

December 2, 1992

Dear Dennis,

I just finished reading my November issue of The Third Decade. I presume you were as intrigued by the William Weston article, "Collaborators of the Conspiracy" as it seems in many ways similar to yours. I have never run across the fact that the power and phone lines were down for about five minutes prior to the assassination yet it is footnoted. (from the House volumes? I'm not sure of the footnote shorthand) While I am intrigued by the idea that other numerous TSBD employees were "in on it" in some sense it makes more sense that many may have been intimidated after the fact. That the supervisors may have suggested some biases in the course of their job does not seem implausible. I could more easily and I think realistically buy the idea that a few "key" employees were unwittingly part of the conspiracy prior to the assassination. By "key" employee I mean strategic, not just superiors and supervisors who naturally be in a position to manipulate Oswald as an employee but also some of Oswald's peers. It is not hard to imagine many of the employees were normal patriotic maybe even anti-Communists. Imagine the biases some of Oswald's fellow employees would have if over the course of time prior to 11/22 certain "key" employees let it be known certain aspects of Oswald's past. e.g. Marine Commie defector, Castro sympathizer, beats his wife etc.

On the other hand, surely Roy Truly was a possible "key" employee and the Weston article certainly paints him in suspicious actions. Yet after volunteering to lead Baker in the search for an obviously desperate and presumably well armed assailant he passes up a perfect opportunity to cast suspicion on Oswald when they run into him. Oswald is initially passed over simply because Truly vouches that "Yes, he works here.". Presumably the assassin can not possibly be a TSBD employee and Truly is leading the search to show the way in a building Baker cannot not possibly know as well as Truly does. Presumably, Truly is there to point out the "unrecognized or non-employee" that might be found in the building.

Frankly, I've only read the article once through but I feel compelled to write this letter while I've got the time. What do you think? Can you send me a copy of footnote 40?

Sincerely,

Stephen Sitz

David,
note:
most recent
correspondence from
DF at back re
We German
S.P.S.

2 December 1992

Mr. Stephen Sitz
105 W. 55th St., 7-A
New York NY 10019

Dear Stephen:

It's good to hear from you.

The Weston article is quite good (as I said on the phone, this is the kind of stuff our group should have been doing). I, too, never heard of the power black-out at the TSBD. It may involve shutting down the elevators, but it may also be based on a single eyewitness.


I agree with your observation: Oswald's co-conspirators, if he had any, may have come from the TSBD employees or, better still, his employers. (One, Warren Caster, actually brought in two guns into the TSBD on Nov. 20th; he supposedly brought them out -- they were gifts for his son; Caster may also be related to a Col. Caster or Castorr, a retired military officer active in the anti-Castro Dallas community. His testimony is in the WC, as is Roy Truly's; the last point about the Col. is in Meagher's book.)

I don't have footnote #40. It refers, far as I can tell, to the WC volumes. I can forward you Document (or Exhibit, I forget which it is) No. 2003, which is the list Weston refers to. It does make interesting reading, as Lee Harvey is referred to as Harvey Lee and his address is wrong. He also heads the list. I think the list was a kind of working document for the police on the 22nd or 23rd regarding TSBD employees and their locations during the assassination. (List is also incomplete.)

(I'm also sending copies of sections of Vol. X of the HSCA dealing with Ferrie, 544 Campt St., and two Cuban groups, one in Chicago. I'll eventually track down the references to the Chicago plot, but give me time. I have no index.)

If you accept the premise that Conspirators Stay Together Before & After the Crime, you must note that Oswald stays together with no one. I think this shows either he was a lone assassin or we don't know enough about what went on immediately before and immediately after the assassination.

Stay in touch,


Dennis

December 7, 1992

Dear Dennis,

I found the name of the book I mentioned to you on the way back from the last meeting.

Watergate in American Memory

How We Remember and Reconstruct the Past
Michael Schudson

The "Was Oswald a Spy" article in Sunday's NY Times Magazine wasn't worth reading. Enclosed is a copy of Thornley testimony to the Warren Commission in which a "Colonel Poindexter, an air ace in Korea" is mentioned. Straight out of the blue, could this be Colonel John Poindexter, an aide or some such figure from the Reagan administration Iran-Contra etc?

December 18, 1992

Dennis Ford, Ph.D.
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Dear Dennis,

Thanks for your last letter.

