

Rt. 8, Fred erick, Md. 21701

5/2/68

Dear Gary,

Be closer to you for a few hours next week, but not close enough and not long enough. Detroit, Wednesday, for taping TV.

The two things you report are exciting: the Similas visitor and Brennan. I was never persuaded he was where he said in Zepruder but failed to do the fine work you did. Congratulations! I expect to dine with Jim tomorrow night before he makes a speech. I am certain he'll be interested in both.

Although the CIA is precluded by law from any internal operations, I am confident they are very active under a variety of covers, i.e., recruiting, evaluating, etc. There is no FBI report of an interview with Similas. I have the assurance that I have everything in the files.

One thing troubles me. Perhaps there is a simple explanation. Presumably Sunday Similas was back home. The FBI man in Canada is called, I believe, the "legal attache". God knows what the CIA calls itself. Did he not get any card, any identification? Or is this Davies and I'm too tired to understand?

Your comment about Brennan is an understatement.

But does this not all add point and reason to the deliberate suppression of the photographic evidence?

You ask the meaning of "control over doctrine". From your letter this is no problem for you alone will do the writing. However, when there is collaboration and area for disagreements, the beliefs you express, the editorial decisions-what to have in, what to leave out-what the books will say, really, how it is said and why. An agreement on control eliminates subsequent disputes.

Sprague's estimate of where Similas should appear is sound. I think he will. *John*

It would be interesting if the Brennan story was true of Ewins and a few of the others.

Perhaps by now my premature congratulations are in order!

Sincerely,

R.E. I,  
Moffat, Ont., Canada,  
April 29th, 1968.

Dear Harold;

Well, I'm late in my reply to you again. I'm also not a father yet. The wife and I were to the doctor a week ago (4/22) and he thought at that time that it would be less than a week away. However, here it is a week later and nothing has happened. We are scheduled at the doctor's later today. I will let you know when it all happens.

I will send you 4 or 5 spare copies of my exhibits in a few days. I have more than that of some, but there are others that have to be duplicated as I have only made a limited amount. I mail the Citizens Committee directly to Steve Burton. I haven't sent any to Paul Hoch, so perhaps you could do so when the spare copies arrive.

I think I will go through with the Similas writing, and in fact have even started some of it. Money is not the reason involved, but rather finding out the truth of this case and what really happened to the Similas photo's. Thank you for your consent to use some of your work. I will let you know exactly what I plan to quote etc. The only other person who is helping in small ways in this is Mr. Lunniss, an associate of mine from work. As for the actual writing, he is not involved. He has been helpful in setting up certain interviews though.

If you get time, will you explain the "control over the doctrine of the work"? I don't believe that I understand fully.

Sprague thinks that he has spotted Similas in some of the Couch film. He also expresses the belief that Similas should appear in the Nix, Muchmore, Bell, Hughes, Paschall, and Alyea film. This is something into which he is presently checking.

On reviewing the Similas interview a real bombshell which I had apparently glossed over came to light. It leaves little or no doubt of the possible CIA or FBI links of the man visiting Similas on the Sunday. Similas stated that this man came and interviewed him and observed some of his Ruby pictures before Ruby shot Oswald! In other words this man talked to Similas early in the morning of Nov. 24/63. This only heightens ones suspicions about what these Ruby night club photo's might possibly have shown.

In doing some work on the Bernabei lead I think that I have discovered something else that is quite ~~perplexing~~ mysterious. The question it poses is where was Howard Leslie Brennan, "star" witness, at the time of the shooting? Commission exhibits 477-478(15H197) show "photograph of Howard Brennan taken on March 20, 1964, showing his position in front of the TSB at the time of the assassination." Compare these photo's to frames from the Hughes, Bell and Martin film. I think you will have a hard time finding Mr. Brennan in these. In the Hughes film: page 185 of Thompson's Six Seconds in Dallas, picture labelled G (top of page). CE 477 shows Brennan sitting just a little to the right of the traffic signal across the street from him. The Hughes film shows no one sitting to the right of the Traffic signal. Instead there is a shape much further to the left edge of the film, under the branches of the tree. This figure shows

up much clearer in the frame from the Bell film printed by Thompson on the same page, 185, and labeled "H". The man is sitting on the extreme left hand edge of the stone wall, a good 10 to 12 feet from where Brennan was. This man shows up in the same position in the Martin film(DCA). The angles of the Commission photo's and the Hughes film may be slightly different, but no matter. If Brennan was sitting as he is shown in CE 477 he must show up to the right of the traffic signal in the Hughes film. This can be proven with the use of CE 478. This photo is taken shoot back down Houston St. Knowing Hughes position on the south-west curb of Houston-Main intersection one can project a point back from his position on CE 478. Once again Brennan would show up to the right of the traffic signal. But, as the Hughes film shows, this is not the case. This man on the left edge of the stone wall in the Hughes and Martin film is dressed in a light shirt and dark pants. However, a photo of Brennan taken shortly after the shooting by Jim Murray shows Brennan dressed entirely in light or white clothing!(Six Seconds in Dallas, pg. 135). My conclusion is that the man in the Hughes and Martin and Bell film is not Brennan, but someone else. As for Brennan, my studies of the Zapruder film have helped me to form the following conclusion. Brennan was sitting well around the stone wall on the eastern edge of it. To put it in different terms, on the stone wall, but on the west side of Houston St. He is visible until he goes out of sight behind the sprocket hole at frame 212(18419). During this interval he is on the wall, west side of Houston St., craning and turning his head to look over his left shoulder at the motorcade proceeding down Elm St. away from him. At no time does he look up at the TSBD.

