

# An Amateur

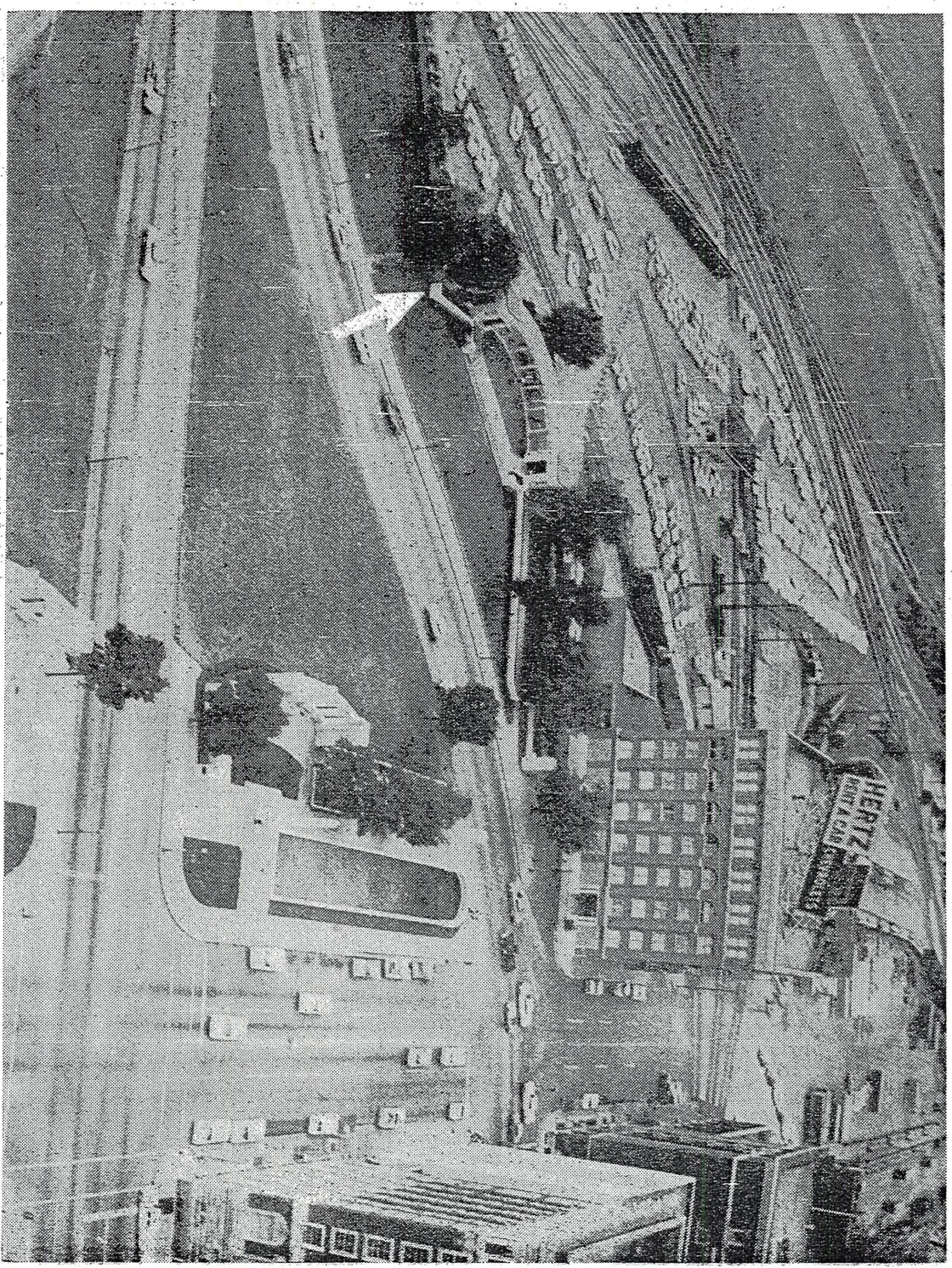
By James Lardner

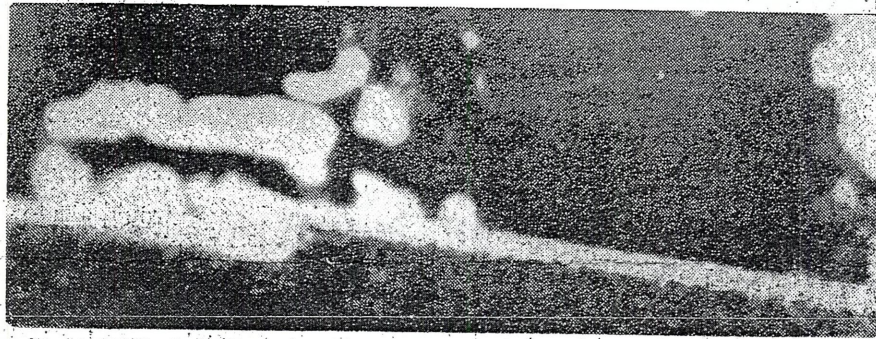
When Ray Marcus got wind several weeks ago of a photographic study "disproving" the existence of a second Kennedy assassin (seen as a white blotch that resembled a gunman atop a station wagon), he instantly telephoned the authors of the study, a corporation called ITEK. He told them he was just a half-hour away from their offices in Lexington and was prepared to show them another possible assassin further to the right in the same picture. The man from ITEK said he was interested and would call Marcus back.

But he never did. That same day ITEK released its report - and newspaper headlines across the country proclaimed, "No Second Assassin," and "Study Rebuffs Warren Critics." Only the *New York Times*, which has

