

52. ^ In 1997, the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) released a document that revealed that Ford had altered the first draft of the report to read: "A bullet had entered the base of the back of [Kennedy's] neck slightly to the right of the spine." Some believed that Ford had elevated the location of the wound from its true location in the back to the neck to support the single-bullet theory. The original first draft of the Warren Commission Report stated that a bullet had entered Kennedy's "back at a point slightly above the shoulder and to the right of the spine."

Ford replied in an introduction to a new edition of the Warren Commission Report in 2004:

I have been accused of changing some wording on the Warren Commission Report to favor the lone-assassin conclusion. That is absurd. Here is what the draft said: "A bullet had entered his back at a point slightly above the shoulder and to the right of the spine." To any reasonable person, "above the shoulder and to the right" sounds very high and way off the side — and that's what it sounded like to me. That would have given the totally wrong impression. Technically, from a medical perspective, the bullet entered just to the right at the base of the neck, so my recommendation to the other members was to change it to say, "A bullet had entered the back of his neck, slightly to the right of the spine." After further investigation, we then unanimously agreed that it should read, "A bullet had entered the base of his neck slightly to the right of the spine." As with any report, there were many clarifications and language changes suggested by several of us.


61. ^ "The First Bullet That Hit," Warren Commission Report, p. 106 (http://www.aarclibrary.org/publib/jfk/wc/wr/html/WCReport_0065b.htm). This figure was incorrectly reported by author Vincent Bugliosi in Reclaiming History (p. 460) as 3.9 degrees; as a decimal number it is actually 3.15 degrees.