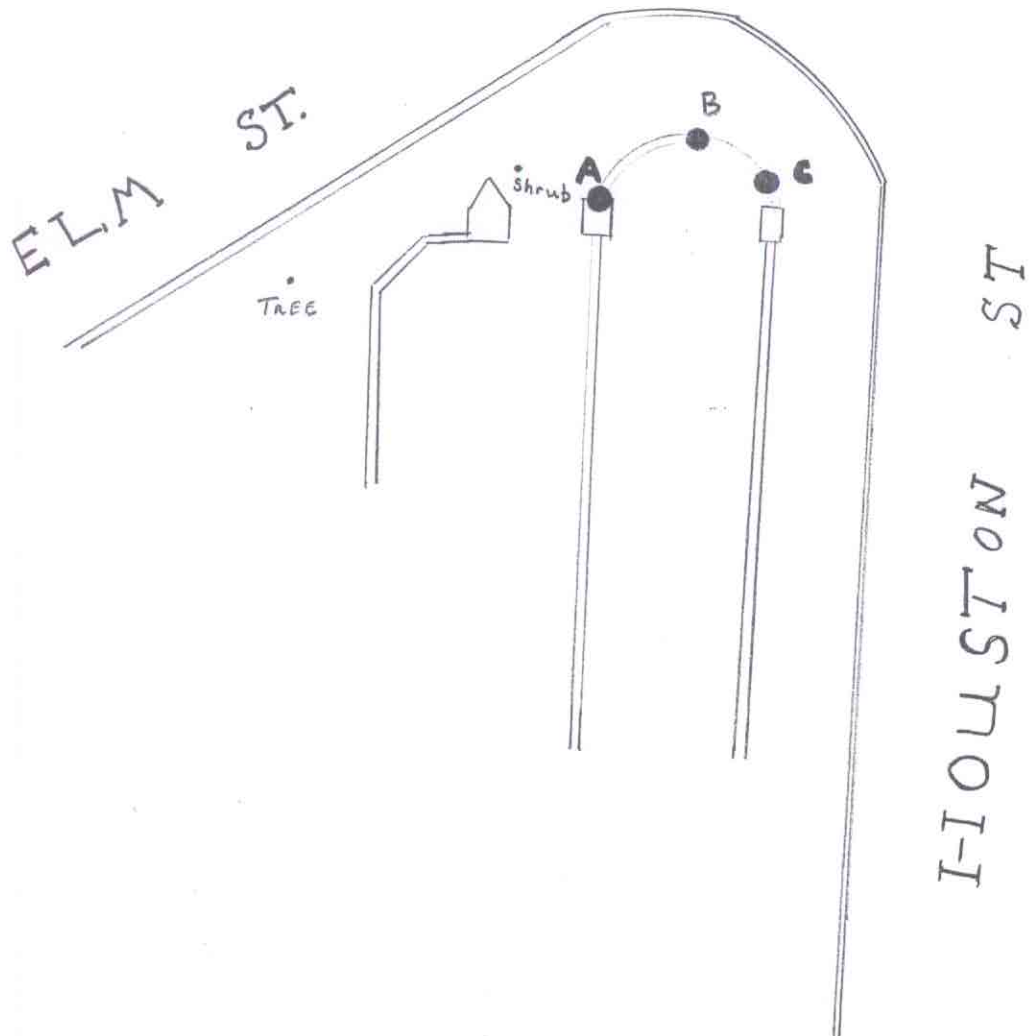
The whole point of this is that if Brennan cannot be truthful about where he was standing, then what faith can be put in the already dubious credibility of his story of the shooting. The Commission had to place him where they did in Exhibits 477-478 in order that he could be in a position to view the face of the TSBD. Being on the west side of Houston St, where he actually was, he probably had no occasion to look at the TSBD at all. Just in case the reasoning or the explanation are a little hard to follow, I have prepared a chart of the corner on which I have made my observations.

Well it is time for me to go. Hope to hear from you soon.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gandy".





- A. Man sitting on left hand edge of stone wall. Can be seen in Hughes, Bell, and Martin films. Dressed in light colored short sleeved shirt, dark trousers. Cannot be seen in Zapruder film because of stone pinnacle and shrubs to his immediate left.
- B. Brennan's position as shown by Commission Exhibits 477-478, March 20th, 1964.
- C. Brennan's position as gleaned from study of Zapruder film. (various LIFE article plus Volume 18). Dressed entirely in light colored clothing, long sleeved shirt.