

Route 1, Box 275
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387
December 8, 1967

Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Md.

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I have been sending your Oswald in New Orleans with some documentation from other sources and a covering resume of evidence to a number of editors who have assumed that the Warren Report was sound -- because of being too pressed for time to themselves investigate. Particularly hopeful is the response from the American editor of the Christian Science Monitor.

There are a number of things that have come to my attention that to some extent alter the case I had supposed. One of them is with regard to the picture of Oswald's shirt -- as compared with Lovelady's. This is not definitive as your Whitewash II suggests because Oswald had stated (page 557 in the New York Times edition of the Report) according to Captain Fritz that "after arriving at his apartment, he changed his shirt and trousers because they were dirty. He described his dirty clothes as being a reddish colored, long sleeved shirt with a button down collar." Thus the picture you give opposite your page 250 of Oswald's shirt without buttons would seem to be not relevant unless it was the same shirt that Oswald had worn during the assassination, and there seems no reason for thinking it was necessarily. Perhaps this has already been pointed out to you. If the reddish shirt that Oswald had said he had put away in the reddish drawer is available for inspection it might prove something.

Oswald in New Orleans does give an important story to people who have the time to read it patiently and with care. That is a big if. There is one point I would dispute in it. You write "As the author of the first book on this most disagreeable subject"-- . My understanding is that Joesten's is, and it seems to me that he did a great work that has not been given recognition. Apart from understandable faults he brought together the key facets that still hold up.

I inclose a copy of my resume of the evidence with a discussion of the bullet that hit the pavement on pages 3-5.

Sincerely,

Griscom Morgan
Griscom Morgan

P.S. on p. 371, was Gurchich Garrison's "chief aid"?

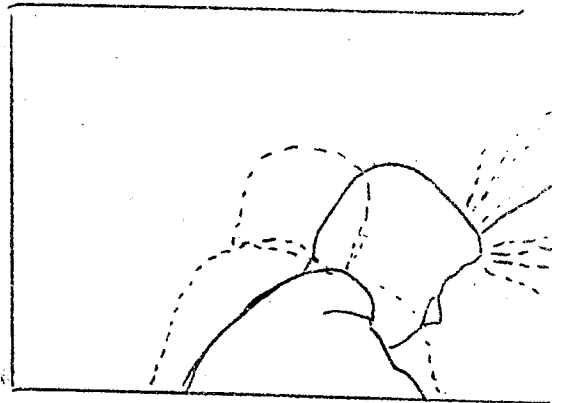
A Resume of the evidence on the Kennedy assassination,
The Warren Report, and the work of its critics.

by Griscom Morgan

The evidence for and against the Warren Report is so detailed and extensive that most articles and books have left a cumbersome and cloudy picture of the case as a whole, one not easily followed by the casual reader. To avoid this difficulty we here undertake to deal with only a few high spots in the case definitively in such a way that there should be no question with regard to crucial aspects of the case upon which the Warren Report must stand or fall.

In his widely reprinted attack on critics of the Warren Report, The Scavengers, Richard Warren Lewis dealt with one of the crucial bits of evidence upon which the Warren Report must stand or fall, which was the motion of President Kennedy's head immediately following the impact of the fatal bullet. Mr. Lewis writes, "Vincent Salandria, . . . by superimposing critical frames of the moving picture on each other . . . suggests that the President's head lurched backward and to the left. Such conclusions would clearly suggest the presence of a second assassin. But Salandria, like most skeptics, overlooks the forward rush of the motorcade following the impact of the fatal bullet -- a movement which clearly destroys his supposition." This is a clear issue of fact that can be confirmed or disproved by consideration of the evidence.

9 We show here the diagram that was drawn from Vincent Salandria's study of the motion picture evidence. In the words of Gaetano Fonzi, the reporter who reported this study, "With the excellent cooperation of the National Archives staff, two slide projectors (were) set up and, from one, frame 313, projected on a screen. From the other, frames 314, 315 and 316 can be individually superimposed over the image of 313. (Each frame represents a time lapse of only about 1/18th of a second.) It then becomes clearly evident



that the hit produced no forward motion of the head or body at all. Kennedy's head flew back and to the left, his shoulders and torso spun to the left, the top-right part of his head was blown apart." As the appended diagram shows, Kennedy's head spun around, and within the very brief period of one sixth of a second. The motion of the forehead was approximately one foot. We suggest to the reader that he move his head in a similar motion even within a period of one second. The conclusion should be obvious that no forward motion of the presidential limousine could have caused this motion of the head. And obviously a shot from the rear could not have caused it. As further evidence of a shot from the right

forward, the brain matter that was blasted from Kennedy's head was thrown in the left rearward direction, spattering the two motorcycle escorts riding abreast at the left rear of the presidential limousine. As yet further evidence of this motion not being the backward motion that could have been caused by forward motion of the limousine, Life magazine placed a caption under one of these pictures with the words, "causing a massive wound and snapping his head to one side."

