

GEORGE STIDWORTHY'S

Lazy-S Shooters Service

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"Where the Winners Buy Their Ammo"

Jan. 19, 1974,

Dr. Cyril H. Wecht,
University of Pittsburgh,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Doctor:

I was certainly interested in the report by Robert L. Thomas in the Arizona Republic of your seminar at U of A on the President Kennedy assassination. If I may, I would like to comment on your theory.

First of all, my credentials to do so: 7 National rifle championships; 26 world records with the rifle; a reputation among my peers that I am perhaps the best man with a scope-sighted rifle to appear to date.

The actual shooting which resulted in the death of President and the wounding of Gov. Connally was a good performance with a rifle. I could name for you a number of competitive shooters both within and without the U. S. whose abilities would let them attempt it with a reasonable mathematical chance of doing it successfully. However..... the chances of a person like Lee Harvey Oswald doing it are pretty remote. The chances of his- or anyone else- doing it with the rifle and scope which were recovered, and which were accepted by the Warren Commission as the murder weapon, make the odds of success practically nonexistent. No one capable of such shooting ability would ever have chosen such an instrument. BUT for Oswald to do it with that rifle, and to release the shots in the cadence we heard on TV, would take the odds for success into the realm of miracles.

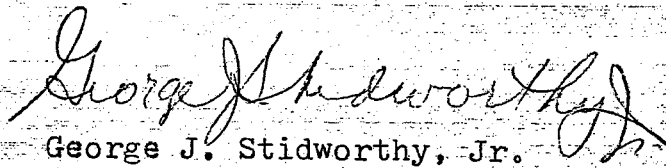
It is my own hypothesis that both Oswald and the recovered rifle were "plants" to cover the escape of the true assassin(s). Oswald, obviously a party to the conspiracy, would have expected to be freed when the absurdity of his having done the actual killing with such a rifle was tested in court. However, a second and unknown (to Oswald) part was the execution of Oswald by another conspirator. Jack Ruby, already beset by terminal cancer was the perfect choice..... and if the reports of Oswald's wound was correct, could any assassin have done a more "professional" job?

From what I know of the Warren investigation, why no one ever bothered to question IF or HOW Oswald could have done the actual shooting with that weapon, is absolutely beyond me. The Army's Advanced Marksmanship Unit at Ft. Benning, Ga. which has trained and produced our Olympic teams would have been an obvious source of such an evaluation.

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Believe me, Doctor, you are on the right path. Stay with it. If I can ever supply any help to fill any of the vacant spots on your puzzle, please feel free to write.

Very truly yours.


George J. Stidworthy, Jr.

Copy: R.L.Thomas.