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# Sleuth Fights A 'Civil War'





## *The Photographs*

The white arrow in aerial shot of Elm St. (top) indicates stretch of wall visible in photo by Mary Moorman (lower left) taken at the time of the assassination. Marcus believes there are as many as five human images in the Moorman picture, all behind the wall. Both #2 and #5 are indicated with arrows, and both are blown up (no. 2 far left, no. 5 near left).

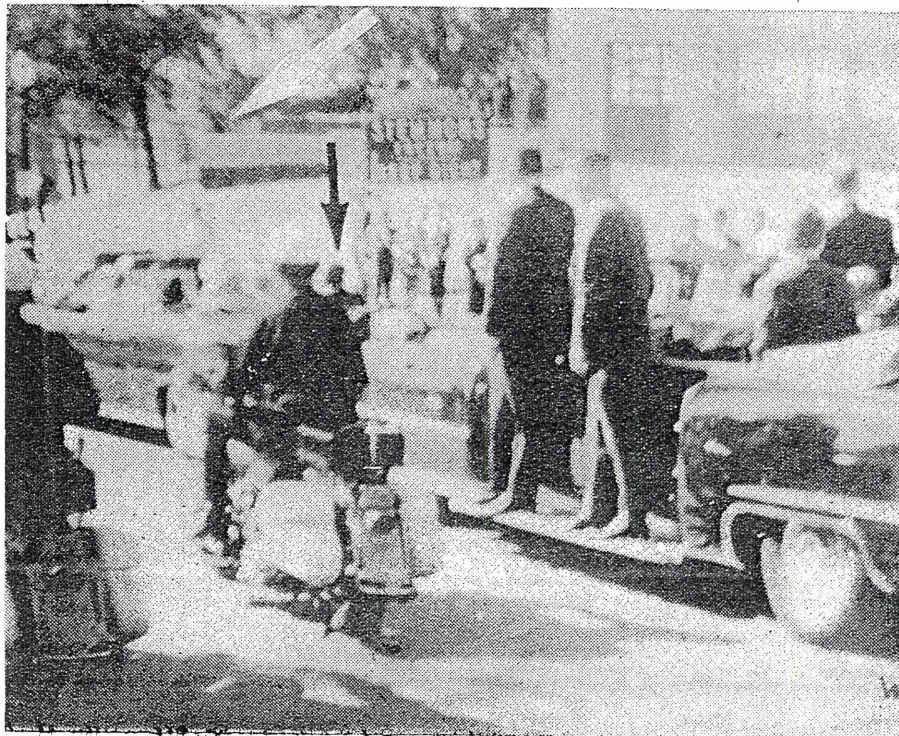
To see the enlargements best, hold paper between 6 and 10 feet away (on p. 11 is one observer's sketched approximations of what he sees in the two figures). Note that in foreground of Moorman photo, Kennedy has just been fatally shot (a fact which can be demonstrated through comparison with the Zapruder movie film).

