

20 July 1968

Mr. Shelley Braverman
Athens, New York 12015

Dear Shelley,

I am horrified to see that my comment about the semi-automatic Browning is sheer nonsense. J.D. Thompson had commented right after the assassination of Martin Luther King that the rifle first identified as a semi-automatic Browning could not be fitted with a scope. Later, when I was writing the article "Two Assassinations," I made sure to check with Thompson again, for fear that I had misunderstood his original comment, and he reiterated it. Thompson, who wrote SIX SECONDS IN DALLAS, seemed to be knowledgeable about guns, so I relied on his accuracy. In future, I will take the liberty of checking such questions with you, in advance.

Here is one such question: It has been pointed out to me that the Mannlicher-Carcano rifle shown in photographs being carried out of the Book Depository on 11/22/63 by Lt. Day of the Dallas Police had the sling mounted on the left side (i.e., Day carried it by the sling in his right hand). In subsequent photographs of the rifle, the forward mount for the sling is on the right side (i.e., would be carried by the sling in the left hand). Are the sling mounts or attachments easily changed from one side to the other? Or are they fixed permanently?

Thanks very much for the information on the shoe-box shooting, which is helpful.

Warm regards! and thanks again,

Hastily yours,

Sylvia Meagher
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