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Mr. Harold Weisberg
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Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I have just read "Whitewash II", and wish to commend you for your truly fearless and painstaking exposure of further flaws in the so-called "investigation" of the Assassination.

I'd like to quibble slightly about your observation that the Zapruder films seem to run fast and jerkily, like old-fashioned silent movies, and your explanations therefor. (pages 290 and 349, Whitewash II.) The "jerky, fast, silent-movie" appearance is very simply caused by using a sound projector (the 16 mm projector was undoubtedly a sound projector) which has a standard speed of 24 frames/sec., always. The camera which took the picture was a non-sound camera, and had a standard speed of 16 frames/sec. (actually about 18 frames/sec., evidently.)

Your "simplest" explanation in the middle of p. 290 is technically possible. However, on p. 349, you don't say which of the three connected versions seemed to run in the jerky, old-fashioned movie manner, although the versions were presumably ~~set~~ set to show different speeds.

On p. 109, the "intriguing item", "whatever this listing means", was obviously a list of Oswald's clothing sizes, in metric measurements, for his use in Russia. He might be expected to remember his collar and shoe and suit sizes in American units, without a notation in his notebook, but he probably couldn't remember the Russian metric size numbers without the notes.

I will enclose with this letter a list of typos or editorial elisions which I noted in Whitewash II, which might be of use to you in future editions.

I am also enclosing several sheets of "Unasked Questions" which I duplicated last January. I am currently preparing several more such sheets, and a list of those is also enclosed.

May I call to your attention the "chain of evidence" (!!??) on bullet 399, (24H412) in which all hands are named who handled the bullet between Tomlinson and the FBI lab, none of whom marked the bullet as evidence except the Lab man, and several of whom could not identify the bullet when interrogated about it. I feel that this is a good item for you to refer to sometime.

With regard to the autopsy photos, the most careful reading of the Sibert-O'Neill FBI report of Nov. 26, (as printed in "Inquest" paperback) does not indicate that any photos were taken of the President's back, especially the

back wound. (p.168) Upon completion of photographs, first incisions were made at 8:15 PM: (p.169) During the latter stages, the back wound was located. Presumably, no photographs were made at that time. (None reported.)

This implies that no photographs exist of the back, and therefore no photographs exist of the back wound! While on the subject, may I say that close reading of the press stor~~es~~es carried when the γ films were turned over to the Archives did not contain any statements by the doctors that they had actually seen the photos at any time, then or previously. In fact, there is no statement on record that I know of, which states that the films were ever developed at all! Since the life of the latent image on film exposed in 1963 should by now be quite uncertain, if the film hasn't been developed yet, someone should make a point of getting ironclad statements on the record that the developed photographs have been seen and that photographs of the back wound are included.

What the doctors said about the films, as I recall, when they ~~were~~ were put into the Archives, was that the films would show what had been reported, not that they did show.

The tragic death of President Kennedy, as deeply injurious to the national fabric and national aspirations as it was, perhaps was only the first overt action in a continuing internal attack on the country, which we daily see evidence of in our newspaper reports of trouble, violence, dissension, and economic changes. If the people who plotted the death of the President are still at large and unsought-for, none of us can rest easily.

I wish you continued good luck, and would be pleased to have a word from you if you have the time.

Very sincerely yours,

Leon Davidson

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enc: UQ p.3-10
letter to Ramparts
list of UQ(8-8-67)
typos in "WW II"

(Assumed) Typos of misleading nature in "Whitewash II"

- p. 74, end of first para. "Thus was the Report accepted and protected."
not "protested"
- p. 252, second line. "by levere action", not "level".
- p. 281, middle of page. "intelligence could have been unaware of"
not "aware of"
- p. 367, line 6. "result is" , not "as"
- p. 272, line 13 "the man who" , not "men"
- p. 345, line 6. "aerial" sp. error