

March 25, 1998

Dear Harold:

The first book I read on the JFK assassination was Mark Lane's *Rush To Judgment*; I read that, if memory now gathers itself properly, shortly after it came out. I recall being quite taken aback, for I had no reason to believe the media would be other than responsible on a matter of such gravity, although I was well aware that they could be less than impartial on other matters. After that I followed developments more casually than not, reading a book here and there and being generally convinced that something was seriously amiss.

Then after a long layoff I chanced upon Posner's *Case Closed*. It seemed reasonable and, if it weren't for the fact that I chanced on an excellent review by an establishment type (name long since forgotten) that raised some serious questions about its conclusions, I might have let the matter slip by. Somehow I was then directed to *Case Open*, my first book of yours. You had him to the mat.

Some months after that I was fortunate in meeting your friend, Hal Verb. When I discovered he was highly knowledgeable about the assassination, I asked him what he thought the best book on it to be. Without hesitation he recommended *Whitewash*., adding that it was the first such book published. . . and with a lively publishing history! I was skeptical about a book written that long ago still holding up under the subsequent verbal tonnage now atop it. I was soon disabused: not only excellent and relevant but a lesson in integrity—I mean of the method and nature of the research. Thank you!

Last night I watched on *48 hours* "Who killed Dr. Martin Luther King?" (CBS) and on March 21 saw *Saturday Night* "Who Shot Martin Luther King?" (ABC). The programs might just as well come out of the same trash can so similar in type and predictability were they, the writers probably having to work up a sweat trying to achieve some variability. Fortunately I've been reading your book, *Frame-Up*, so my conviction that you are right on about the conspiracy was forcefully enhanced. And on ABC that noted "non conspiratorialist", Gerald Posner, repeating all the garbage you had scuttled so well in your book!

They will hear from me. And the same letter to each should do it, so ignobly entwined are the two.

Regards,
Sam Fairley