

302 West 12 Street  
New York City 10014

3 November 1964

Dear Mr. Crawford,

Two new items, for what they may be worth: (1) In the book "Dallas Public and Private" by Warren Leslie, published early in 1964, some pages are devoted to the Adlai Stevenson visit on UN Day, about a month before the assassination. I was astonished to read that the "Wanted for Treason" handbill had been circulated that day, 24 October. According to the Warren Commission, the idea for the handbill was conceived about two or two-and-a-half weeks before the assassination, and it was printed surreptitiously a week before. If Warren Leslie is accurate, Klause and Surrey have not been truthful in their testimony with respect to the handbill and heaven knows what else.

(2) An acquaintance who considers himself something of an expert on firearms tells me that on the day of the assassination he saw on television a captain of the Dallas police (possibly Fritz) hold the alleged murder rifle over his head and identify it as a Mauser. However, he claims that he knew immediately that it was not a Mauser but a Carcano, and anticipated the correction that was made shortly thereafter. I don't know this chap well, having met him only once before, and it is hard to say whether his recollection is reliable. I was watching television, like most people, and don't recall seeing the rifle shown. Having seen the marking "Made Italy" I don't know how any police official could have missed it and misidentified the rifle.

Do give me a ring when you have a chance. Kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

4 November 1964

Post Script

I believe that I have neglected to mention, as you have probably noticed already, the significant fact that the autopsy report is undated. It could have been prepared, or revised, any time between 23 November 1963 and September 1964. You were the first person to call attention to the fact that the autopsy findings as given in the Warren Report might not be the same as the findings on 22 November. The fact that the autopsy report is undated seems to support that assumption.

On re-reading the autopsy findings for the fourth time, I noticed a statement that I had overlooked before--that the bullets "were fired from a point behind and somewhat above the level of the deceased." A sixth floor is considerably, not "somewhat", higher than street level. There is also a provocative remark from Roy Truly (quoted in the London "Observer" shortly after the assassination) that when he heard the shots from his position in front of the Depository he had thought that they came "from behind a low building nearer the road," and not from the Depository.

I understand that Mark Lane is returning to Dallas about the middle of this month. It would be useful to determine what "low buildings" there are from which shots might have been fired. It would be useful also to find out whether Marina received free care at Parkland Memorial Hospital, where the second child was born on 20 October--Ruth Paine told reporters from the London "Observer" that Marina wrote to her at the end of August expressing worry about the lack of funds to pay for hospitalization. Perhaps your friend Mrs. Burns could suggest inquiries into these matters?

Incidentally, I checked TV Guide on the handling of the events of 22-25 November by the networks, which fortunately I had kept, and found that a Dallas police official did display the alleged murder rifle on television, held over his head, and presumably called it a Mauser. There is a photo in TV Guide taken from the tape and the officer, though he is obscured by reporters, might have been Lt. Day. It is possible, I suppose, that the Dallas police thought the rifle was a Mauser manufactured in Italy (the Mauser apparently is made in many countries)--but if so, why didn't the Warren Commission acknowledge that frankly instead of attributing the mis-identification solely to Weitzman?????????

Regards,