

11 April 1973

Dear Tom,

Thank you for the copy of your letter to Lifton and especially for your defense of my integrity. Upon reading your letter, I dug into my files and found the enclosed copy of missive sent to Edward Williams, which appears to contain the comment to which Lifton took exception. That is, at the end of the first paragraph of the second page ("a critic who had crossed the continent...had subsequently remarked that we WR critics would simply have to resign ourselves to the fact that the autopsy photos and X-rays support the conclusions of the Warren Commission!"). is a remark which reflects what I understood you to have said and which I repeated, in all good faith. If I misrepresented the account you gave me of Lifton's pronunciamento, I am truly sorry, but I repeated what I believed I had heard with as much fidelity as I could muster.

In any case, do I really have to have my good faith and sense of commitment vouched for to the likes of Lifton? The same Lifton who has still not revealed to other WR critics the "sensational" findings that he shared with Liebeler and Specter in 1966? I do not wish to turn this into an inventory of the derelictions and sordid duplicity of an ex-colleague, so I will stop with the single-most-shocking item involving Liebeler/Specter.

I think that when you read the enclosed copy of my letter to Williams you will agree that I have not hesitated to decry Wecht's performance, despite our long and close association and the utter confidence I had in Wecht until his public utterances about the X-rays and photographs. It is one of a long list of cherished associations and friendships that have broken in the aftermath of their compromise of integrity --whether in the case of Garrison or in relation to different issues. The breach with Wecht is one of the most painful ones because my confidence in him was so high that I virtually vouched for his judgment and rectitude, either or both of which proved to be defective and thus earned me the reproach and criticism of those who had doubted him in advance, to say nothing of the despondency and disillusion it cost me.

You are one of the very few critics for whom I have retained all of my original respect, regard, and confidence. What the Warren mafia and their government lackeys did was no real surprise to any thinking person; but the nastiness, dishonesty, and sanctimony of our so-called fellow-critics has filled me with disgust and a very jaundiced view of the liberal/leftist posturers, the Arnoni's, the Salandria's, and the just plain dimwits and mischief-makers who are still more exercised about their petty quarrels and rivalries than about the truth in the JFK assassination. I am certain of one thing, however: history will judge, and quite soon, who contributed to the uncovering of the truth, and who obstructed it. Such judgments are already in print, in, for example, a recent annotated bibliography prepared by a Professor Wrone in Wisconsin. (I am trying to get copies for you and others.) Best, as always,

*Sylvia*