The last paragraph of your most recent letter gave me a flash of insight. That Conspirators Stay Together Before and After the Crime is a very useful working premise. In your letter you add, "...note that Oswald stays together with no one." To this point I would suggest an alternative interpretation that oddly enough stays, I think, consistent with your original proposition. Oswald did stay together with the conspirators until he realized that he was being set up to be the patsy. "Patsy" is the very term he used just a few hours later. I am assuming a very late and probably dramatic realization on Oswald's part. With very little time to think or act he may well have felt the need to establish an alibi (eg. "calmly" drinking a Coke in the lunch room.) more useful than immediate physical escape by disappearing into the pedestrian mayhem outside which would probably not have left him any alibi. Perhaps his realization was only partial, at least as to the implications of his backing out. Perhaps the Warren Commission version of his route home was deliberately misleading and circuitous in an attempt to avoid capture and conflict with the other conspirators and or the police.

Enclosed is a copy of one of the pages you recently sent me. Could you please send me a copy of the Thornley citation I have marked. I already have the WC testimony. No rush, whenever you can get around to it.

I have also enclosed copies of pages from The Man on the Grassy Knoll. I know, I know I shouldn't read assassination books that are published with raised lettering like the latest Danielle Steele novels but the authors do make an interesting argument for Charles Rogers being the Grassy Knoll gunman albeit without a single footnote or reference citation. Thoughts and dialog are admittedly imagined as necessary to carry the story. Still I have made copies of several things that seem to bear checking out. Specifically regarding automobiles in Dealey Square.

Hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday.

24 December 1992

Dear Steve:

Thanks for the letter -- and Happy Holidays. My New Year's wish is that we can find a different hobby by the time 1993 is over.

I have some observations re' conspiracy and our favorite patsy. The first has to do with exactly when Oswald realized he was the patsy. I think this realization may have happened further down the Blvd., so to say, at the Texas Theater. He got into the Rambler around 12:40, so he was still a part of the conspiracy at that point. I think he went wittingly into the Theater.

Why the Theater? I don't know. If he were a conspirator, the Theater may have been a familiar and safe place, one probably used before. (Here's an area for further research.) On the other hand, if the conspirators were trying to escape, why not proceed to some apartment or private house instead of to a public theater?

If the Theater was chosen haphazardly, without planning, it was a pretty poor conspiracy -- or something happened to throw the conspiracy off. I'm toying with the idea that something happened to throw the rendezvous off. The other possibility is that Oswald was wondering around town on his own, and so much for conspiracy theories.

I'm also questioning whether Oswald was set up as the patsy or whether events fell out that way by accident. None of the evidence on the sixth floor is without alternate explanation forbidding a conspiracy (even the three bullets arranged in a row). We have precious little go on beyond the sixth floor evidence and Oswald's statements. I don't know what he was up to in custody -- the real crime here is the failure to keep a record of his statements to police -- but I would not expect him to admit to murder. "I'm just a patsy" sounds better than "Okay, boys, you got me."

If Oswald were the patsy, why didn't the other conspirators kill him rather than let the police capture him? (I don't think the capture was planned and it's not suspicious why so many police arrived at the Theater, since they were only six/seven blocks away at the Tippit scene.) The conspirators couldn't guarantee he wouldn't spill the beans or that higher placed conspirators among the lawmen would act as they were supposed to; this faith is incomprehensible, I don't care whether the mob or the CIA killed JFK.

That they didn't kill him anywhere on route suggests he was a part of the conspiracy. Of course, they couldn't kill him at the TSBD. That would have been too suspicious and they couldn't slow-down their get-away.

The Rogers/Holt story is, in my humble opinion, a hoax. (I think the same re the Morrow book.) The pictures don't add up and everything in their stories has been known for years. And there's a guy in CA. sitting in wealthy retirement who's claimed involvement in assassination and not one law enforcement agent in USA is interested. Conspiracy buffs may say this demonstrates a cover-up. I think it demonstrates a lack of substance in his story.

The Thornley reference you asked for is not in the House volumes, but is part of their unpublished records, obtainable through the Natl. Archives or through AARC (possibly). Re Thornley, there's a book called the ✓ Illuminatus Trilogy by R. Shea and R. Wilson dedicated to him.

Sunday
Let's try to get together after the New Year -- maybe around Jan. 10th or so. Rich Buckley wants to get back involved and so does Rich McLaughlin. The four of us may be able to pursue an area of research. I have some ideas, but I'm open to any of substance.

Best wishes,

Dennis

2 Feb. 1993

Dear Stephen:

Good to hear from you. Hope you don't mind me sending you the maps and the lists. You may find them helpful in your researches. (There's no distance indicated in the maps, but it's about 1 mile from the rooming house to the Tippit killing.)

I like your letter to David Keck. It's very subtle, especially about the spelling errors. I have no idea what's going on. It seems like a prankster stuffed old news in his return envelope.

