

17 December 1966

Dear Harold,

As I write this at one end of the continent, you are having lunch at the other end, with Maggie, Ray, and Bill, I believe. I will look forward to hearing about your visit to Los Angeles. Meanwhile, I do want to thank you for sending me a copy of Whitewash II. A few days before I received it, I learned that the Jefferson Book Shop had it in stock and I bought a copy. So, if you don't mind, I will circulate one of my two copies to people who would not otherwise purchase a copy.

Thus far, I have only scanned the book, preparatory to more methodical reading and study. I congratulate you on the phenomenal speed with which you have issued your second major book, and look forward to the third (I sent an advance order under separate cover). On the basis of the scanning, one or two comments:

The handwritten Baker affidavit with "drinking a coke" crossed out is published in the 26 volumes, CE 3076. I was thunderstruck when I first saw it and of course inserted it in my manuscript but, since I wanted the point to be made in print as soon as possible, I told Sauvage about it and urged him to add it to his manuscript. It is reported on page 30 of The Oswald Affair.

Further to your chapter "Oswald Is 'All Right'"--see also the testimony of George Bouhe 8H 369 and George De Mohrenschildt 9H 235. A different but similar incident is reported by Ofstein, 10H 209.

On page 69 of your book, paragraph 5 line 1, you refer to "the anonymous communication" but it is not clear from the preceding text what the communication is. Can you clarify?

On page 183, last line, and page 184--I have been told that this model camera is incapable of operating at 24 frames per second. Have you seen the actual camera, or the same model? Can you clarify whether or not Zapruder's camera could have operated at 24 frames per second?

A question: Did you see anything in the Archives about Oswald's alleged purchase of clothing for \$32 in Laredo, Texas, on 9/26/63? There was a story in the NY Times on 11/29/63 reporting that FBI agents were in Laredo 11/25 through 11/27/63 tracing Oswald's activities there because of a receipt from a Laredo store dated 9/26/63 that was found among Oswald's possessions in Dallas.

I was struck by your completely valid statement, on page 86, that there is no logical way of finding anything in the 26 volumes and that they are an "organized chaos no science could improve upon." Here you might have made a footnote or parenthetical reference to the Subject Index, for, whatever its imperfections, it is a historical fact that the Subject Index was compiled and published. You have often seemed to me to be hypersensitive to lack of reference to your work--you have never explained your complaint about my letter to the editor of The Saturday Review, which led me to the conclusion that it was directed not to anything in the letter but to the failure to discuss Whitewash--and if I express surprise that you did not mention the Subject Index it is not because of sales (the

publishers indicate that very few copies now remain unsold) but because it seemed, in the context of the paragraph, conspicuously omitted. I feel obliged to mention this, in the confidence that we have a relationship of mutual respect and regard in which lack of candor is a disservice. And I mention it in a friendly if frank spirit, not to launch a dispute or to introduce any coolness between us.

About the enlarged segment of the Altgens photo on the inside cover of your book--this seems to me to be a valuable contribution, although I question that the man on the stairs is in distress. He seems to me to be looking through binoculars at the motorcade. Recently I read an article by a man named Lawrence Brown, in Triumph of September 1966, in which he too postulates shots fired from the Dal-Tex building.

My congratulations again, Harold, and all good wishes, as always,

Yours sincerely,