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Thanks for the kind and thoughtful offer to see if you place a story or stories for me down there and for the ^{Can}garbled account of the charge that the autopsy film is faked. I'd heard about that press conference but know of no stories in this area.

The government did not release any autopsy pictures or X-rays so I do not know what they are talking about. Some have been leaked, some stolen and printed. I have and have not used the black-and-whites that were leaked. I see no reason for the government to be charged with faking because the official film, as you'll see in Post Mortem, Part II, utterly destroys the official mythlogy.

Projecting a line backward from where the missed bullet impacted over where any shot was fired can be done from the chart I have in Whitewash II. As of the time of the fatal shot it would be close to the TSBD and would be from the Dal-Tex Bldg. The manhole cover to which you refer was on the south side of Elm St. and nobody could have lifted it to shoot without being seen. No possibility of firing from any manhole or sewer but there could be the possibility of using one for hiding a weapon. There are two sewer inlets on the grassy knoll, one near the fence the other at the railroad tracks. But the latter was within view of those on the bridge.

I'd be glad to do a Sunday piece on the release of JFK assassination records if the paper would do the editing. I have started ~~some~~ much I've not been able to return to! As each new development seems more important I switch to it. At the moment I'm trying to find time to resume a book on the American Medical Association Journal's ploy in saying that the autopsists were right because they say they were right and we don't need anything else to put our reputation on the line to affirm their conclusions. In ~~realities~~ just about all ^{it} was deceptive and misleading and there ^{was} an extraordinary amount of lying. If I could complete the draft of a well-documented book it might with what I think of as intellectual judo become a success. There is also an element of intellectual judo in using the ploy to tell the documented truth, limiting myself to only what is relevant ^{NT} to what they said. The plain lying is beyond belief. One autopsist gave three sensational interviews within a few days in 1966. I interviewed three of the Dallas doctors in 1972. Besides the lying about the autopsy and the surrounding conditions.

Oliver Stone, excessive in everything, gave a big impetus to an existing and unknown effort to get the House committee's records disclosed. But he really was interested only in promoting himself and his movie and he'd been talking from ignorance about what is still withheld. As a result of his effort to make it all-encompassing the probability is that nothing will happen except that the misled people will also be more frustrated.

If he had been content to limit his demand to the House committee's records that

probably would have happened almost overnight, meaning authorizing it. All that would have required would have been a simple resolution by the House. But what Stone did requires the agreement of several committees in each House, then the two Houses have to agree, and then the President must sign the law. Our present former Director of Central Intelligence is not likely to do that.

However, if the House had authorized the disclosure of its committee's records, some of which have been disclosed and more are being processed for disclosure (I have some) the process must and does take time. Particularly to protect the rights of the innocent so often defamed when secrecy is expected. There are other considerations. One overused and abused is national security. But disclosing the identifications of informers can get them killed. There are other legitimate considerations.

The volume of these records alone defies access so the people are being misled on that. Nobody is going to take the time to go over all of them. I've not yet finished reviewing the quarter of a million JFK assassination official records I got by about a dozen FOIA lawsuits. And not a single author has come her to make any real uses of this archive more than a decade old.

There also will be ~~be~~ ^{NO} smoking gun. Explaining this could make a separate story. I have a solid case in documents of no real investigation being the official intent from the beginning, from the man in charge of the Justice Department in Bobby Kennedy's absence, to what Dallas FBI street agents did and did not do. The documents themselves might be attractive and make syndication more likely. So if you speak to one of the more responsible papers see if they'd be interested in the two so people can understand the reality. I could even illustrate the need to be careful in disclosing records with one of the FBI's more vicious fabrications about me.

I've not made a living at this and doubt I'm even close to breaking even. But I began broke and in debt and that prepared us to live the only kind of lives that would have permitted us to do what we've done. The thing that made us liquid is the condemnation of a farm we owned to include it within a State park. What remains would not be enough should either of us, combined age 159 years, have to go to a nursing home. And because for tax purposes we paid all taxes up front, which was neither easy nor painless, we have only now to pay income tax on what we get from the books.

I think it would be exciting and impressive if a Sunday paper would devote the space to facsimile reproduction of the records I can provide but I doubt they would. However, excerpts can be sued and documents can replace pictures.