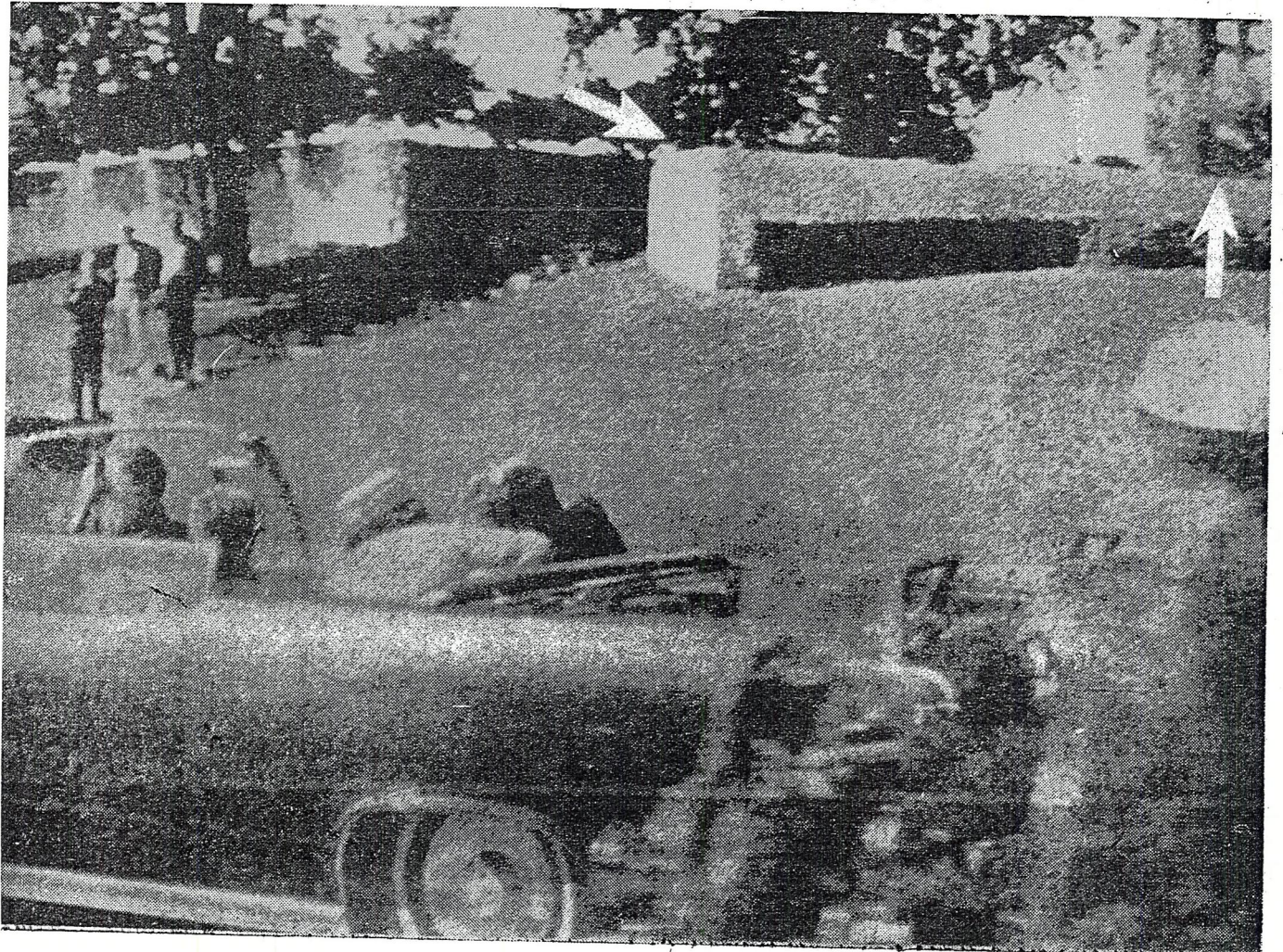
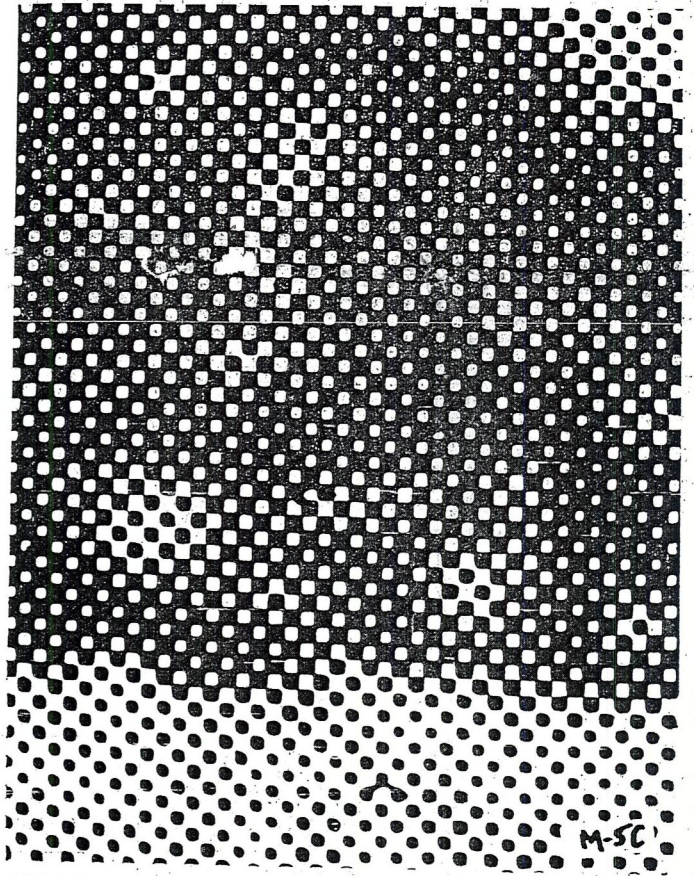
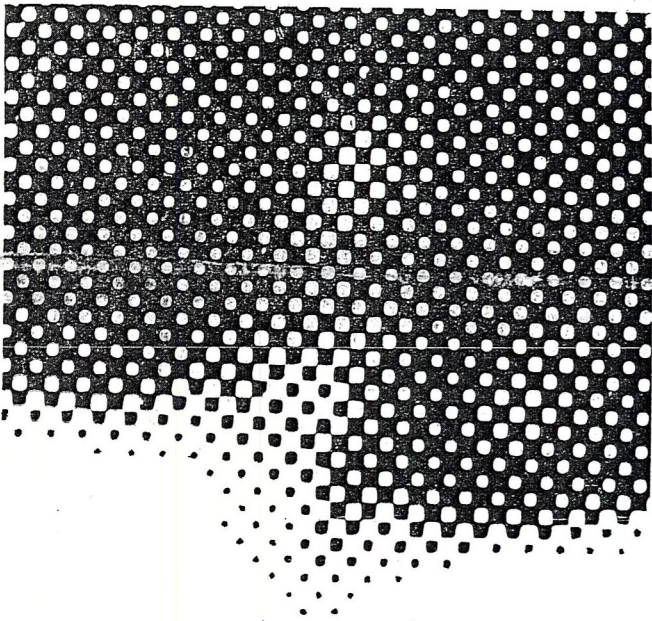
The #5 image might be corroborated by white spots suggesting a head and forearms at the right of the Nix, or ITEK, photo (directly above). The white image at the left of Nix has been invalidated.