The evidence we have just surveyed disproves the Warren Report and substantiates the testimony of a majority of the witnesses that they heard, saw or smelled gunfire or/and smoke from the area of the wooded knoll to the front right of the presidential limousine. The discounting of such evidence by the FBI and the Warren Commission was part of deliberate design, and was just as definite as is this case of Richard Warren Lewis giving a very misleading report of the facts in his book The Scavengers.

Next in our list of the crucial evidence is the story of the Altman photograph which shows what appears to be Lee Harvey Oswald in the doorway of the Depository Building at the time of the assassination of President Kennedy. The FBI and the Warren Commission staff used fraudulent means to discount this evidence, means that its authors must have known were fraudulent. If fraud was required to make the case against Oswald, Oswald cannot be presumed to be guilty. The evidence is as follows:

Various observers thought they recognized Lee Oswald in the Associated Press print of a photograph by photographer Altgens showing the presidential limousine moments after the first shot. If this was Oswald, it would have definitely eliminated him from suspicion as an assassin. In response to inquiries about this photograph, the FBI asserted that the individual observed there had been a fellow employee in the building named Billy Lovelady. The FBI produced a picture of Lovelady standing in a similar pose with his shirt unbuttoned in a manner similar to that of the man in the doorway. ~~But according to~~ The FBI's picture of Lovelady wearing the same shirt he had worn on that day, ~~this shirt shows~~ *shows* was a broad red and white striped short sleeved shirt which Lovelady had testified he had worn buttoned up to his neck on that day. The man who looks like Oswald in the doorway is clearly wearing a strikingly different shirt, one that appears to be identical to that which is shown on Oswald on the day of the assassination. This ~~was~~ was a long-sleeved light flecked dark shirt whose upper buttons were missing so that there is clear view of the undershirt.

The importance of this identification of the man shown in the doorway of the Depository Building is evidenced by the fact that it was J. Edgar Hoover himself ~~who~~ answered an inquiry about comparison of shirts in relation to this photograph, when the General Counsel directing the Warren Commission's investigation raised the question in ~~the~~ *an oblique way* - evasive, misleading answer to Counsel Rankin's phony question was substantially that Lee Oswald was wearing his own shirt on the day of the assassination. (documentation in Photographic Whitewash by Harold Weisberg--in full photostatic detail.)

Hoover's

To suggest that the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was involved in suppression of evidence with regard to the assassination of a president is ~~as a serious charge, fantastic as to be inconceivable by any person~~ ~~as happens~~. However, that there have been highly qualified journalists who had early suspected this to be the case. Among these, a leading Scripps-Howard editor is outstanding. Richard Starnes had been assistant managing editor of the Scripps-Howard Washington paper and subsequently became managing editor of the New York World-Telegram. Thus he knew his way around Washington. In a column he had written, "Can we expect the FBI to explain why Oswald was not under surveillance that day in Dallas when the President's widely-heralded visit was scheduled?" ~~He~~ ~~also wrote~~ "The commission will be almost wholly dependant upon the facts made available to it by the Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Dallas Police Department.

"In a sense, of course, the special commission is investigating the role played by each of these agencies, and it is manifestly naive to expect these cops to bear witness against themselves, or, indeed, each other. . .

"If you believe the Dallas police will ever give up the truth about how Rubenstein got a clear shot at Oswald you will believe anything. . ."

The entire Warren Report, with most of its work done by the FBI, is full of conclusions based on evidence that had been warped and twisted by the investigators. For example, not only does the Altgens photograph appear to show that Oswald was near the front door of the Depository Building at the time of the assassination, but a fellow employee testified that Lovelady had been sitting down at his feet at the time, and the Altgens photograph shows a man sitting there, his head barely showing. Furthermore, another employee testified that she had caught a glimpse of Oswald as she was leaving the building about this time. She did not retract this testimony on cross examination, but the Warren Commission staff got around it by using her statement that she did not see Lee Oswald after she left the building to infer contradiction in her testimony.

