

4 August 1967

Dear Ray,

There is no need to "apologize" for sending me the copies of your letters to Harold and to Lifton—on the contrary, I am glad to have these copies of your correspondence and to be in touch with developments. I feel strongly, as you do, that the record should be correct, whether on evidential questions or on the positions, argumentation, or discoveries of the researchers and critics.

I must say that I am appalled by the record of Harold's oversights with respect to his own stated intention of giving credit or recognition to The Bastard Bullet. You are probably correct in saying that the omissions were unintentional; yet it is not irrelevant that Harold has what might be called an exclusivity fixation or megalomania about his own work, which he seems to regard as the be-all and end-all of criticism. Arnoni (to give credit where it is due) reacted to Harold on their first contact (i.e., the receipt of Whitewash by Arnoni, if that can be called a "contact") by what seemed then a somewhat inordinate attack on Harold's implicit claim to being the sole critic—his failure to mention anywhere in Whitewash the earlier published literature, particularly Salandria's work, as well as Lane, Feldman, Sauvage, and others.

In fact, I had read the ms. of Whitewash and sent Harold several pages of corrections and additional data that strengthened his points, which he appreciated (by using, in the published book) but did not acknowledge. It did not especially bother me, since I had offered him the comments I sent without strings attached. At the same time, I have been careful to attribute to Harold various arguments and insights, such as the wet tape argument against the paper bag proposition—knowing how bitterly he would resent the lack of attribution, and recognizing with a certain amount of fatalism that he may not be satisfied even with the attributions I have made.

Incidentally, I am enclosing a xerox copy (defectively made and unintentionally cropped at the right margin) of a page of Accessories which includes the reference to your discovery of the transposition of frames 314 and 315. I am sorry that space and time limitations did not allow me to identify you as the author of BB; however, your work in general on the Zapruder film and the stretcher bullet is mentioned at three points later in the book, in addition to the enclosed page.

Ray, I have the strong impression that you and Letha have misinterpreted my reasons for not visiting you in Boston. Believe me when I say that it is not our differences on Garrison that keep me away; it is nothing more sinister or complicated than lack of time. I am back at the office; my colleague Dr. Thomen died suddenly in July, and the head of the office is leaving for France, so I am to be acting director for most of August. The weekend would be difficult, as this is when I do my marketing, hairdresser, and similar odds and ends. And I find myself increasingly pooped out, after the non-stop work of these last three years, and having just passed my 46th birthday. Wait until you are my age, son—. Incidentally, I had an enormous surprise waiting for me when I returned to the office last Monday: a letter from HQs in Geneva, saying that I have been given a double increase in salary in recognition of having completed 20 years on the staff, retroactive by a few months, to gild the lily. I guess writing that check to Arnoni (don't think I didn't struggle with myself) was costing the proverbial bread you
the waters, all my love