

10/31/70

Mary, Gary, Paul, Howard, Dick,

As I indicated earlier, I am in a position to do with Zapruder what we could not before and some of the work has been done. I cannot now go into all of the things or any of the details, but there is one thing I regard as significant enough to stop what I'm doing to tell you about and how we can see it.

I have had a special film made. This is not yet completed. Each frame is duplicated five times, so it really slows the action down. It is this that I studied, or rather, the completed part. And it is very clear. Really. Both this film and what I say.

There is a strong and visible reaction by JFK before he disappears behind the sign. There is absolutely no doubt about it. His arms go up, just as you'd expect from the appearance beginning 225, and he visible lurches forward before disappearing and after this arm-motion begins in a way that suggests to my collaborator that it could be the impact of another shot, to the back. As of now, I do not agree with this, but I also concede the suspicion is not without warrant. Moreover, with what was officially available, it is not possible this was not officially known. Going along with this, what I have said and written of Willis' motions and timing with Z is now clearer than ever. You can see the camera come down from his eye before he gets to the frame line.

Another thing - and here I'm not talking about what can be seen in the poor copy that many have - there is another splice in the original, better done than the one I exposed in W, much better. It takes an expert to spot, but once spotted (and I didn't do that), is obvious. It is of such a character that it also tells us other things (not about the assassination, but the film and its handling - of which I've learned much anyway). This is entirely consistent with what you may recall I have of an earlier hit in PM. Once this splice is seen, other proofs of its existence become obvious. My guess and that of my expert is that two frames are gone here. I ask you to keep this all to yourselves for several good reasons. That I have is so clear so clear I have clear blowups, 14". I beg Paul, again, to heed what I am not alone in telling him. I now know much more about the explosion. That's one I have this size...I've been asking Mary and Paul about another film. If this is to be done, it must be done very soon or it cannot be accomplished...Later frames of Z show something unidentified but some kind of motion, in brown and like caroms, at about the 348-85a peeling from the corner, for a couple of frames only. We now have what we have never had access to after 334. This, too, is uncompleted.