

DW

Dear Alton,

9/20/84

Here is the not-so-clear copy of The Director Is Always Right - Even When He Is Obviously Wrong to which I referred earlier. I suppose the caption should also include and everybody agrees. Because they'd better!

This is quite interesting because the summary of what I said is entirely consistent with what I would have said, so it is probably 100% accurate on the first page, with the possible exception of tree in the singular. And believe me, what I am quoted as having said is itself 100% factual.

But the amusing point, Hoover' saying that there was a tree in the way, my recollection being that he said trees were, it gets funny at the top of second page because they figured out a way to placate Hoover when he was so very wrong.

How wrong you can see from that page of my first book. The Secret Service photo I used leaves it without possibility of question, there is not a single tree on Houston St. Moreover, the clearly visible shadows of what is to the right or west, the direction the motorcade took after it turned left onto Elm St, the rounded curbing clearly visible in the lower right-hand corner of the picture, shows not a single tree shadow. The shadows of the utility poles and wires are clear enough.

With the actual, official photo to prove that I was absolutely correct and Hoover totally wrong, his henchmen told him, top of 2, "Weisberg is completely off base on this point. The motorcade as it turned left off of Houston Street entered a park and from the window of the Bookstore trees did block the view of the motorcade prior to entering the park. The Director's testimony is accurate."

After the left turn there were trees so no matter that there were none before the left turn, there were where there weren't and Hoover was again perfect.

Of course by this time there was a major worry for those who had not been able to rectify that portion of his testimony. They's have had to remove the question, which even they did not dare do.

In addition, this is a momentous matter that required the time and thought of the top echelon. Tolson and DeLoach have their marks. Tom Bishop, under DeL has, what appear to be the initials of Inspector Malley (and I'm not certain) seem to be affixed. And copies were designated on typing for Wick, who was under Bishop, and Rosen.

This, too, an author talking about his book, required the time, use of equipment and expense of taping the broadcast. But imagine even taking the time to listen with all the FBI should have been doing! (And if this is representative, is there not a question of the FBI's monitoring what citizens think and say, or an aspect of a still different kind of domestic intelligence?)

Other records indicate that when the broadcasts were taped, the Lab did the taping, for the Washington area, that is

Thanks you for your kind letter of the 14th, which came today. I hope what I sent is helpful and I certainly do hope you can complete the ms by the fall of next year! With regard to postage, I forgot to keep a record because I've never done that, like lawyers have to, or of time, etc. Suppose we just make an estimate after I send you the Hoover testimony, when I'll send you one bill for the seroring?