Moorman #2 may be corroborated by the silhouette in Willis no. 5 (below), which the photographer believes was taken just after a first shot had been fired.

Both of the corroborating images are located at almost exactly the same point as the figures they are intended to corroborate.

(MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 11)





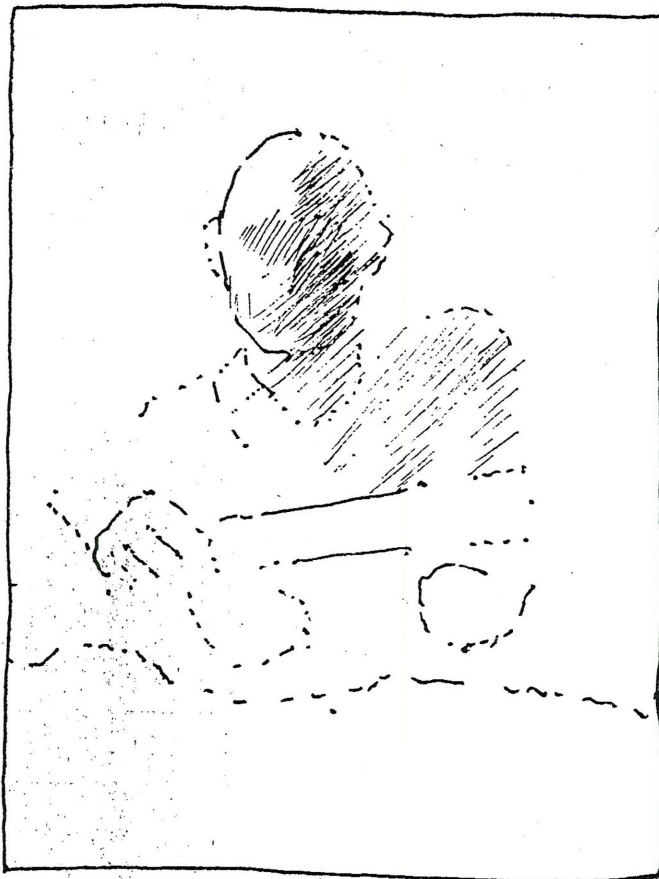
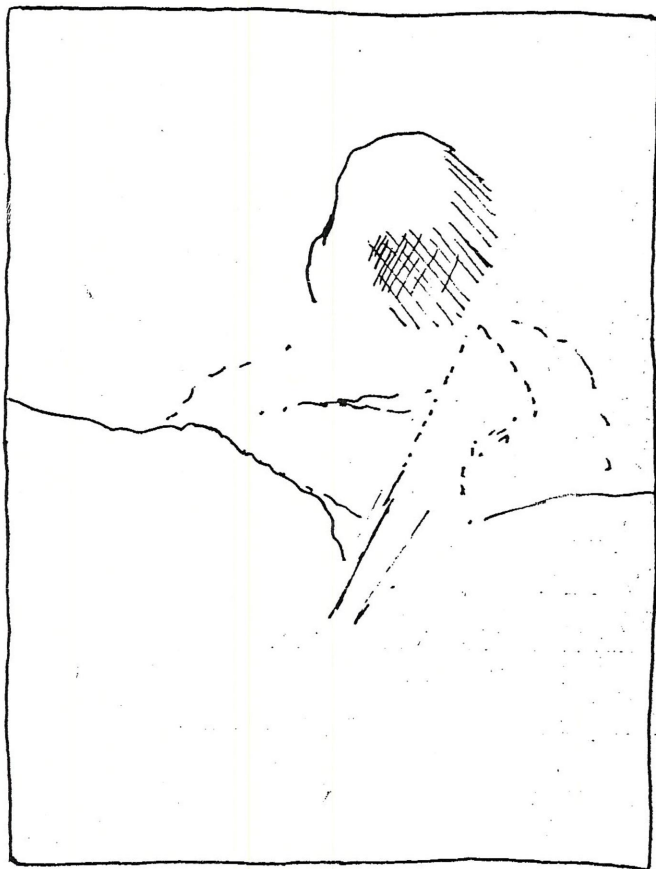
FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1967

## *Evidence (cont'd)*



Willis no. 6 (above) was taken some seconds after no. 5 (p. 9), and further down Elm St. The silhouette behind the wall has disappeared, and in the moments following the assassination, spectators—including some secret service men—can be seen looking and running toward the railroad overpass and the grassy knoll. In Willis #7 (not shown), taken some seconds later still, one secret service man is running toward the wall and the parking lot, while others stare in that direction.

Pen-drawing of #2 image below depicts man leaning over wall (probably on his knees) with a straight object or rifle pointed toward Elm St. Extending the line of fire of this hypothetical rifle brings one to a point where Kennedy would have been a moment earlier, at about the time when he received the fatal bullet and seemed to be thrown to the left and back (shown in Zapruder).



Sketch of the #5 image, which appears to be the most compelling one in the Moorman photo, shows a balding man holding a straight object in his hands (clearly not aiming a rifle). One can see the suggestion of a shirt-collar and even ears. All this behind a wall where, according to Commission representative Joseph Ball, there is "no evidence" that there were "men secreted."

# Kennedy

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steadfastly ignored all the critics of the Warren Report (including the one who is currently District Attorney of New Orleans) failed to give the ITEK story big play.

For Marcus it was a familiar experience. Like the other amateur sleuths enveloped in the Kennedy assassination (a small band whose numbers are impossible to determine), he has grown accustomed to a disinterested, onesided press. And more than most of them, Marcus has persisted in his efforts to get coverage — for a bizarre compilation of photographic evidence (see pictures and description pp. 9 and 11) suggesting a great deal but, even by his own admission, proving nothing.

Marcus says he first became interested in the photographs “three or four days” after the assassination. He followed closely as the newspapers and the government slowly shifted from entrance wound to exit wound and to the remarkable “single-bullet” theory.

“When you started clipping stuff,” says Marcus, “you saw that somebody was lying.” Of course not everyone who sensed contradictions in the weeks following President Kennedy’s assassination proceeded to devote the next three years to intensive study of it. Marcus never really explains why the subject so fascinated him, and still does now. But if he’s right, even in part, then maybe the rest of us owe him the explanations.

