

41 Cross Street
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Copy for
Harold

Dear Professor McGuirk,

I am the Head Teacher of English and History at Glen Innes High School in Northern N.S.W. In 1988 we introduced a course on assassinations and a Sydney Television Station provided us with footage from the Zapruder Film. This was the first time that I had ever seen it and I was stunned. I was only six when President Kennedy was killed and I can quite clearly remember where I was when the news broke. I was with my parents driving up Spit Hill to visit my grandparents. It was amazing news. Of course we were only ever told about Lee Harvey Oswald and discussion of a conspiracy as far as I can recall was non-existent. I had virtually no knowledge of the event but after viewing the Zapruder Film I wanted to know more. In 1991 I visited Los Angeles and by chance saw Jim Marrs book "Crossfire", bought and read it from cover to cover. My interest only increased. In January, 1993 I visited Dallas including the Assassination Information Center. Since my initial reading of "Crossfire" I have added many books to my library including: "High Treason", "Plausible Denial", "Mortal Error", "The People v. Lee Harvey Oswald", "Rush to Judgement", "Act of Treason", "Conspiracy", "Double Cross", "Contract America", "The Last Dissenting Witness" and others relating to the life of J. Edgar Hoover and Nigel Hamilton's biography of J.F.K.

I have recently written to Harold Weisberg whose books were highly recommended reading in many of the books I have read. I also knew of Harold through the television program, "The Men Who Killed Kennedy" which was shown here a couple of years ago. I felt privileged to receive a speedy response from Mr Weisberg who recommended that I write to you for what he described as "an independent down-under assessment". I hope that I am not being intrusive.

In my reading, I have not been able to come to terms with some issues which many of the authors have not mentioned. I certainly have no doubts that there was a conspiracy and that probably Lee Harvey Oswald did not do any shooting and probably did not kill J.D. Tippitt. I was wondering if you would have the time to share some of your thoughts on the following.

1. Assuming there were shots fired from the Book Depository, how did the assassins get out of the Book Depository? Much of the evidence I have read suggests witnesses seeing two men, one of Latin descent on the sixth floor.
If Officer Baker and Roy Truly saw Oswald on the second floor 90 seconds after the shooting and heard or saw no one else how did they get out? Or were Baker and Truly part of the conspiracy?
2. In the medical evidence, the Parkland Doctors discuss the entrance wound in the throat. I have not been able to find any author who mentions where this bullet made its exit. Do you know anything about this?
3. When did the general public know about the change in route via Elm Street? Did the Secret Service make changes to the motorcade at Lovefield as suggested in Jean Hill's book? I was also really surprised to read that William Greer, the driver was laughing or sneering after giving evidence at the Warren Commission. It seems that he actually slowed the limousine and turned around to watch the events. Are there suggestions that he was involved?
4. I have read Deputy Sheriff Roger Craig's article, "When they Kill a President". I have also read elsewhere about the sighting of Oswald getting into the Nash Rambler on Elm Street. How does this fit in with Oswald's supposed "escape" via bus and taxi? Who are we expected to believe?

5. In some sources Jim Garrison is condemned as having Mafia links and accepting bribes. How true is this? Did he have very much information in the Clay Shaw Trial and do you think Shaw, Ferrie and Banister were involved?

6. When J.F.K. is shot and his arms move to his throat, why didn't he duck down? I know that that is probably a ridiculous question which nobody but he can answer. Was he wearing a back brace which immobilised him?

7. Why did Lyndon Johnson take the oath of office on the plane? Was he concerned that he may have been a target and if he didn't do it then he may never have got the opportunity? My understanding is that irrespective of the oath he was immediately President.

8. Did Johnson, Nixon and Hoover play a role in the assassination? I know this is a very leading question but I have read Anthony Summers book about Hoover and articles about the Bobby Baker scandal and the rumours that Johnson would be dropped from the 1964 ticket and that Nixon and Hoover were both in Dallas the night before and that Nixon was fairly cautious in answering questions about his whereabouts. In Robert Groden's latest book, "The Killing of a President" he shows a picture of Johnson's Secret Service car with its door open before any bullets are fired suggesting they were anticipating trouble.

9. How do you think that Ruby got into the Police Building? Is Roy Vaughn lying?

10. What role did Tippitt play in all of this? Do you think he was in the police car which drove by Oswald's rooming house and was in fact expected to kill Oswald? I have also read that Ruby may also have been at the Theatre sitting in one of the rows.

11. Was Oswald an intelligence operative trying to penetrate the assassination plot but was himself "set up"?

12. Did the Paines have anything to do with the assassination? It seems really coincidental that Ruth got Lee the job and that she seems to have done little to help him afterwards. I believe their tax records have been designated "Classified." Why?

13. Why did the media not question and investigate the assassination findings to unravel the inconsistencies? Didn't they feel it was odd that their position in the motorcade was so far back and apparently changed for that one day?

14. Were the photos of Oswald and the guns faked? And also the autopsy photos.

Once again I appreciate you taking the time to read this letter and would be delighted if you could spend some of your valuable time sharing your thoughts with me.

Yours Faithfully,

Peter Willis

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