I explain the major one. Nicholas Katzenbach was Deputy Attorney General, the No. 2 man. In Bobby's absence he was also Acting Attorney General. As soon as he knew Oswald was killed and there would be no trial he got an idea he tried out on J. Edgar Hoover, who went along with it. That being a Sunday, no typing available, Katz. wrote it out

in longhand, and I have the holograph. He addressed President Johnson through his channel, Bill Moyers. He said the people had to be convinced that Oswald was the assassin; that he had no confederates still at large; and that the evidence was such Oswald would have been convicted at trial. This before any real investigation was possible, before JFK was buried.

I also have the Secret Service White House phone logs. Moyers phoned LBJ about 9 that Sunday night. They spoke briefly and LBJ then immediately phoned Hoover and then Katzenbach. And in five days he implemented Katzenbach's second proposal, the appointment of the Presidential Commission.

I have FBI records reflecting their refusal to follow leads the day of the crime, apparently before ^{all in} the Dallas office knew Oswald's name, and one in which they refused copies of pictures of the President and those around him in the midst of the assassination. On the spurious ground they could not be used for "identification." Meaning they did not show Oswald with a smoking gun because there are an abundance of identifications, of witnesses, for example, and other great values in these pictures.

It has been a long time since I've written a story or paid any attention to what is or can be of interest here and around the world but I believe such a documented story could be syndicated internationally, as could the followup on the status of the records and the certainty of futility and frustration whatever does or does not happen.

From the inquiries I get I think these stories could be marketed in Europe, too. My early experiences, when I was the first and publishers were frightened, told me it would be a waste of time to try to sell stories and I haven't tried. I've given many away as reporters ask. So I can't and don't pretend to have real knowledge of the market. But I do know that for several years interest is greater than since the first books. Our orders were higher for several years and remain higher. The interest is there and Stone has magnified it.

As I try to make what appears to be abnormal comprehensible, I believe that FOIA does not give me a property right to the records I get. It gives me the right to use those records and to copyright my use but not the records themselves. In practice I make them available to all other writers and to students and they have the use of our copies. So I've not thought in terms of selling any stories and have not kept up on how the nutty stuff is doing.

If any paper is interested I can send copies of the records I have in mind so they can see what I am talking about and how impressive it can be. Besides being so authentic!

You closed your letter with the hope that my travelling to Baltimore for medical treatment is over and I got it the day I am to be driven there for overnight testing. This is to determine whether they have a mask that will not come off my face while I am asleep. The mask would be connected with a flexible tube to an air compressor so that the pressure could overcome the obstruction to my breathing when I'm asleep. I've been up from the

sleep apnea since 1:30 a.m. and I'm to be there at 9:30 p.m. and wiring me up takes an hour and a half so it will be a short night of sleep anyway. So, now for a nap.

I'll read and correct this after I return and see if there is anything I should add.

Thanks very much and best wishes,

Harold
Harold Weisberg

I add apologies. It is now 6/19, p.m., and I've not had time even to read and correct this. Moreover, unless my wife is certain of the postage I won't mail this until 6/21, Monday. Reagan/Bush efficiency has nobody in the local post office over the weekend. All collected mail is sent to Baltimore, even local mail, which is then returned to Frederick Monday for sorting and delivery the next day! If I put the wrong postage on that will delay it even more than my mailing it here Monday. Sorry.

What this the-hell-with-people inefficiency called efficiency also means is that we ship no books on Saturday, so I can delay packaging the orders here today until tomorrow and that lets me do some catching up.

I think the hospital sleep-disturbance tests encouraged the doctors because they phoned to tell me they are ordering the contraptions and someone from nearby would be making an appointment to bring it and get me started with it. He phoned last night, after I was abed, and said he'd phone today, but I've not heard and only three hours of the normal working day remain.

A history professor friend from the midwest is visiting. I'm helping him on a book in which he uses some of the records I refer to above. I've read that chapter and think it is effective as well as almost entirely new.

If I did not explain, sleep apnea is not breathing when asleep. Meaning varying times of apnea, Greek, meaning not breath, as I understand it. But I've never awakened gasping. The Johns Hopkins Baltimore specialist believes that when I awaken too early and am wide awake it is because the apnea wakens me. Made it until 1:50 this a.m.

I did not delay this response. I'm sorry but I could not return to it any sooner.

Again many thanks,

Harold