

3-12-68

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

This only complete version of the Moorman Polaroid which I have seen appeared last week in a Signet paperback, Assassination by Relman Morin, a Pulitzer Prize winner. It's a rehash of the Report and of no interest except as propaganda in so far as I can tell. It attacks Garrison in conclusion while pretending not to. But the picture is of interest.

We have never before in public print been allowed to see this picture of "Jackson". As you can readily see he has only one arm and a neck like a giraffe. The doctoring here is obvious and grotesque. It ought to stand up in court. The blur at his stomach and chest, which at first glance would appear to be Mr. Newman's little boy, cannot be, I think, since the little boy, I believe, was standing on the other side of Newman. Nor could that be Newman's ~~xxxx~~ shadow as the shadows were falling northeast.

An interesting point is that I think it possible that they may have, in their haste that afternoon, painted out the wrong arm. The one arm cuts off from the trunk rather than the shoulder, and instead of a shoulder, we have a big gap which makes the man's neck grotesquely long, as it was not, of course. No one's is this long. There was an effort in the Nix frame published in color in the Post (SEP), the issue that mentioned you, to make it appear that this man was looking toward the knoll. As you can see he was not.

This Moorman also seems to show a wound to the top of the President's head, which I have not seen in poorer prints. It appears that a bullet has exited from the top of the head and caused a flap of skin to fly forward and upward. This wound does not appear to be the same wound which is visible on the side of the head in Zapruder after 313. It also looks as if there may be a small portion of skull exposed on the left top of the head, but the quality of the picture is so poor, it is not possible to make a decision on the matter.

It is of course very easy to ruin a Polaroid, just smear it before it is dry. Or fail to paint it and let it fade. But this one definitely appears to have been smeared. Hargis has a number of arms as a result. The one thing possible to determine from his picture is that his left hand is not on the left handlegrip but up toward the center of the machine. I believe the right hand is at the approximate position of the black blob and the flash of light in various versions of the Altgens; but it is not possible to say so flatly from this Moorman.

Copy of Moorman from Signet enclosed; you may keep it, or need not send it back. I have other copies.

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