I have a lot of trouble accepting any sightings of Oswald & Co. before the assassination. He didn't drive as far as we know and there's no reason for any salesman to remember him. I worked as a salesman in Macy's for six years and I couldn't remember customers from day-to-day (excepting the regulars), certainly not for months afterward. There's nothing unique about Oswald's trip to a Furniture Mart and there's no reason it should have been remembered. Was Oswald the only customer in the store for months? (His occasional mentioning about the USSR and about coming into money may have been inserted afterward, as information became available on 11-22 and 11-23.)

I'm not sure what Martino meant by Oswald's mistake. It may be that Oswald left the theater prematurely. I used to think that Johnny Brewer was wrong about things, or that he tried to puff up his observations to play the hero, but I now think he saw what he saw and did what he did. The question becomes: where was Oswald coming from. He may have been coming from the Tippit shooting, although it took him a long time to get a few blocks. It may be he panicked inside the theater after buying a ticket. I tend to think the latter occurred. Neither Julia Postal nor the concessionaire were disturbed by his gate-crashing (Brewer certainly was) and there's a behavioral consideration, too. If Oswald was on the run, why did he sit and watch the movie and allow the police to walk up to him. Wouldn't he have continued out the rear door? He may not have realized Brewer called the police, but he must have seen Brewer and Burroughs walk up the aisles and position themselves near the rear doors. (By the way, they're very brave men to do while a cop-killer sits in the theater!)

Without tooting my own horn, I think the conspiracy model I outlined is very strong. Compare it to the article in this issue of TTD by Peter Whitmey, who has done some good work in the past. Move over Roscoe White, here comes Cecil Small! Doesn't it seem to be a very strange conspiracy that has the patsy hitch a ride to Oak Cliff? These dark forces and psychopathic mechanics couldn't do better than this?

I spoke with Mark Zaid over the weekend. He was in NJ, but we couldn't have the chance to meet. He told me that a researcher associated with the House Committee told him that Oswald bought a ticket to the theater. If this is true, it provides great support for the conspiracy model, which was formulated without any inside information. I wrote Mark today to get more information on this. I'll let you know if anything develops.

I haven't as of this date got any reply from Jack White. I'm somewhat worried, as I don't know what kind of person he is and I'm appalled at his ignorance of research standards. He didn't understand the point of Against Badgeman, he didn't know what the word falsification meant, and his resistance to psychological factors in perception leads me to believe there were few controls in creating Badgeman's image or in presenting it to audiences. I'd as soon let everything drop, but I'll respond if he responds, personally or in TTD. His naivete with respect to current thinking in perception -- what is it, Steve, with the failure of prominent researchers to be receptive to psychological factors -- really opens him up to criticism. I suspect Badgeman's establishment doesn't meet the minimal standards of research. As he showed in his responses to some of my points, his thinking is bankrupt, tired fantasies, as I indicated. There is really no way to counter my fifth point without speculation -- and that's the point of the point! It may be time to reassess our thinking in this field. We are desperately in need of new thinking!

It may also be time to start thinking of some of the implications of our positions, this only after 30 years. If the fix was in and Oswald was to be the patsy (and I think he was set-up) why did they leave three bullets? Exactly three? Not two, not four, but three? Any other bullet weakens the case against the patsy and grossly complicates the cover-up. (I think three bullets were

left because three were the number of shots gotten off or the number of hits by the true assassin.) Never mind biangulation of fire, never mind triangulation of fire. All it took was one marksman with an automatic or semi-automatic rifle to assassinate Kennedy. He could easily have gotten off 3 shots in seven seconds. (Where'd he shoot from? I don't know, but probably from the TSB D since Oswald, the man who ran into the Rambler, was inside the building, exactly where you want to place the patsy.)

When things get complicated, the simplest explanation is a good ~~place~~ ^{thing} to hold to.

Best wishes,



Dennis

8 Feb. 1993

Mr. Stephen Sitz
105 W. 55th St.
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Dear Stephen:

The thought occurred that you might find information on a disparity in Oswald's leg sizes in the Warren Report or Volumes. This info might be in his autopsy report. Surely, the pathologists wouldn'd have missed it -- and the autopsy was professionally done in Parkland.

Alternately, there might be something when Oswald was examined in NYC for chronic truancy. I know he was psychologically evaluated by a Dr. Hartogs, who afterward wrote a book.

Re Dillinger -- his myth lives on. A poet named Todd Moore has published two volumes of verse on Dillinger, not suprisingly named Dillinger I and Dillinger II. I've looked at the second book and it's strange stuff, mostly symbolical writing involving guns and blood. It's published by Primal Publishing out of Allston, Mass., 1992.

