

3/24/69

Dear Dick,

Re your let postmarked 3/20: what you sent on the "anlicher is exactly what I will want as an illustration. It exactly confirms what those two boys from the rifle assn told me. This destroys all the innocence of all theory involved in that part of the investigation and evidence, so far as I am concerned.

On Jacques Barzun: I have now forgotten why I wanted that article. I think it was to use as quotes some of the conclusions he had reached. It is not urgent.

On the numbers: thus far I've had only an acknowledgement from Emory Brown, my cryptographer (amateur). I'll send this to him also. While I think the phone numbers were legit, it also is another remarkable upsetting of the probabilities if they are entirely innocent. Especially when I stop to think that he did not have on him the note allegedly given him with the name and number of a Chicago lawyer who had offered to defend him. I had not noticed the repetition of the contiguous numbers. Do you think there can be any significance in the fact all are uneven?

Until I can afford to have my copying machine repaired, I am saving what use there is in it for real emergencies. The number is merely given in this lengthy memo as I gave it to you, as that allegedly his. The only other number there mentioned is the other one I gave you.

On the cartridge dents: I went into this in the first book. I also suggest that the cartridges would not fit that way, could not have been fired from a clip, could not have held the bullet, could not have entered the machined breech. Nor can I imagine such damage from mere ejection, whatever might have been struck. Also bear in mind the stack of boxes from which they allegedly caromed was not in place at the moment of the shooting. How do you think the dents were made? In disarming? Louis phoned today. They are returning my rifle, will try and replace the missing clips. I had one of each of two kinds, one black, the other brass. Do you know where any are available, should they fail?

Hurriedly,

C
O
P
Y

19 March 69
Kingston, Ont.

Harold Weisberg:
~~Dear Harold~~

I got your letter of 16 March in reply to mine concerning the number correspondences.

I can't recall whether I mentioned other similarities of numbers that I noted. I may be repeating myself, but here is something else that may be significant.

Disregarding the initial letters of the alphabet, the four numbers which LHO had in his pocket at the time of arrest bear common features that ought to be considered, if only for reasons of reckoning probabilities. These are the numbers:

<u>24611</u>	(1,2,4,6)
<u>73110</u>	(1,3,7,0)
<u>99450</u>	(4,5,9,0)
<u>89711</u>	(1,7,8,9)

~~xxxxxxx~~ Each of the 5-digit numbers is made up of 4 digits, one of which is repeated. In the case of the numbers that are used twice, they are always contiguous: 11,11,99, and 11.

Again, I have no idea whether that means anything, but the probabilities against this happening are enormous. I don't think similarities of this type can be attributed to chance.

I would like to have a copy of the documents from which you got 110669. Use your own judgment whether you think I should have it, and if you decide not to send it, there is no need to explain.

Enclosed is something relevant to Barzun's article that ~~xxx~~ I said I would send to you. If you still want the article, tell me.

I have been busy as hell with schoolwork. Exam time is approaching; I have to write those up, and mark a zillion ~~xxx~~ term papers, so I have not been too much engaged with our stuff.

When I get time, there is something I want to write regarding the dented cartridge case (mentioned in J. Thompson). I want to write to Dr Nichols first, and have him watch out for something when he fires his rifle in tests. If my guess is right, it will be something very strange and difficult to explain in terms of motivation for it. Briefly, it is this: Regarding the two cartridges with dents on the shoulder (I know, by the way, how those dents were made), I think that if bullets were fired from cartridges with such dents in them, the dents would have been pushed out by internal pressure of the exploding powder, which is thousands of pounds per square inch (about 37,000 lbs psi., to be exact). If I am ~~xxx~~ right, it would mean that the bullets were pulled from unfired cases (the cartridges would have been previously thrust into the chamber), and ~~xxxxxxxx~~ that when the cases were fired, only the primer was detonated. I can't be sure of this, so don't make much of it. I shall have to check with Nichols or someone else who has an exact replica of the H*Q

Stick,

Dick

BERN ABEL