

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF LAW  
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FACULTY OF LAW

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October 18, 1965

Professor Wesley J. Liebeler  
University of California  
Law School  
405 Hilgard Avenue  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Jim:

Thank you for forwarding to me a copy of your letter of October 13 addressed to Mr. Rankin. First, let me say that I am pleased to learn that things are going well at U.C.L.A. and that you are enjoying your life as a law professor. As to the matters discussed in your letter, my comments are as follows:

1. The sign to which you refer was, to the best of my knowledge, never removed from its location. In fact, as the re-enactment films indicate, the sign was our principal method of positioning the car during the re-enactment.

2. I believe it would be virtually impossible to tell whether a bullet had hit the sign if one assumes that the assassin fired at the presidential car from the rear. Mr. Zapruder was, as you know, standing on the back-side of the sign and any bullets fired at the limousine from the rear would have hit the front-side of the sign. It is possible, on the other hand, to argue that the sign may have been hit from Zapruder's side, but all of the evidence which we have indicates quite conclusively that no shots were fired from the front.

3. If you examine the Zapruder films, you will see that there are various lines on different portions of different frames, probably resulting from dirt in the lens. Frame 210, for example, is quite streaked with lines of this sort.

4. I would suspect that the frames you have in mind were deleted either because they were damaged, or, as is more likely, they were of little value because during those frames the presidential limousine was almost completely hidden by the sign.

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5. It is most unlikely (to say the least) that the bullet which struck the President in the back of the neck could have fragmented and hit the sign. As you know, this bullet followed a path which hit no bones in the President's body and all the evidence points to the fact that it left the President's body as a whole bullet.

6. I have looked carefully at other frames prior to Frame 212 and detect other curved lines. Frame 185 has two curved lines and one straight line across the bottom, Frame 202 has several curved lines as does Frame 203. If you will look at Frame 214 very carefully, you will notice that one of the curved lines extends past the sign to the bumper of the car. This would lead me to believe that what you are seeing is probably a defect in the lens or the film. This is reinforced by the fact that Frames 225, 226, 227, 235, 236 all show curved lines on the left side.

7. My conclusion is that the presence of these curved lines does not warrant any request to the F.B.I. for an investigation, either formal or otherwise.

I sent copies of this letter to Mr. Rankin, Howard Willens, and Al Goldberg.

Perhaps we can see each other again at the A.A.L.S. meetings in December. With every good wish to you in your new career,

Sincerely,



Norman Redlich  
Professor of Law

NR:ss

cc: Mr. Rankin  
Mr. Willens  
Dr. Goldberg