

An Open Letter to Father Oscar Huber

(Who administered the last rites to President John F. Kennedy)

Oh, Father, I am so sorry you don't remember my children and me. Richard Warren Lewis, author of "The Scavengers" (New York World Journal Tribune, 1/22/67) writes:

"The priest (the Very Rev. Oscar Huber, pastor of the Holy Trinity Church in Dallas) denies ever meeting Mrs. Martin or having any knowledge of such a wound (over President Kennedy's left eye)."

Yet, I and my children (Victoria 21, Teresa 15, Steven 12, Mike 11) interviewed you on November 22, 1964, at which meeting you detailed for us what you thought to have been a bullet hole over President Kennedy's left eye on November 22, 1963. (A story quoting you in this regard appeared in the 11/24/63 Philadelphia Sunday Bulletin.) The children and I had gone to Dallas for the purpose of honoring President Kennedy at Dealey Plaza on the first anniversary of his death. We attended mass that day (a Sunday) at your church; I introduced myself to you as Mrs. Mark Martin from the parish of Father John Ceffi, Hominy, Oklahoma. You led us into a study which was to the left of a fairly long hall where we sat and talked for at least twenty minutes. On a desk you had a number of copies of an article you had written called "President Kennedy's Final Hours, November 22, 1963," and you told us you wanted very much to send a copy to Mrs. Kennedy, but that you were hesitant about approaching her. "Do you think it would be a good idea?" you asked. You were concerned about mailing to her in time to have the anniversary postmark on the envelope. We assured you that with Mrs. Kennedy's sense of history, your thoughtfulness would be appreciated. (You then gave us a copy of your article which we still have.)

At this point you described for us what you thought to have been a bullet wound over President Kennedy's left eye.* "I took the sheet down to his nose," you said, "and I saw what I immediately thought to be a bullet hole on his forehead, above his left eye. I told a number of people when I got back that this must have killed him, but that night I heard that the man was behind him in the building, so I knew what I had seen was a blood-clot." "No; no one has come to see me about it. No one."

We also talked at length about your boyhood. You told us the sight of the President's blood had not bothered you because as a young man you had participated in the slaughter of pigs and were accustomed to seeing blood "all over the place." You then described an accident you had once attended, concluding: "No, no. The sight of blood never bothers me at all."

How can you deny, Father, that you met us or that you described for us what you thought was a bullet wound over President Kennedy's left eye? Richard Lewis (a sophisticate with a blind faith in the priesthood?) has used your denial of us to slander all my efforts on the Oswald case. He writes: "The graying Agatha Christie fan (has) conveyed her frequently misleading reports to fellow investigators..."; and I am told that Mr. Lewis plans a book (Dell, 300,000 copies) in which he will persist in his libel against the investigators.

Consequently, Father, your denial of the children and me may lead to trouble yet. We are not accustomed to being called liars, either by a priest or a Hollywood "journalist."

(Mrs.) Shirley Martin
Owasso, Oklahoma
cc: 500
2/14/67

*Wrong word.
He did not
testify.
He wrote
it in a year*

*A number of witnesses, including Dr. McClelland, Parkland Hospital, testified to seeing a bullet wound over President Kennedy's left eye. Thus the pertinence of Father Huber's story.

2/24/67

Harold:

Heard you over Jerry Willaims tonight. Sorry that show is changing to morning hours.

Was Ferrie insisting up to his death that he hadn't been in Dallas on the fatal weekend? Has anybody contacted Gene Barnes, NBC? Sylvia tells me that Bob Mulholland has recanted (Com. Ex. 2038). How can this be? Since his statement was given the FBI on Dec. 2, 1963, it is too late to change now.

Anyway the Washington column indicated today that Katzenbach had long been interested in a study of the Bringuier -Odio-etc. Cuban group. I think Oswald, so well known in New Orleans, was ~~primed~~ framed by people unaware of his government status. Yet, the fact of his government affiliation proved an unexpected bonus for them, so anxious was Washington to hush up its relationship with an agent who had allegedly gone berserk.

Why hasn't more been done on Tippit's ties with narcotics and possibly with Cuban groups through his off-duty job? What about Castorr? What did he have to say?

Talked to a Jack Wardlough of the New Orleans States Items last Monday. He had no knowledge then of the Com. Ex. 2038. Strange how ignorant and un-informed these people are.

Gen. Walker was in Tulsa Tuesday night screaming that at long last Garrison was going to be able to prove that Lee plotted with PRO-CASTRO Cubans to kill Kennedy. Wardlough assured me that Garrison's suspects ~~was~~ are PRO-BAPTISTA Cubans; whereas the Washington columns describes the group as "leftist anti-Castro Cubans." Well, we went through all this before in the Bay of Pigs. Certainly the CIA has never sided with the Rey group.

The Miami plan failed because the police work succeeded there; but in Dallas the needed police help was found. It does surprise me that the conspirators were able to work out the details in four or five days. Wouldn't contact with big money sources be almost inevitable when ~~haste~~ so much haste was involved?

Re-reading Bringuier's testimony is interesting in light of the "ammunition" found a mile outside of New Orleans and in light of the camp that was disbanded due to a "Castro spy." Oswald's remark to Bringuier that he (Lee) would like to subscribe to the fund was in the line of a trap. Bringuier wisely avoided it. (Same approach Lee had to Alba in trying to get Alba to sell him an NRA rifle that only he, Alba, was entitled to. Had Alba sold the rifle to Lee he would have been breaking the law. Same approach from Lee to VT Lee in the written written: "Should I go underground?" ~~Lee~~ VT Lee wisely replied: Don't do either. Stay in the background. But had he answered in the affirmative, he could have been open to charges of subversion. Oswald was playing a dangerous game, but in regard to Dallas, it is my opinion he didn't know what he was involved in until too late. The Paines are a surveillance couple, I'm sure. I am hoping Ruth will grow tired of absorbing moral charges and innuendoes and do something about it. She has two children to consider. I am worried about Marina. ~~Let~~ brief word from you. S.