Best wishes,



Dennis Ford

11 February 1993

Mr. Stephen Sitz
105 W. 55th St., 7-A
New York, NY 10019

Dear Stephen:

A few scattered points ...

What is it with the city of Dallas that they can never run a motorcade correctly?

Can these rumors about J. Edgar Hoover be true? A drag queen? The thought of Hoover in a dress makes me shudder. It also makes me wonder how he kept his girlish figure all those years.

With respect to Jack White's reply -- you may be better off checking Oswald's autopsy, especially as his entrance into the Corps may have been a front for intelligence activities. It's kind of tacky for Jack to include an advertisement for his video, but I suppose that's commonly done in this field. Finally, I note that Jim Marrs, another Texas bumbler, scripted & directed the videos. This is an example of Dave Perry's point in his letter to the editor in the past issue: these fellows all quote one another and then believe they've obtained independent confirmation of their ideas. If you still have the letter of White to me, note how he uses Jim Marrs as an authority -- "Don't believe anything in this book" he says, i.e., Marrs does, but none of it is true. White & Marrs, et al., believe all of it.

Now, Dave Keck's letter is a nice response. He's certainly an ambitious fellow!

I read Louis Alvarez' article (1976 or so) on "A Physicist Looks at the Kennedy Assassination". It's the one which describes the "jet effect" to account for JFK's backward motion to a backward shot. I don't understand any of the formulas, so I can't say whether he's on target or not, but I can say I was impressed by his open-mindedness. In the article he writes how he read an article on eyewitness testimony and was so impressed by it that he stayed up all night taking notes on it. We have a situation where a

Nobel Prize winner and a heavy hitter in Physics, the mother of sciences, respects the study of eyewitness testimony & memory enough to study it, treat it seriously, and to try to apply it to the assassination. Compare this truly scientific attitude with that of Livingstone & White who dismiss such a study as speculation and disinformation.

I saw the James Earl Jones video a few months back, and I didn't see much of it. Is their grassy knoll gunman Badgeman? Just how many Badgemen are there? I figured two -- the one who scrimmages with Gordon Arnold and the one the cop in Shannon's article (sorry, I don't have the issue with me) runs across 10 seconds after the shooting. Here, we have a third.

I don't know much about the military aspects of the Bay of Pigs, but Howard Hunt was deeply involved in the low level operations and with Cuban organizations, CRC being an umbrella organization (Cuban Revolutionary Council) for many smaller groups. I don't ever remember reading that Hunt was ever directly involved at 544 Camp St. I would be surprised if he were, since he was straight CIA and the Banister group was a seedy bunch of alcoholic civilians who liked to play soldier with Cuban lives.

I've started researching electrical stimulation of the brain in order to refute Frankenwald. I hope Jerry Rose does this in his article, as no such a thing was/is possible in the way researchers mean. The idea of a remote-controlled robot Oswald is bad science and bad science fiction. I'll send you a copy, but it will take three or so weeks to collate my sources. (I'm limiting myself to the 1960s - 1970s time frame.)

Best wishes,



Dennis

21 February 1993

Mr. Stephen Sitz
105 W. 55th St.
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New York NY 10019

Dear Stephen:

Trust things are going well with you.

I heard some funny stories about A.J. Weberman of Coup D'Etat in America fame from my literary sources at Barnes & Nobles. You may want to pass them on to John Keck if you're corresponding with him.

*a friend of his
who works at
the book store.*

Sic

It seems A.J. Weberman was an outrageous yippie & prankster in the 1960s and early 1970s. His favorite prank was pieing people, especially famous people. He also pasted up murals in various places in NYC -- without morals or taste. He was also beat up by Bob Dylan for going through Dylan's garbage once too often. (Yes, he is the famous garbage man.)

Weberman may have concocted the entire Hunt-Sturgis-Carswell scenario while under the influence of pot. This tidbit is supposedly in print somewhere, though he tells a different story in Coup D'Etat. Finally, both the guys suggested that his "Institute" on Bleecker St. is a tax dodge and no more.

In other words, we're dealing with an eccentric at best, a hoaxster at worst. A lightweight, in short, and one who has no more interest in solving the assassination than an oyster -- but I apologize to the oyster, to quote Twain. The guys at B & N were amazed that anyone took Weberman seriously.

(By the way, I'm re-reading Coup D'Etat. Although it has some useful info about the Cuban angle, the book is a monument to the Pathology of Knowledge.)

Any progress in the pictures showing a disparity in ^{LHO's} leg-size?

All the best,

F.

*See pp 410-412 for A.J. Weberman & Dylan in
No Direction Home - life & Music of Bob Dylan
R. Shelton*