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November 18, 1970

Dear Sylvia,

Thought you'd be interested in the following item that ~~my~~ my friend Larry Haapanen spotted. This is regarding S.S. Inspector Kelley's account of his little private chat with Oswald, in which he made a "proposition" to Oswald. In a report to Chief Rowley, Kelley wrote:

I approached Oswald then and, out of the hearing of the others except perhaps one of Captain Fritz's men, said that as a Secret Service agent, we are anxious to talk with him as soon as he had secured counsel; that we were responsible for the safety of the President; that the Dallas Police had charged him with the assassination of the President but that he had denied it; we were therefore very anxious to talk with him to make certain that the correct story was developing as it related to the assassination. He said that he would be glad to discuss this proposition with his attorney and that after he talked to one, we could either discuss it with him or discuss it with his attorney, if the attorney thought it was the wise thing to do, but that at the present time he had nothing more to say to me. (Kelley report, 11/20/63, 24:479)

Proposition? Correct story? What is this all about? Rowley, remember, dispatched Inspector Kelley down to Dallas to "supervise" the investigation.

Here's another story involving Kelley that is related:

May 23,24, 1964, Dallas: Over the weekend of May 23-24, the Commission staged, at his insistence, an elaborate re-enactment of the assassination in Dallas. Specter's sole concern was to gain support for the single bullet theory. While in Dallas Secret Service Inspector Thomas J. Kelley* who knew about Specter's arguments within the Commission and perhaps sensed concealed doubts, drew him aside and privately showed him a photograph. "I saw ~~and~~ one picture taken at the autopsy, which was technically authenticated" Specter now says, "It showed the back of a body with a bullet hole, apparently of entry, where the autopsy report said it was." (Saturday Evening Post, 1/14/67:Richard J. Whalen)

~~*Rowley dispatched Kelley on 11/22/63 to take charge of~~

Do you suppose Kelley also had this "private chat" with Specter, "to make certain that the correct story was developing as it related to the autopsy on the President?"—Just so that Specter won't be in the dark and can persue his single bullet theory with confidence. Kelley, who was aware of Specter's difficulties, takes him aside and gives him some unique knowledge.

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INSP. KELLEY: Now, if you ever tell anyone I have shown you this, I will deny it and make a fool out of you.

SPECTER: I understand...but can't we just bring Warren in here and let him see just this one photo?

KELLEY: No. The Chief said Bob Kennedy told him he doesn't want these things shown to anyone. You would get the Chief in trouble.

SPECTER: Oh, I see.

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Onward,



FRED

P.S. I just re-read your book regarding Sorells and Kelley's questioning of Oswald and his Mexico trip - pages 228, 229. Very interesting.