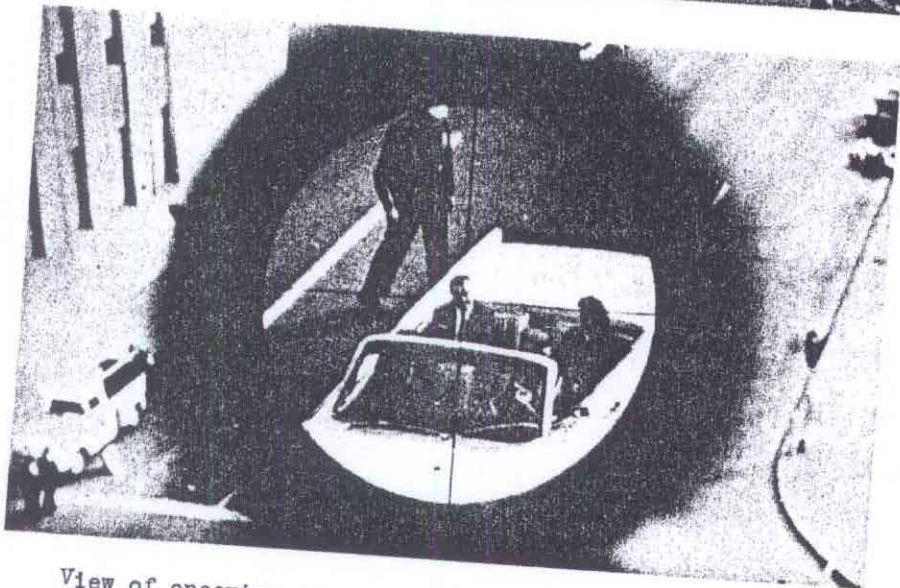
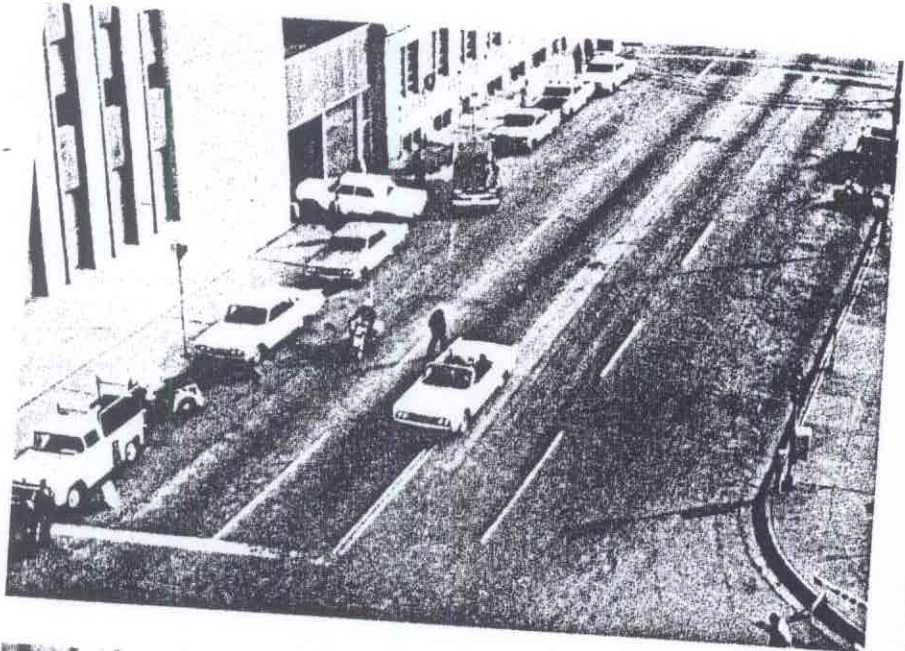
It is a good idea to make the effort to keep them a little honest re deletions. Unnecessary and unjustified deletions are one of their methods of phonying up cost statistics and harassing requesters.

The attached document is recorded in a file I cannot make out. It begins with a "1" and thus could be the 100 file on me. But I believe that by 9/66 there were more serials, and the serial "9" is clear. I've forgotten and maybe they did open that 100 file when the book appeared that May. Best wishes,

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1964

NO



swald's

View of oncoming motorcade from the sixth-floor window. These pictures, taken by the Secret Service (Exhibit 875) dispute J. Edgar Hoover's testimony about obstruction of the alleged assassin's view. See page 51.

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September 14, 1984

Dear Harold:

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your two letters, dated August 1, 1984 and September 7, 1984, and the enclosed xerox copies of FBI documents you had generously photocopied for me. I have not had the chance to review the documents, having received simultaneously a batch of FBI documents pursuant to one of my FOIA requests. I am now focusing on reviewing the documents released to me by the FBI so that I can challenge within the specified time limits some of the massive deletions that they made. I have found, given how capricious some of these deletions are, that I can win minor victories. And, I do want to create a record outlining the basis for my challenge--a record which will have no bearing on any future litigation but which might prove of interest to congressional oversight committees.

Because I have not read the documents you sent on to me, I cannot express fully my appreciation for your willingness not only to select the documents but to provide the detailed background report. I am confident that I shall find that ^{your report} extremely helpful, and thus (if sight unseen) I have no hesitation to express my gratitude for this yeoman effort.

Let me remind you to send me an itemized bill for xerox charges and mailing costs. I shall remit this bill, providing a record of the expenditure, to the University for processing a check against the funds I have to defray processing charges for FBI files. The University is pretty efficient, and I can promise that you will receive a check within 10 days after I receive your bill.

Let me conclude by thanking you again. Work on the biography continues and I have every intention of meeting the fall 1985 submission deadline.

As ever,



Athan Theoharis