

5/13/68

Dear Mr. Thompson

Several months ago I read your book Six Seconds in Dallas and while I agree with your theory of three assassins there are several things in your book that trouble me.

On page 142 you show exhibit 139 and it is obvious that the rifle sling is attached front and rear on the riflemans left side, however on page 221 you show a rifle, there from the top (Awards Rifle) and obviously this rifle has a sling loop on the right side. If this is an error of The Book of Rifles (Stockpole) you should have called it to the readers attention. Further the bolt is of a different configuration than that of exhibit 139.

I'm explaining the problem of the man in the doorway in the Altgens photograph you show three photos, Oswald, the man in the doorway and Lovelady. The face as you can see could belong to either depending on the readers inclination but you show CD 457 in which Lovelady states to the F.B.I. that he was wearing a red + white striped shirt. Why

do you prefer to believe his statement of three years later to C.B.S.? I should also like to know why you did not show the full photos showing the shirts instead of cutting each off at the neck. In any event the man in photo in the doorway could no more be construed as a man in a shirt patterned in large squares than a man in a red + white vertical stripe shirt.

With regard to the throat wound I do not agree that this was caused by a fragment of bone resulting from the head shot for two reasons. ① It is obvious from the Zapruder film that the Pres. was in distress from some sort of frontal disturbance prior to the first head shot. ② If you will carefully examine and analyze the two tears in the Pres. shirt you must logically deduce that they could not be made by a look to front projectile of any type as the overlapping

side defect (button hole side) is larger and extends above the defect on button side, in spite of the fact that it had to tear thru a double layer of fabric plus the liner in the neck band. I doubt the projectile could do this without producing a similar tear in the under side (button side) of the shirt. Also note the "neck" in the tie is not a nick but there is a considerable piece of fabric missing from the tie. I suggest these defects were inflicted in the process of removal at Parkland or at some time after the assassination by persons unknown.

I called these points to the attention of Sylvia Meagher some time ago and she might have mentioned them to you. Perhaps you can answer these questions for me now.

Very truly yours.

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