

Dear David Zirk,

6/19/92

I appreciate your kind words of or rather in your letter very much. I cannot engage in correspondence about the assassination for a number of reasons. One is that I'm 79 and in impaired health. This limits what I can do. Another is that each thing I do is at the cost of something else I'll not be able to do. So, I prefer to spend my time on what work is still possible for me. I hope you can understand that this must be my decision and that if I made any other there would be very little work I could do. It is not personal.

What I think will be of assistance to your group is the most critical possible examination of most of what is available to you, the conspiracy theories presented as solutions. Not one of which I'm aware is proven and almost without exception they are untenable. Or, if you take them seriously, you'll be engaging in group deception, really self-deception.

You ask about the books on your enclosed list. Some are overt fakes, like Appointment in Dallas, Farewell America, Mortal Error and Plausible Denial; some are distorted and exaggerated preconceptions that contain nothing really relevant to the assassination, like Mafia Kingfish and Contract on America; some are awful trash, like Crossfire and Conspiracy of Silence; and as you'll learn in time the best known of these exploitations and commercializations, so-called Best Evidence, takes credit for what was previously published by others and adds only a knowingly false theory that achieved wide acceptability although Lifton could not possibly ^{not} have known it was impossible, if he was rational. As an example and illustration, turn to the Sibert-O'Neill report in Post Mortem, which Lifton was careful not to include in his large book, and in the very paragraph that has the erroneous reference to surgery of the head they disprove much of his concoction, by reporting what he suppressed, that the body was not in a different casket and was not inside a body bag. Rush to Judgement, which has clear dishonesties in it, was dated before it appeared. There is an excellent book just reprinted not on your list, Heagher's Accessories after the Fact. Thanks and best wishes,

