

20734

9/23/66

Dear Kay,

I am sorry to hear that Mr. C. had to be rehospitalized. When you talk to Lillian please tell her to forget about the things she was to send me and to devote herself entirely to her immediate troubles which are, unfortunately, so great. I have finished the book and when I can am reading the rough draft. Please also give her my sincere hope that her husband gets well, and soon.

There was nothing in the letter I hadn't repeated, as I recall it. A few seem to not get delivered. I've been waiting for a cable sent me from England 6 weeks ago, never got mail from a German book publisher and magazine, and things like that. They are sometimes hurtful, one such incident having possibly cost me British publication this Spring. But I have learned to take them in stride and pay attention to things that might serve a constructive purpose.

On Altgens, there is no criticism of you or your work, implicit or explicit. It is simply that Liebler laid the basis for mislocating Altgens. I presume this was not an accident. From examination of the picture, I do believe that at the very least you can see Altgens was farther south. Were I to conjecture, I'd say he was where he dropped his ditty bag (which I think is his and I know is in Zapruder) and then, as photographers do, advanced toward the curb. To me, the angle toward the background of the picture from the position identified and you marked as identified does not stack. I believe Altgens told Lillian he was about where you placed him. I'd suggest this is confabulation induced by Liebler.

I am interested in how you and Lillian and I reached similar conclusions by different means. I'll tell about about the 227 thing when we sometimes meet, as we shall. The reason for calling the book WHITEWASH II: WHO DID IT is to capitalize on the success of WHITEWASH: THE REPORT ON THE WARREN REPORT. It is surprisingly well known. It has also sold 13,000 copies. The subtitle of the sequel is intended to be a reflection of its contents. It does much more, but it does say who did the whitewashing and how this was accomplished. It is my plan to use the same cover, with a different top line and the addition of the Roman II, with the subtitle in hollow white letters superimposed diagonally on it. There is little duplication in the books, really none. II goes forward from one. It could be part of the same book.

If I didn't ~~not~~ tell you, I did tell Bill you are welcome to use anything you'd like from WHITEWASH with or without credit, in your projected piece on 399.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

1249 Hi Point St.
L. A. Calif. 90035
Sept 18, 1966

Dear Harold,

(I trust you won't mind the informality) In your letter 8/21 you refer to your suggestions re the Altgens picture and my map. I received no such previous suggestions from you, since the only other letter received was your round-robin of July 16; so any other letter sent did not reach me.

I have rechecked the Altgens position and am satisfied it was substantially correct--except that I had intentionally placed him somewhat further back from the curb (in order not to cover the lettering "curb") than he should have been. ~~It~~ I have now corrected this. I placed him originally by identifying him in Life, 10/21/64, color panel #7 (app. fr.348), as the man nearest the curb with the camera at his face and with the camera bag behind him on the grass. (I have added the notation "app.348" on the map after "Altgens").

As for "Lovelady", I have now placed him more accurately by moving him to the left, under the "A" of "DEPOSITARY". (from Willis #10, I estimate the distance from the SE corner of the building to the west edge of the door-way as 25-27 ft.) As you know, Altgens stepped into the street to take his ~~pic~~ picture (at fr. 255). Taking the ~~picture~~ above into account, the line-up is consistent with Altgens' photo.

When you get a chance, I would be interested in your reasons for concluding a JFK back-hit at 227, which you said were different from mine.

Re your proposed title, "Whitewash II: Who Did it", I frankly do not like it; although, not knowing the contents, I don't have an alternate suggestions.

Lillian's husband is still very ill, and had to be re-hospitalized after a few days at home.

Sincerely,


Ray Marcus