It was essential to the Warren Report to conclude that only three shots had been fired, and that all had been fired from the far sixth floor window to the east of the Depository Building. Yet a number of witnesses independantly stated that they saw a bullet hit the pavement to the left and rear of the presidential limousine, one of them saying that sparks flew up from this spot, ~~at the time of the first shot~~. One observer who saw only the television picture of this pressed the Commission about it, and the FBI then located a spot in apparently the area the direct witnesses indicated, where the pavement had been gauged out as if from a bullet. This was described by the FBI report as "an approximately four inches long by one-half inch wide dug-out scar, which could possibly have been made by some blunt-end instrument or projectile. It is noted that this scar lies in such a direction that if it had been a bullet, it could not have

come from the direction of the window the President's Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy has public stated was used by Lee Harvey Oswald when firing his assassination bullets at the late President.

"This particular scar is in line with the western end of the . . . Depository Building, that is, the opposite end of the building from where Oswald was shooting at the late President."

This testimony and evidence ~~is of particular~~ significance because ~~it~~ points up a clear misstatement of fact in the Warren Report and to another chain of misrepresentation of evidence.

Among the many occasions in which the Warren Commission ~~substantiated or~~ misrepresented evidence to make its case, its dealing with the testimony of Arnold Rowland is most glaring. The detailed procedure by which the Commission's key investigator Arlen Specter set about discrediting Arnold Rowland's testimony must be read at length to be appreciated. For that reason it is appended with this brief survey.

Arnold Rowland was a major obstacle to the Warren Commission's conclusions because he steadfastly asserted that he had observed a rifleman at the western end of the sixth floor of the Depository Building. Moreover, he was the only witness who had noted the presence of a telescopic sight to the rifle. ~~It~~ seemingly disproved ~~the~~ the Commission asserted in its Report that "the far east corner of the sixth floor of the Depository (had) the only open window on that floor." Yet photographs taken at the time of the assassination show the far west window to have been wide open just as Arnold Rowland said it was. All the arguments tending to show that Rowland was an inaccurate and undependable witness have been fully disproved (as shown in the appended discussion and repetition of testimony), so now we have no reason for disregarding the evidence of witnesses of a bullet hitting the pavement to the left rear of the Presidential limousine and gauging a mark that leads to the opposite window from that at which Oswald was presumed to have been aiming at the President. It is ironic that Harland Manchester in his Death of a President credits Rowland with being a good witness, but ignores the fact that Rowland undermined the whole thesis of the Warren Report.

Not only do we have evidence that ~~the first~~ shot in the assassination shooting came from another window than that in which Lee Oswald was presumed to be shooting, but we also can show that noone was ~~shooting from~~ that window at the time of the first shot. Like the evidence we have already mentioned, this evidence too was knowingly misrepresented by the FBI.

visible in

The only excuse the Dallas police had for immediately identifying Oswald as a suspect in the assassination was a report by the witness Brennan. The Commission used Brennan's testimony of seeing Oswald standing while firing the rifle as the basis of identifying the assassin. Yet not only was it impossible to stand while firing a rifle about two and a half feet from the floor, but other witnesses testified to seeing only the rifle, and photographs show nobody in the window just before the first shot. There was no reason why the assassin should be in view, for he could see and shoot while concealed beside the window. Moreover, Brennan had twice failed to identify Oswald in a lineup and had poor eyesight. But the Commission had no basis other than criminal collusion on the part of the Ku Klux Klan-infiltrated police* for the police identification of Oswald as the person fitting the description of the suspect, about which it had sent out a radio call on the basis of which Tippit was supposed to have encountered Oswald. Hence the Commission's and FBI's handling of photographic evidence showing nobody in the window.

On January 20, 1964 J. Edgar Hoover listed photographs "which are available of the assassination", and among them he listed "an 8 mm color movie" of the "Presidential motorcade proceeding east on Main Street, north on Houston street and left on Elm street directly in front of Texas School Book Depository building is shown in full in the photographs." In the twenty six volumes of the Commission's Hearings only a small portion of one of the frames of this movie is dealt with or shown, with the caption "enlarged print from 8mm film of window from which shots were fired. Picture was taken moments before assassination." The only reference to this evidence in the Warren Report is the following:

Speculation -- an amateur 8 millimeter photograph taken at 12:20 p.m., 10 minutes before the assassination of President Kennedy, showed two silhouettes at the sixth floor window of the Depository.

