

Da1 McGuirk
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2/1/93

Dear Da1,

On another day I'd probably not ^{have} answered your letter immediately but I'm a bit anxious today about some coming medical appointments. The condition in particular is ordinarily outpatient but I have a serious blood-clotting problem and most doctors tend to ignore the actualities with me in favor of general practises. Besides, my skin and blood vessels are very fragile, so any invasion of the body represents ^{hazard} for me that are not common. The immediate problem is an examination for polyps. I fear that in the not distant future another prostate operation is likely. The first one was by a plumber who considered himself a doctor and ignored all but plumbing. So, he gave me new venous thromboses...I live, quite literally, on rat poison, coumadin, technically sodium warfarin. Which has a remarkable story for which I do not take time. When this medication is removed, as for surgery, even with heparin used there is danger of more clotting. Not to cause you any concern. To explain a bit. I see a to me new blood specialist in 10 days to see if I can avoid going to John Hopkins hospital in Baltimore. Safely, that is.

Most of the questions you ask in your 1/22 are answered later in Post Mortem. I also address them in a different way in the new book. Some can't be answered because there never was any official investigation so there are no leads to follow and no answers to obvious questions. And I do resist conjecturing, for a number of reasons.

The shots were described as backfires, firecrackers and rifle shots. Aside from the similarity in sound proximity seems to have influenced ^{how} surprised people took them.

(When I was a kid we got firecrackers the same way. Except for those larger than the standard small ones. They were individual. Sometimes in boxes.)

I think it probable that the SS agents delayed filing statements until told to. I do not think their descriptions of the sound were ordered or conferred specially about.

While I have no way of knowing I believe that a bullet struck JFK in the anterior neck above the collar and probably exited at the hole in the back. The autopsy was an outrage. It was worse than terrible. You'll come to more on this and I've added much in the new book.

I have no reason to believe there were exploding bullets but there is ample indication that the shot to the head, if there was but one, was of soft ammo. You'll come to that, too.

What the medical technicians at Bethesda said is not dependable and they were influenced by those who questioned them. There was a chopper that landed just before the ambulance with the corpse got there. It carried the military honor guard.

I think there was no possibility at all of tampering with the body. A fellow named Lifton started that. At each critical point he knew his theory was wrong or impossible.

There is reason to believe that the three shells were planted to point toward Oswald and it is certain that he could not have placed the rifle where it was later found and have

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gotten into the second floor lunchroom before Truly and Baker got there. There is much that taints the supposed evidence against him that I do not now go into.

I am familiar with the Moorman polaroid and some of the work done with it by a friend. He has my print, which is the clearest, but most of the enhancing is done with another that has more contrast. His associate did some remarkable photographic work. It showed me quite clearly that there is a man there with what can be taken as a badge. I do not recall that this was behind the picket fence, believe it was east of there and that there is no evidence of a shot from that location. I've tried to persuade my friends to restrict themselves to saying there was an unreported man there until the proof that there was more is solid but they do it their way and have accomplished nothing by it. I do not recall a second figure and I think that was added to the original Nigel Turner show for which I did not stay up, needing to retire early. I do not trust Turner based on my experiences with him.

I suppose that when the enhancement is done I'll get a print with my photographic print.

I think that books like Jean Hill's are more than a waste of time because they mislead, misinform and tend to exculpate the official miscreants with the confusion they cause.

A case for a military conspiracy can be made but not with anything we know about the shooting. I set this forth in the new book in terms of what they did and did not do with the autopsy examination and protocol. It does not prove there was one. It makes it impossible not to suspect the possibility.

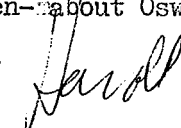
Surgery of the head remains a mystery. I think it is likely that at some point Humes may have called to those in the balcony and asked if there had been any surgery of the head but there is no way of knowing. There is no reason to believe there was any.

I have nothing to report on the new book. My friend Prof Dave Wrone has several more chapters to retype on his computer. I'm not taking time to do any editing but he is posting corrections, mostly typos. I want first of all to make as much of a correct record as I can and to do this I've started another book. I have a friend with a connection with a small publisher who has expressed an interest, no more, and I'm hoping that it becomes more. I have not taken time for other efforts now. It is a matter of how I think I can best use the time that remains for me. Aside from the medical problems I'll be 80 in April.

The new book does charge and prove with official documents that there was a different, official conspiracy, a conspiracy to not investigate the crime itself, which meant it later could not be. Highest level and involved LBJ and Bill Moyers, Acting AG Katzenbach in the Justice Department and J. Edgar Hoover. There can be no question of this and I think it is pretty serious. Remains to be seen if any publisher does.

Please excuse the haste. More letters today and I want not to have them in the a.m. to get to them. Maybe I'll feel more like writing then about Oswald and the Commission

Best wishes,


Harold Weisberg