## Lifton’s Experience

In any case, Marcus’s evidence is simple, perhaps deceptively so. The first of his “images”—discovered by a man named David Lifton from Los Angeles—are in a picture of the legendary grassy knoll. A Dallas woman

who no longer lists her telephone number — Mary Anne Moorman — took the photograph moments after the fatal bullet struck President Kennedy. Lifton and Marcus observed a total of five possible human images behind the wall in the background, including two (designated nos. 2 and 5) in which one can see a suggestion of a gun. Although the other three images are more questionable, Marcus is certain both 2 and 5 are valid. For each he has what he considers independent corroboration—a faint suggestion of a figure in the ITEK photo for the #5 man and an unmistakable silhouette in yet another picture for the #2 man. The silhouette is from a picture taken by Philip Willis—a retired Air Force major from Dallas—and is perhaps the hardest to refute of the lot. It shows no rifle, or even a hint of one, but it does suggest a man standing in almost the same position as Moorman #2, around the time of the first shot by Willis’ own recollection. The Warren Commission has found no evidence to show *anyone* standing behind the wall (which guards a private parking lot) and insists the area was off-limits on the day of the assassination.

The possible corroborating figure in the ITEK photo is much less convincing than the Willis, but taken together with Moorman #5 it does seem to show a balding man grasping a straight object in his right hand and resting it on his left forearm.

Obviously these images can be evaluated more precisely with the kind of resources which ITEK used in exploring the station-wagon killer image (which Marcus contends no “reputable” Warren critic ever believed for a minute). But ITEK refused to look at what Marcus wanted to show them. A close study of the Nix film (the 8 mm. film taken by David Nix from which the ITEK photo was extracted), would probably show whether

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# Kennedy

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the <sup>5</sup> corroborating image is in fact a man, or just a shadow. And the original negatives of the Moorman pictures (shot with a Polaroid camera) would have to be a good deal clearer than the screened (dotted) version Lifton obtained from a small West Coast magazine.

Marcus's material, in other words, can be delved into much further than he himself has been able to. Conceivably Jim Garrison, for whom Marcus testified three weeks ago, may be interested enough in the photographic evidence to track it down. Or *Life* magazine, which ran a story several months ago questioning the single-bullet theory, could now be pursuing this line of investigation, though Marcus believes both *Life* and the *New York Times* are in the midst of struggles about whether to continue any investigation at all into the assassination, with the proponents of the Warren Report in the ascendancy.

Marcus talks of a "great civil war" between the critics of the Warren Report and the "covert forces of govern-

ment." He believes ITEK is in hock, financially and otherwise, to Washington, and that its study (commissioned by United Press International) was a set-up insofar as the FBI probably knew in advance the image was fake.

Actually neither Marcus, a small businessman whose hobby has recently become detective-work, nor his few somewhat foggy photographs may prove crucial (or even relevant) to the reconstruction of President Kennedy's assassination. Nor is it clear that the Garrison investigation, even if it achieves its goal, will have a great bearing on the life of the nation. But the treatment of both critics and criticisms of the Warren Report by newspapers and television stations South, North, liberal and conservative, could well indicate a public disease that transcends the facts of the assassination. There may have been no conspiracy to kill President Kennedy; beyond the slightest doubt, though, there has been a conspiracy since the assassination to deny the existence of one before it. It is this conspiracy which Marcus proves, and it is a conspiracy which may still succeed.



# CBS NEWS

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LESLIE MIDGLEY

*Executive Producer*

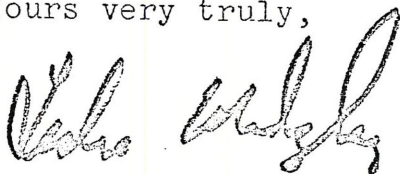
Dear Mr. Marcus:

Thanks for your informative letter of June 19, 1967.

I am afraid you are very much mistaken in attaching the importance you do to my alleged immediate identification of the picture as the man who shot Meredith. As you are aware, Mr. Richter had been in the office for several hours showing these pictures and had repeatedly pointed out the Meredith picture. When you showed me what you believe to be a picture of a rifleman, I then said--having just been over it with Mr. Richter--that it was a picture of the man who shot Meredith.

We appreciate your efforts to aid our project.

Yours very truly,



Mr. Raymond J. Marcus  
1249 Hi Point Street  
Los Angeles, California 90035

June 23, 1967