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Subject: Important Research Issue--Marrion Baker

MISS. SULLIVAN, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HISTORICALLY AND EVIDENTIALLY IMPORTANT, EVEN VITAL, FOR THE ARRB TO INTERVIEW former Dallas patrolman Marrion Baker. In terms of assassination records alone, I believe the Board should interview Baker (1) to determine the accuracy of his Warren Commission (WC) testimony (which he contradicted in a sworn statement to the FBI), (2) to attempt to learn what was said during the numerous times when WC counsel went "off record" with Baker during his testimony, and (3) to obtain information from him in response to questions that should have been asked of him by the WC. From a broader perspective, interviewing Baker could provide crucial additional evidence that Oswald was not on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository Building during the assassination. I have attached a detailed article on this subject, which I hope you will pass on to the appropriate staff members, but allow me to briefly explain some of the issues involved with Baker's WC testimony: Baker swore that he spotted some unspecified "movement" when, from about 20 feet away, he glanced through the small window of the second floor foyer door as he reached the second floor landing after coming up the stairs. Baker said he then went over to the door and saw Oswald in the lunchroom, which suggested Oswald had just come through the foyer door--and hence that Oswald had just come down the stairs (presumably, according to the WC, from the sixth floor). Baker added that when he first glanced at the door it MIGHT have been moving, but that it was almost closed in any case. However, there have always been significant problems with Baker's story. The WC acknowledged that Baker must have seen the unspecified "movement" just a second or two before Oswald went through the foyer door (or else no part of Oswald's body would have been visible through the foyer door's window). Yet, Roy Truly, the building manager, was running several feet AHEAD of Baker, and Truly did not see Oswald, nor did Truly appear to have seen the door moving. Furthermore, in Baker's final sworn statement, which he dictated to an FBI agent, he initially swore that when he saw Oswald, Oswald was STANDING next to the soda machine in the lunchroom WITH A COKE IN HIS HAND. WC defenders have always denied that Oswald bought the Coke before Baker saw him because if Oswald had already bought the Coke then it is virtually certain that he could not have been on the sixth floor during the shooting. Even leaving aside the issue of the Coke, WC defenders have had a very difficult time explaining how Truly could have failed to see Oswald approaching or going through the foyer door if Oswald had just come down the stairs and if the "movement" Baker claimed he saw was Oswald just after the foyer door had nearly shut behind Oswald. The movement of the foyer door brings up another problem. That door had a slow automatic closer. Thus, if Oswald went through the foyer door just a second or two before Baker glanced at the door, how could the door have been nearly closed when

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