

June 12, 1975

Dear Harold,

*Interim*

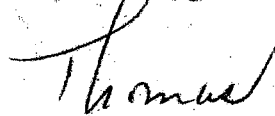
I hope you are recovered from your recent illness and are up to corresponding with your usual abusive vigor. A number of developments are worthy of your wrath. As an investigator of historical truth you know, I am sure, Longfellow abused poetic license in The Landlord's Tale, which is part one of Tales of a Wayside Inn (1863-74), in assigning Paul Revere the role of midnight messenger "on the eighteenth of April in Seventy-five;" and that Revere's Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer, Esther Forbes, established his true role as the ~~signalman~~ signalman in the church belfry (Paul Revere and the World He Lived In, 1942). I take it for granted, for the same essential reason, you are disquieted by the current journalist-ic abuse of historical accuracy in accounting for release of the transcript of the Warren Commission executive session of January 27, 1964, in June 1974, as the result of your suits under the Freedom of Information Act, without reference to your loss of those suits in the Supreme Court and the subsequent unexpected declassification of that transcript. Your own speculative explanation of that strange twist, by the way, in the introduction to Whitewash IV, while flattering to your self esteem and not impossible, lacks any factual basis, is implausible and farfetched. At any rate, you should be doing what you can to set the record straight in the various forums to which you have access. I doubt you can count on a biographer doing so in seventy or eighty years from now.

Since your expensive entanglement with the Federal courts and beneficence at the hands of the Archives the transcript of the executive session of January 23, 1964 has been declassified. Do you know why? I assume you have a copy and have studied it well. I invite you to read the accompanying correspondence with the National Archives relative to that transcript and tell me what you think. Do you know who "A" and "Q" and "Sides" are? Do you know how many Warren Commission sessions were held?

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One again I return to the subject of Burkley. Since our last exchanges on that theme I have pulled together from a number of sources, as I wrote you I would when you refused to be helpful, a body of material suggesting the admiral-doctor was a link between frame up in Dallas and frame up in Washington. This, in turn, raises the larger question of the role of the navy in the assassination of president Kennedy. I will send you this material if you want to receive it and if, in return, you will undertake a forthcoming, detailed, and documented critical verification or disproof of it, in whole or in part. I believe you have the means to do it. Let's make discussion of that material a collaboration.

Hopefully,



Thomas Stamm