"ACCIDENT?" from pg. 6

assistant medical examiner with the AFIP, performed the examination of Ron Brown. A number of AFIP personnel were present during the examination. Those who were present included Enrich Junger, AFIP's chief forensic scientist; Army Lieutenant Colonel David Hause, AFIP forensic pathologist; Jeanmarie Sentelle, a naval criminal investigator; Kathleen Janoski, a photographer with AFIP; and Lieutenant General Glen Ross. a medical services officer.

Dr. Gormley described Brown's body as the "intact but partially burned body of a middle-aged black male with curly black hair, brown eyes, a black mustache, and natural dentition.." Brown's pelvic bone had been shattered, and he had lacerations and abrasions about his face and forehead.

The examination of the head revealed a "depressed skull fracture" at the very top. Gormley said that the hole was a "round, punch out defect in the outer table of the skull." The hole was noted by Gormley as being approximately 0.5 inches in diameter, it also got wider as it got deeper.

Kathleen Janoski, while looking on said," Wow! Look at that hole in Brown's head. It looks like a bullet hole." She then took a number of pictures of the hole.

Colonel Gormley called Lt.
Col Cogswell, who was at the crash site, and told him to look for a cylindrical object that could have created a round hole in Brown's skull. Dr. Cogswell was unable to find any item among the debris that could explain the hole.

Col. Gormley found the hole in Brown's head to be odd, but he did not believe it to be a bullet hole. Although no piece of aircraft was found to explain the hole, Gormley believed that a metal fastener or rivet must have struck Brown's head. He did not think it was a bullet hole because the hole did not "go all the way through the skull." He also noted that there was no exit wound.

Upon arriving back at Dover, and reviewing photos and x-rays of Ron Brown, Dr. Cogswell came to dispute Gormley's analysis. Cogswell said the brain matter could be seen in the wound. He said that side x-rays of the head clearly showed the "bone-plug" which was driven into the head as a result of a cylindrical object having penetrated the skull.

Cogswell went on to attacked the Gormley's claim that it could not have been a bullet because there was no exit wound. Cogswell believes that the bullet is still in Brown's body. Body x-rays showed a strange object lodged in Brown's pelvic region. Dr. Cogswell believes that this object is the bullet.

Copies of Brown's x-rays were shown to another expert, Dr. Martin Fackler, former director of the Army's Wound Ballistics Laboratory in San Francisco. Fackler said that it was "very difficult to see how something like a rivet could have produced Brown's head wound." He also said that there was some visible brain matter in the wound. Fackler said that the wound was ' round as hell." "I'm impressed by how very, very round it is. That's unusual except for a gunshot wound. It's unusual for anything else" Fackler said.

Dr. Cogswell, who completed his forensic pathology training in Miami, where he "saw an awful lot of gunshot wounds," noted a "perfectly circular hole on the top of Ron Brown's head." He said that the wound was "an apparent gunshot wound."

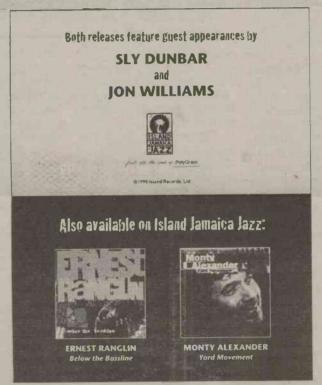
Cogswell believed that not performing an autopsy on Brown was a mistake. Even though the AFIP did not have the authority to perform an autopsy on Brown, they could have received authorization if they had sought it. Under the provisions of the Presidential Assassination Statute, the AFIP, if foul play was suspected, could have alerted the FBI, and then been given permission to perform autopsies. Cogswell said that an autopsy should have also been performed on Commerce Aide, Naomi Wasloasse's body, because the x-rays and external evaluation did not reveal any "discernible cause of death."

In an interview with Pittsburgh Tribune Review writer, Christopher Ruddy, Dr. Cogswell said, "You can't ignore who this person is. You can't ignore the controversy surrounding him. To stack up the coincidences: one of thirtysix people has got a hole; the hole is in the head; the hole is dead center in the top of their head; and it just happens to be the most important person on that plane from a political point of view. That's a whole lot of reason to investigate it. Even if you safely assumed an accidental plane crash, when you get something that appears to be a homicide, that should bring everything to a screeching halt. The whole thing stinks," he said.



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