

Harold:

I have exchanged several letters with Gary Schoener over the past few weeks, with some of the discussion concerning Sprague.

Schoener thinks that blunders of the type described in this letter are too frequent, too serious, and may not be accidental.

I don't know; I just don't know.

Bernabei

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30 March 69
Kingston, Ontario

Dick Sprague
Hartsdale, NY

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Dick:

In looking over the sequence of photos by Murray showing the portion of JFK's head laying on the grass on the south side of Elm, I found ~~something~~ something quite startling-- a little alarming, actually, considering that you had said Garrison might use these photos during the Shaw trial as evidence that JFK was struck in the head from the right-front. If Alcock had used them with the intent of showing that JFK was struck from the knoll, and if Dymond checked and found out what these pictures really show, he could have completely undermined the evidence of the shot from the knoll--- the more so because Garrison had made no reference to a double hit in the head.

The piece of JFK's head is resting on the grass about 3 feet west of the storm drain and manhole cover on the south side of Elm. Take West's map or the air photo of Dealey Plaza, line up the manhole cover with Z313, and you will see that the line extends backward into the TSB/Dal-TEX area. That piece of debris must have been cast forward after being separated from the head by a shot from the rear. There can be no question of that, provided that the object on the grass is a piece of JFK's head (it appears so to me).

I consider this conclusive evidence of a head shot from the rear, something that fully supports the notion of the double hit at Z313.

The distance between Z313 and the manhole cover seems a long distance for the debris to fly, but it is not inconceivably long. It is inconceivable, however, that that piece of debris can have been cast there by the shot from the knoll-- absolutely inconceivable.

I urge you to advise Garrison and others who have ~~this~~ these pictures not to assert that they are evidence that JFK was struck from the right. I believe that after you gave these to Garrison he went on Johnny Carson's show and made that assertion on TV. If he had tried to do it in court, Dymond could have chewed the ass right off Garrison's evidence of the shot from the knoll. Those pictures would have turned on Garrison like a Frankenstein monster, and the press would have had a field day. They were sitting like vultures, waiting for just such a blunder.

And you must be more careful in your own analyses of material like this. This was a simple matter of simple lining up of points and measuring. A mistake of this nature can be disastrous.

Nothing new to report yet. I am presently developing something that I am almost sure will free the Mannlicher-Carcano from ~~the~~ consideration as one of the murder weapons-- and Oswald from consideration as one of the murderers. It is quite exciting, but not yet finished, so I'll let you know later, when I am absolutely sure. It involves more fakery on the part of Frazier.

Still,

Mike

Bernabei