

R.F. 1,  
Woffat, Ont., Canada,  
Nov. 3, 1967.

Dear Sir,

I am writing in regard with some work I have been doing lately. I am presently drawing a large map on which I am attempting to locate all the persons I can who were in Dealy Plaza on Nov. 22, 1963 who were taking pictures. It was during this course that I discovered the appearance of Hugh Betzner Jr. in the Zapruder film. This coupled with Betzners affidavit(19H467) can be used to shed some light as to the time of the first shot that was fired.

I first saw Betzner in picture no. 1, pg. 43 of the Oct. 2 1964 issue of Life. His knees are directly to the right of Clint Hill's shoulder and he is flanked on either side by gentlemen in dark suits. He is dressed entirely in white and has his camera raised to his eye. This picture coincides with frame 183 (18H7) of the Zapruder film. In Exhibit 479(17H198) Betzner appears at the very left hand edge, just above Hill's left shoulder as you look at the picture. This coincides with frame 188 of the Zapruder film and Betzner still has his camera to his eye. By frame 198-199(18H14-15) it is evident that Betzner is finished taking his picture as his full face is quite visible and his feet are about 8" apart. After frame 199 only the lower part of his body is visible, but by frame 202 his feet are about 2-3 feet apart and his right knee is bent. To me this indicates that Betzner appears to be leaning to his right, possibly to see around the gentlemen standing to his left. Because of the proximity of this man on his (Betzner's) left, I don't believe he could see Kennedy much after frame 193 and therefore had probably finished taking his picture in the span from 193 to 199. According to Betzners affidavit(19H467-68) it was immediately after he took this third picture that he heard the first shot. This shot occurred so fast that he didn't even finish winding his camera something at which he appeared to be very adept. Betzner himself admits that the area of the grassy knoll and the wooden fence would have to be in his third picture(19H468).

As proof that this is really Betzner one has only to turn again to Life. On page 24 of the Nov. 29th 1963-issue of Life you can see the two previously mentioned gentlemen in the dark suits looking toward Houston Street. However between them there is a rather large gap, a gap into which Betzner will move. Betzner is in this gap by the third picture on this same page with his camera at about his throat. With the materials I have this is the earliest point at which I could find Betzner. He next appears in Ex. 888(18H86), frame 161 of the Zapruder film. His entire body, including his feet which are together can be seen

between the two motorcycle policemen riding to the rear left of the Presidential limousine. His camera would appear to be at his eye at this point. This is also evident in the following Exhibit 829, frame 168 Zapruder film. <sup>have</sup>

If this is actually Betzner, and I<sup>^</sup>been able to find no one else visible in the Zapruder film standing on the southwest corner of Elm and Houston with a camera to his eye, then it proves that Kennedy was shot before and well before frame 210 of the Zapruder film! I realize that you have proven this point with Phil Willis in WHITEWASH 11, but I hope you can use this as a backup or further proof that the first shot was well before frame 210 and therefore not by Oswald.

Near the bottom of the first page of his affidavit (19H467) Betzner stated that he saw Police Officers and men in plain clothes digging around in the dirt near Elm. He thought they were trying to find a bullet. Not apparently knowing the origin of the shots at this time it appears highly unlikely to me that they were looking for a bullet. Could they rather <sup>v</sup>been trying to hide something?

I hope you find some of the above useful. <sup>have</sup>

Yours truly



Gary Murr