

23 February 1966

Dear Lillian,

My warm thanks for your letter and the enclosed presentation . Penn phoned me on Monday night; he seemed rather blue. You've probably spoken to him by now, so you may know that Penn thinks he may come to New York on a quick visit. Gee, I would really love to meet him, and I hope he does come.

Re Secret Service agent Patterson--no, I don't see how he could have been the agent with the "3 shells 3 shots." According to his own report in CE 2554, he was at Love Field until LBJ's plane departed for Washington at 2.47 pm, and then he went to the Dallas field office of the SS. He doesn't mention going to the TSBD area at all; and I think the Moorman picture was taken away earlier than 3 pm.

Maggie's cousin not heard from at all. I think I will turn the job over to Bill Crehan and maybe he will get some results. The photograph from the Gun book, with Decker and unknown policeman, is new to me. I have never seen it before. I would love to be able to identify the cop. Is there any way to identify his rank from his uniform? He looks too fancy for a patrolman; a sergeant, at least?

That is interesting, about the school in Minsk and Oliver's testimony. Granovsky is also the name of Eva Grant's ex-husband (see index in Volume XV). I am quite ready to believe Fritzie was an ultra-rightist, even without the school.

Re J C White, no, I never ran into any other suggestion that a freight train was going by at the exact time of the shooting, and I am inclined to dismiss that completely. None of the many witnesses who described the shots ever suggested that they were drowned out or hard to distinguish because of the noise of a moving train. But I do remember vaguely reading in someone's testimony or report that all trains were held up, so that they would not be thundering on the overpass while JFK's motorcade was going through.

Your account of the phone conversation with Nerin Gun is MOST interesting, and valuable insofar as he reiterated that Walthers had definitely told him that he found a bullet. In the French edition of "Red Roses" page 152, Gun definitely uses the term "Secret Service agent." The exact text is,

Le policier Buddy Walthers, du bureau du "Sheriff," affirme, lui, "que les coups, ou l'un des coups au moins, avait ete tire du parapet du pont de l'autostrade. Il courut en cette direction: c'est ainsi qu'avec un agent du "Secret Service" il trouva sur l'herbe, pres du pont, une balle de fusil, "la quatrieme balle."

I have done a "first reading" of your presentation and it certainly makes sense; but, you will be angry with me for being stupid, and I don't blame you, but I do not understand the caption for CE 2111 that you sent in a separate envelope. How can you project the arrow on the photograph to the corner of the inlet on the plat map? Before I insert the caption, please try to rephrase it so that I will understand the directions--frankly, I don't, as now worded. I will save the caption until I hear from you again on this. Meanwhile, thanks and congratulations,

Love,