Commission Finding -- a film taken by an amateur photographer, Robert J.E. Hughes, just before the assassination, shows a shadow in the southeast corner window of the sixth floor. This has been determined after examination by the FBI and the U.S. photographic interpretation center to be the shadow from the cartons near the window."

This picture could not have been taken more than about four seconds before the first shot in the assassination, and the assassin could not have moved in the window to a significant extent while in the course of rapid aiming and firing. The Commission and the FBI thus had evidence that Brennan's testimony of seeing Oswald shooting at the window was false, and hence that the Dallas police had pre-determined that Oswald should be the suspect to be apprehended for the assassination.

* Penn Jones had been approached by a leading Dallas policeman, George Butler, in 1961, with the request that he should print a region-wide Ku Klux Klan newspaper, at which time the policeman had told Jones that half of the police force in Dallas were members of the KKK. Butler was a guard at the time of Oswald's murder.

We are now able to reconstruct the Kennedy assassination with a fairly complete chain of evidence, giving the names of at least some of the assassins, proving their motives (as was never done with Lee Oswald) and showing why the FBI and Warren Commission engaged in the cover-up of the identity of the real assassins. For the sake of brevity we will limit ourselves to basic and essential documentation.

Lee Oswald had not been a particularly good rifle shot even when he was in practice in the marines, and there is no evidence that he had kept up his practice. Furthermore, there are a number of clear instances in which Oswald was reported to think well of President Kennedy and his civil rights program -- in striking contrast to many people in Dallas. But there was a man who looked very much like Lee Oswald who not only was an extremely good shot, and had been in the Dallas area about the time of the assassination, but he had clearly reported motive for the assassination. At the Sports Dome rifle range near Dallas this man with two Spanish-looking companions had shot with spectacular accuracy, and his similarity to Lee Oswald was so great that among other witnesses a doctor and his son when they saw a TV picture of Lee Oswald after the assassination each independently was convinced that he was the man they had seen at the rifle range. Similarly in Dallas a responsible Cuban exile, Silvia Odio, and her friends who had been visited by an essentially similar assortment of men, were convinced that Lee Oswald was the same person as they had been introduced to as the "Leon Oswald" who had visited them in company with two Latin-American looking men. But since Lee Oswald at this time was known to be on his way to Mexico City, the Warren Commission concluded that this "Leon Oswald" was not connected with the assassination.

Silvia Odio had been told by a companion of "Leon Oswald" that "he was an excellent shot, and that (he)s-ide; the Cubans don't have any guts . . . because President Kennedy should have been assassinated after the Bay of Pigs. . . because he was the one that was holding the freedom of Cuba."

We have already shown evidence that Lee Oswald was on the first floor of the Depository Building at the time of the assassination. He left very shortly afterward; it is presumed by some that he left to report in his capacity of informer to some governmental agency. Some time later, about the time that restrictions were dropped limiting entrance and exit from the Depository building, deputy sheriff Roger D. Craig saw a man (he subsequently identified, from seeing him in police custody as Lee Oswald) run from the area of the Depository Building to an automobile with a Latin-American appearing driver that had driven slowly in front of the building to pick him up. Since the Deputy Sheriff was sure this was the same as Oswald, yet Oswald had been proved to be elsewhere, he was discredited in his testimony. Now we assert that this testimony places William Seymour, alias Leon Oswald near the Depository building shortly after the assassination. As the Warren Report puts it (pl 301) "Seymour is similar in apearance to Lee Harvey Oswald".

Oswald's relationship with officer Tippit cannot be avoided in a discussion of the Kennedy assassination. There is much detailed evidence that would tend to clear Oswald of the Tippit killing, too lengthy to go into here, but one element of evidence entirely misrepresented in the Warren Report casts Oswald's relationship to the Tippit killing in a very different light. Harold Weisberg has shown that whereas Lee Oswald's landlady had testified that a police car had stopped and beeped its horn several times in front of his rooming house when he had stopped there after the assassination, the Warren Report had stated that "investigation has not produced any evidence that there was a police vehicle in that area." Yet the Warren Commission had clear evidence that officer Tippit's police car was in that area at the time -- the only car in the Dallas force that was. Moreover, Tippit's car was the only one whose license nearly coincided with the number that Mrs. Roberts, the landlady, with poor eyesight, had thought it -- 106 or 107 as contrasted with Tippit's 10. An additional figure could easily have been assumed from what followed on the license. This fits in with extensive evidence that Lee Oswald understood his role to be that of an informer, such as assistant district attorney Bill Alexander thought him to be before the assassination.

