

November 22, 1969

Dear Harold,

I've just purchased Jesse Curry's assassination book which came out today. Have only gone over it briefly but have made some observations especially on the many unpublished pictures it contains. He seems to acknowledge what you indicated to me; that the evidence is not conclusive on whether LHO was assassin although he says he definitely killed Tippit. Here's some things:

On page 24 is an airport photo which clearly shows Kennedy swallowing; his larynx has lifted up as I indicated in my ant. neck wound memo. There is enough trachea exposed for the shot to have struck without penetrating the shirt.

Page 27 shows a photo of JFK in the car and clearly shows how his coat was bunched in back. It was creased just below the collar as I had predicted from other photos esp. Betzner. I have always felt that the holes in the clothes were a bit too far down for the back wound but impossibly ~~WIX~~ too low for the autopsy report. In other words, the holes would, if the coat and shirt were not in some way bunched, define a hole in his shoulder blade.

Page 28 has one of the most amazing photos I've ever seen. From it, I would say conclusively that a bullet through the neck would have flown above Connally's left shoulder into Greer. The picture itself is an ariel back view of the car. It also shows that JFK was much, much higher than the WC would have us believe and it shows it better than any other photo I've seen.

On 31 is a print of a well publicized picture but the quality is better than I've ever seen. Also, it is a more complete version. It shows JFK on Stemmons with the parking lot in the background. It probably won't show anything but I'm still studying it.

Page 34 shows a part of that picture outside of Parkland with the guy carrying clothes. These were connected with the assass -- Connally's, I guess. Page 36 shows two photos which have me spell-bound; both show the limousine outside the Hospital. One shows agent Kiney and officer James Chaney putting on the bubble top. Chaney might know if there were fragments on the front seat; he wasn't called by the WC. Another photo on that page shows a man in a suit leaning over with his right ~~W~~ arm extended into the front seat of the car, but his back is to the camera. I can't tell who he is but I'm trying to see if he's Kiney. From the picture of Kiney, I can tell you that he's not in the other picture which ~~WIXIX~~ shows the clothes which means that he wasn't always by the car.

On 46 is a good version of one of the Wm. Allen pix that you have of the head matter. 48 has 2 pix around TSB which haven't been published. 50 shows 6th floor window after 1pm. on 57 is one of E.D. Brewer inspecting the manhole; I think the brain matter is still there, not sure.

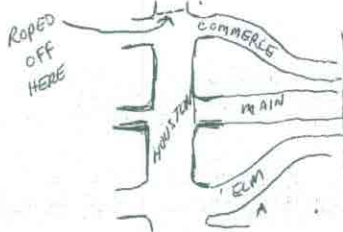
On pg. 100 is the Altgens picture with a caption which made me laugh. Curry writes that at this time the car was blocked by the tree from the 6th floor. This is, of course, what you said in WWII. Even though it is factually incorrect, Curry must have gotten the reference from W.

The book itself is interesting but often questionable. Curry seems

to support shots from the knoll, as well as the belief that the front neck wound was entrance.

I have something which bears on your notion that the last head shot originated from the west end of the knoll. Remember that Bowers noticed men in this area behind the fence; he said the two men were close to the overpass. Jackson, the officer who is running up the knoll in the Bond slides, ran to exactly this area. Why, we do not know for his name is not even mentioned one in the 26 volumes. I seriously wonder if he saw anything there. A picture you have by Wm Allen seems to indicated that from the street, men behind the fence should have been visible. Where did Hargis run? This puzzles me.

There is also another thing in the book which I should mention. Page 15 has a picture of the crowd on Houston at Commerce. The street is roped off like this:



This bears on your suggestion that the fatal shot was fired from the window of a moving car. When we discussed this, I believe we agreed that this car could not have been moving east on Main because it would have run right into the motorcade. With this roadblock on Houston at Commerce, such a car could have turned only north on Houston which would still have brought it to the motorcade. Also, I did some simple measuring and found that the last position south of the last shot could have originated from without throwing JFK to his right would be at the center of the mouth of the underpass at Elm. I am very persuaded to believe that this shot came from the far west end of the knoll. Much more film is crucial here; must see it (there's a slim chance I can get to the Archives). Can I get it anywhere?

I think I see Babuska lady in the Wm. Allen Picture on pg. 46. She is above and to the left of the antenna on the car closest to the camera. This is the only picture I've seen of her after she runs into the parking lot in the Bell film.

Still

*Harold*