commission's findings even before his two days of research at the Archives. But when he came out his conclusion was that "the Warren Commission Report is totally untenable, unacceptable and absolutely incorrect as far as its findings on Lee Harvey Oswald and the single assassin theory."

The Kennedy family turned over numerous items from the autopsy to the Archives in October, 1966, with the stipulation that none of the material be released to the public during the lifetime of Kennedy family members, and that after five years "recognized experts in pathology or related sciences" be allowed to view them.

The first "expert" granted permission to view the items was Dr. John Lattimer of New York. Lattimer is a urologist—a kidney and bladder specialist—whose only qualification seems to have been that he has been a consistent defender of the Commission's

In our interview, Wecht recreated the scene at Dealey Plaza and Parkland Hospital in Dallas and at the Bethesda Naval Hospital, where the autopsy was performed the evening of the assassination.

In Dealey Plaza, the President's car "had just made a right hand turn and was proceeding to an underpass when shots rang out. President Kennedy clutched his throat, Governor John Connally was struck, then Kennedy was struck in the head." By the time the President was brought to Parkland Hospital nearly 30 minutes later, he was already dead with the basics of "life" being preserved only by machine.

"Under Texas law the autopsy would have been performed in Dallas," said Wecht. "But there was much confusion, a lot of shouting and ordering going on, and eventually through ruse and other tactics the body was taken out a private door and put aboard Air Force One for the flight to Washington."

## Bulletin Board

**TONIGHT**  
Ag Eco Club will have a wiener roast at 5:30 p.m. Check maps on the bulletin boards in the Agriculture Building for the location.  
Industrial Education Society will meet in Room 9 of the M.E. shops at 7 p.m.

Marketing Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room on the second floor of the library.

Engineering Technology Society will meet in Room 303 Fermier at 7:30 p.m.

Biology Graduate Wive's Club will host their monthly meeting

at the home of Donna Maynard, 613 Maryem, at 7:30 p.m.  
Society For the Advancement of Management will meet in Room 211 Francis Hall at 7:30 p.m. All members going on the Dallas trip on Nov. 10 should attend.

**WEDNESDAY**  
A&M Sports Car Club will meet in the Mimosa Room of the Old College Station City Hall, 110 Church St., at 7:30 p.m.

A&M Concert and Stage Band will meet in the basement of the MSC at 6:30 p.m. All musicians, including string instruments, are welcome. If you cannot attend call Fred at 845-4098 or Ray at 845-5698.

Brazos County Stamp Club will meet at the MSC at 7:30 p.m. Check the bulletin board in the MSC for the room number.

Dr. Merold Westphal, philosophy professor at Yale, will speak on "Erotic Emptiness and the Love of God" at 7:30 p.m. in the MSC Assembly Room. The program is open to the public.

MSC Bridge Committee will meet in Room 3B and 3C in the MSC at 7:30.

### Travel Program Shown In MSC

Host and Fashion will present a program featuring the appropriate clothes to carry and how to pack for holiday travel, tonight at 7:00.

The program will be in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom. Fashions from Lester's and Conway's will be shown with Rusty Rush as commentator.

This program is presented by Host and Fashion, free to the public, in hopes of helping students who plan to travel either in the U.S. or abroad over the holidays.

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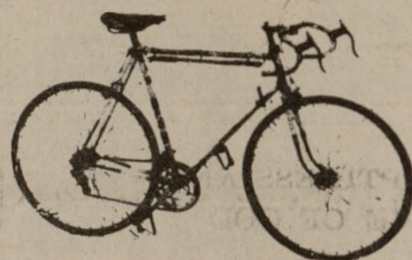
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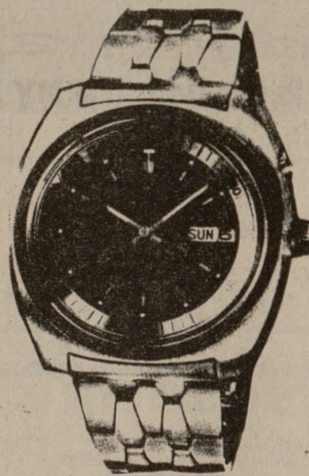
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