The most ominous speculation about the Kennedy assassination is that it might involve not only anti Castro fighters who had once been on CIA pay, but also people higher up in the CIA organization. Evidence of this and of the motive for such involvement is centered in reports that a prominent military affairs specialist who had occasionally been employed by the CIA (as Jim Garrison tells it in his Playboy interview) "Several days after the president's assassination appeared at the home of friends in New Jersey badly shaken, and charged that Kennedy was killed by a small group within the CIA" -- the Far Eastern Division. --Garrison went on to say "He told his friends he believed his life was in danger. We can't learn more from Underhill, I'm afraid, because shortly afterward he was found shot to death in his Washington apartment."

The rationale on the part of a group in the CIA would be clear: Kennedy had become disillusioned with the Vietnam conflict and had appointed Ambassador Galbraith to study the Vietnam problem. The CIA was clearly faced with the likelihood of Kennedy's bowing out on its Vietnam management as he had done with its planned invasion of Cuba, and the whole free-wheeling CIA organization was in peril. Just after the appointment of ex-CIA chief Allen Dulles to the Warren Commission, Scripps-Toward columnist Richard Starnes had pronounced "Dulles is shadow of inquiry", and went on to quote a prominent American official in the Far East as saying "I seriously question if President Kennedy himself has any effective control over this monstrous bureaucracy." Perhaps the assassination was the necessary confirmation of this doubt.

NEW ADDRESS: Rt. 7, Frederick, MD. 21701::301/473-3136

12/22/67

Dear Criscom Morgan,

Your forwarded letter of 12/8 finds me snowed under with the accumulations of the two weeks I was working in New Orleans. Please excuse the hasty response. I am looking forward to reading your enclosed resume.

I'll be in your general area 1/12 when I do a show on WLND-TV (Conversation piece) 1/12.

It is not the same for Captain Fritz to say that Oswald changed his shirt (as the Fritz memo also says) as for Oswald to have said it. I do not believe he did or that there was time for him to have done this within the Commission's time allowances. The relevance of the shirt is that the one in which he was arrested exactly coincides with that of the man in the doorway and the Lovelady shirt in no way-not a single one-coincides. Despite Fritz, who can be trusted on nothing, there is no real reason to doubt that Oswald wore the same shirt all day long.

I have more than I cannot print because I do not own the literary rights. After hearing from Mrs. Lovelady (note at end of index, Photo Whitewash), I sent this to Dick Sprengno and Jones Harris. They looked where I'd have suspect, the Martin film, and find Lovelady in that in exactly the shirt she described to me. Further, when he posed for CBS, Lovelady, as his wife also told me, was wearing the shirt that he has on in the Martin picture. It cannot possibly be the shirt in the Altgens picture. Nor, for that matter, can the one the FBI said he was wearing.

I believe we will eventually prove that both men were there, and that the cameras angles have much bearing on what we will learn.

Joesten's and Buchanan's books preceded mine, quite obviously. I quote Joesten in my first. However, I was talking about books on the Warren Report. Those two preceded that. WHITE ASH was completed 2/15/65, published 2/66. Fox was next.

Most intellectuals are inclined to think that others want only pabulum in their reading. My mail does not indicate this but does reflect the contrary. The publisher had agreed to edit the rough draft of O in NO and instead used a shears. There are many typos and other errors. However, most people make it out. This is a subject that people do read with care, and increasingly I am told that the meticulous detail that I give is welcome and doesn't interfere with interest but adds. I hope this is true for I have little alternative. The pace at which I still go is one that few young men can maintain. I am but one man. Each thing I do means there is another I cannot, and in each case I must make an unwelcome choice. With my writing, this means that I can not take the time to hone it. Unfortunately, each of the four books I have published has been the rough draft. Otherwise, I'd never have been able to do the research and investigation I've done and write a million words. My fifth book will be published when I dare risk the additional debt.

Reference to Gurvich as Garrison's "chief aid" is from the papers, from which that entire chapter comes. It should have been in quotes. He never was.