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Ms Sylvia Meagher
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Dear Sylvia Maagher,

I am delighted by your very generous letter. I am more than willing to share any little I may have noted with you, but it must ~~na~~ be on the understanding that you do not share it with anyone else --- unless I should pass to another world, when you would be entirely free to make what use of it you might think best.

My reason for this is that my book is three parts complete, and the argument will be better seen as a whole. I see no reason why it should not be completed by this time next year; and the greatest service you can offer to the cause is to read the MSS, and report any errors --- and then find a publisher. With modern photocopying techniques, one can easily reduce a MSS ~~TEXTMEXXIXM~~ to the compass of a book, and with very little expense.

Now for the argument. The ~~EX~~ Warren Commission was corrupt and at this level it can only have been corrupted by L.B.J. But after Kennedy was dead, Johnson was quite entitled to wish to be elected in his own right; so even if he corrupted the Commission that was not a fault, which many would take very seriously. --- For myself I hesitate to judge.

So the question is can one show that Johnson knew that shots would be fired before he reached Dallas. That would amount to conspiracy to murder, and be quite beyond any defence!!!

I was first put on inquiry by Joachim Joesten, who raised suspicions about Kenneth O'Donnell. I felt he was correct, but could not accept his arguments as likely to be accepted. Indeed I did not myself think they were conclusive.

The conclusive proof lies ~~in~~ with Rufus Youngblood, who "jumped the gun", to use an athletic phrase. Of this there are three pieces of evidence:--

- A. In the Algens photo (66HW245) the door of the LBJ car with Yarborough sitting by it, seem~~m~~ to be open, while the S.S. in the follow up car are still lokking puzzled.
- B. "Above the car radio Lyndon Johnson had heard what he knew to be an explosion. Before he could define it further, he saw Youngblood coming over the front seat towards him" -- "His voice was firm. He snapped at Johnson 'Get down'". (67WM192)
- C. ~~—~~ Senator Ralph Yarborough (7H439) had been appalled by the sluggish reaction of the agents in the motorcade at the time of the shooting (67SM316)

~~Note that Yarborough would naturally measure such a small interval of time by a difference. The agents in the follow~~

Note that Yarborough would measure such a small interval of time by a difference. What he really meant was not that the agents were slow in absolute measure, but that they were slower than Youngblood, who had come over ~~XXXXXXXX~~ from the front seat so violently that Yarborough's door was forced open.

I submit that there can only be one reason for this surprising speed. Rufus Youngblood knew that a shot would be fired!!!! And before he reached Dallas !!! In short he had ample time to warn the President's driver and the Head of the Secret Service, and failed to do so.

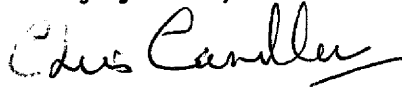
Further if Youngblood knew; then Lyndon Johnson must also have known.

There is massive supporting evidence. The bullet E399 was planted in the Parkland Hospital corridor by the Secret Service, and so surely by Youngblood or O'Donnell. But this bullet had been fired the previous day, or more likely several days earlier. That it was in the keeping of the Secret Service is damning!

My abbreviated references are probably obvious to you. Two figures for the date; two initials for the author, and finally the page. This enables one to keep one's references in the text --- a great convenience!

Once again many thanks for your letter.

Sincerely yours,



Chris Candler

The battleship with the homicide squad in it was withdrawn from the parade at 10 p.m. the previous evening, (44174) so Capt Fritz reported. Had this been following Johnson the men would have been on the street at the first shot with high velocity rifles and sub-machine guns. Why was the "battleship" ordered out of line? One does not order "battleships" about unless one is a very senior officer!!

I use the word "battleship" because that was the word in use, when I attended the World Youth Congress in Paughkeepsie in 1938 --- a trifle before your day I presume! I was there privileged to spend part of the week at Shangri La and part at Hyde Park. --- How long ago it all seems!!!