April 17, 1967

1249 Hi Point Street
Los Angeles, California 90035

The Editor
Esquire Magazine
488 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Sir:

In your May issue (A Second Primer of Assassination Theories, "The Curb Exchange") you state that I claim "...that the curb cutout doesn't have any mark at all."

I have not said that, nor is that my belief, for a number of extraneous marks are visible, as seen in photo B (Commission Exhibit #). What I do state is that the chip discovered and reported by the two officers, and clearly seen in photo A (Commission Exhibit #) is not present in photo B. (Here, I concur with the F. B. I.'s statement that there is no chip in the cutout section - photo B - presented to the Warren Commission.)

The question is of major importance for two reasons. First, if the "fresh chip" discovered by the officers was caused by a missed shot, then it not only must count as one of the Warren Commission's three-shot maximum, but its careful examination could have supplied vital information as to the direction of its source, and the nature of the bullet. Second, the fact that the evidence was altered may well constitute a criminal act. Therefore;

(1) Since the presence of the chip--strongly indicating a missed shot--was reported in the press soon after its discovery;

(2) Since the F. B. I.'s theory of the shooting--as indicated by their version of the autopsy report--did not allow for any missed shots;

(3) Since the F. B. I. failed to remove the curb-section until eight months after the assassination;

(4) And since, the cutout as presented to the Warren Commission no longer contained the chip; then

(5) J. Edgar Hoover should be called upon to explain fully the strange handling by his organization of this important piece of evidence.

Very truly yours,

Raymond J. Marcus

c.c. John Behrendt

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