



Haverford College

6/7/69

HAVERFORD, PA. 19041 215-649-9600

Friday afternoon

Dear Sylvia,

Your letter was a real shock to me. I don't know whether I can "satisfy" you on Bernolici, but what I can do is state directly and simply the facts as I know them.

(1) It is simply a fact that I have no recollection of 577 being dented, that no mention of a dent occurs in my notes, and that I find it almost inconceivable that I could have missed a feature so obvious. But <sup>what</sup> the hell am I to say -- that the evidence held in the Archives custody is changing over an interval of 2 1/2 years? And for what reason would the evidence be fiddled? I simply can't believe that the Archives staff would be mixed up in such a fiddle. It is possible, I suppose, that some researcher or other fiddled things; the tip of one of these coins could be dented with a coin, or for that matter one coin could be polished for another. But again the question arises: for what purpose? It seems to me only two alternatives are left: either I simply overlooked the dent (When I look at my notes, this seems incredible to me!) or someone fiddled the coin in the intervening time between my examination and Bernolici's.

(2) It is simply a fact that I am not the mysterious "Philadelphia resident" named by Bernolici. I've never ordered photos of the exhibit, nor was I ever given access to any such photographs. It should be a simple thing for anyone to verify this; if the Archives

knows it was a Philadelphia resident, they sure as hell know who it was. I didn't address myself to Bernabei's statement because I didn't catch the implication in it that you did. I do categorically and absolutely deny any knowledge of or access to the photo he's talking about. {I incidentally, who is this mysterious researcher from Philadelphia -- Jimmie, Tom Tolan, Marty Stutz:

- (3) I do recall you and me discussing Day's confusing testimony about the cases - I think it was in a restaurant up-town, one night when we went out to dinner. I certainly knew of his later recantation and I thought you agreed that it was not to be trusted. Perhaps wrongly, perhaps rightly, I did not discuss his later recantation in Six Seconds. This was simply an editorial decision.
- (4) I think Bernabei's point about C 38 is a good one. Something none of us had thought of before, and also something that makes Day's later recantation more acceptable.

What annoys me about this whole little episode is that I'm the one who is getting hot and I don't understand exactly how or why. The way I look at my notes and the photo of 577, the way I think it was not deleted when I saw it. So what if some nameless researcher in the last 2 1/2 yrs. fiddled it for reasons of which we're ignorant? I'm left holding the bag because I didn't take the precaution of getting the cases photographed from several angles, or have someone else along to examine the evidence with me. As let's say that one card was deleted and I missed; I can't guarantee that this didn't happen for all I have is the absence of the card in my memory and my notes. The upshot of all this is that you think (I can tell from the very tone of your letters



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I observed the devt and then didn't mention it. I tell you that that is false and I'm enclosing the only evidence I have to that effect -- my notes and a photo of 577 I dug out of my files.

I don't really want to argue. I'm sick and tired and more than a little bitter. If you find you can't believe me, then we obviously have to throw our friendship in the garbage heap of this case. I'm bloody tired of being called a thief by left, a CIA agent by Solentia, and a liar by Bernabe. Given the limitations of my person, I tried to do my work with honor and integrity and as much tenacity and courage as I could muster. I hate to see our friendship (which was one of the truly valuable things I discovered in working on the case) go sour like everything else. I'm giving you the facts as I know them -- straight and unadorned. They are the facts. Whether they "satisfy", only you can decide.

Affectionately and indignantly,  
Tim

P. S. Please return the materials  
this week. I didn't want to wait  
to Xerox the notes on Monday.