

28 April 1971

Mr. Howard Roffman
8829 Blue Grass Road
Philadelphia 19152

Dear Howard,

Thank you for your letter of the 24th. You will have received, by now, via Dick Bernabei, a set of correspondence and papers that will up-date you on the status of my article on Givens. As things now stand, it appears that you will be able to cite a specific date and source. However, if the situation should change and your footnote ultimately does have to refer to an unpublished monograph, then I would appreciate the courtesy of seeing the text of your footnote insofar as it draws on the contents of the article.

I am interested to learn from your letter that your manuscript deals largely with the medical evidence. As you will recall, the five-year moratorium on the autopsy photos and X-rays set by Burke Marshall on behalf of the JFK family will expire at the end of October this year. Dr. Cyril Wecht is likely to request permission to examine the photos and X-rays and, if he receives a favorable response, I am sure that he would welcome suggestions from any serious student of the autopsy and ballistics evidence on key points for scrutiny and evaluation. I hope that you and Dick will both keep that in mind and let me have your comments. In due course, I can put you in touch with Dr. Wecht, if you are not already in contact with him.

On the question of reviewing your manuscript, I would be glad to do so in terms of structure, literary quality, and accuracy of citations of evidence, as I have done in the past for a number of critics, purely out of my deep concern that any works on the assassination are as accurate as possible and make the maximum impact on public opinion. No question of terms would arise for such a service and confidentiality would, of course, be scrupulously maintained. However, if you also wished me to index the book, that would have to be a paid service and would run to something like \$200 or \$250, depending on the length and complexity of the index. Substantial editing and/or rewriting, if you requested assistance of that nature, would also have to be subject to agreed terms, depending on the amount of work needed. I hope that your presentation and writing are not as poor as you suggest because that can be a fatal handicap to your book, regardless of the substantive evidence you set forth. I think that Harold Weisberg's brilliant research has suffered greatly from his deficient organization and writing, in his various books, and you should take every conceivable care to avoid such an outcome.

I will be away from New York throughout July and August. If you should come here in June, we could get together. I could read your ms. during my July/August vacation, but will have less time available after I return to my normal work in September. About Accessories: the remaining copies were recently remaindered by the publisher and were selling at Marboro and similar outlets for about \$2.00. I don't know if any copies are still available from Marboro. Since the publisher has unloaded the book and it is virtually out of print, I am very reluctant to part with the few copies I have put aside for myself. Please try Marboro and if you have no luck I will see what I can do. With friendly good wishes,

Sincerely,



cc Dick Bernabei