

June 7, 1994

Dear Mr. Harold and Mrs. Lillian Weisberg,

Thank you very much for the books you sent me along with the lovely card. They've been an immense help. "Shocking" to say the least. I have also managed to obtain a copy of "Case Open" from the bookstore where I'm currently employed. Mr. Weisberg, thank you for writing that book. When Gerald Posner's "Case Closed" first appeared last year, I read it and slammed it shut in fury. Somehow, the publication of the book, just in time for the 30th anniversary of the assassination, seemed a bit arrogant and opportunistic to me. But because of all the media hype it got, I was afraid that the public would take the book at face value. Fortunately, I found a voice to join mine.

Of course, other voices are always yakking, but saying very little. I saw what you meant about people like Harrison E. Livingstone. When I re-read his book "Killing the Truth", it did seem he had a bone to pick with other researchers, including yourself, as if he's the last (and only) honest one. At your suggestion, I obtained and read Sylvia Meagher's "Accessories After the Fact" for concentration. It was nothing short of brilliant! I've yet to obtain a copy of "Presumed Guilty", but I've got good feelings about it as well.

But, let me get to my main point in writing this letter. I'm thinking about working on my own book regarding the assassination. My angle will be a common-sense motif to explore different issues about the murder and why certain ideas brought forth by pro-Oswald researchers don't make sense, including some of Posner's. Here's a few examples:

A.) (Page 237)- "J.W. Foster said the shot originated from 'the corner of Elm and Houston.' (Josiah) Thompson does not remind the reader that the building at that corner is the Depository."

Actually, Houston and Elm meet at a 4-way intersection. The Depository is one building at a corner of those streets. Other buildings (and possible firing points) based on that description, are the Dallas Textiles Building, the Dallas Court & Records Bldg and the Dallas Criminal Court Bldg.

B.) (Page 256)- Posner seemed to believe that anyone who saw smoke on the Grassy Knoll is mistaken. His explanation-"...since modern ammunition is smokeless, it seldom creates even a wisp of smoke...Finally, in 1963, there was a steam pipe along the wooden fence near the edge of the Triple Underpass...If there was smoke, it is most likely that Austin Miller was right,

and it was from the pipe.

"Modern" ammunition? 6.5 mm ammunition for a Mannlicher-Carcano rifle is hardly "modern"! Posner even contradicts himself in the same paragraph with this passage. "Moreover, on the day of the assassination there was a stiff wind blowing north to south, gusting up to 20 mph. A puff of smoke would not rise from a rifle and sit stagnantly in the air when the winds were so stiff." Well, neither would STEAM! Besides, doesn't steam evaporate when it comes into contact with the air?

And that's just 2 examples of Posner's incompetence. I could go on further. But I don't want to conflict with any current or future research you've already got going, particularly since you researched this subject longer and more thoroughly than I have. Reiterating information that you've already come across would only be doing a disservice to you, the research community and the general public. (I'm aware that you'll be preparing a longer, more in-depth critique of "Case Closed" for future study, along with another book, "Never Again".) But I won't be limited to just Posner, even though he'll be a large part of my expose.

Thus, please write back at your convenience and appraise me of any suggestions, opinions and comments you may have about my proposed project. Oh, and before I forget, how much will 1 copy of "Oswald in New Orleans" with shipping and handling cost again? That will be instrumental in my future research. Again, thank you very much to you and Mrs. Weisberg for your assistance and hospitality. I'll do my best to make certain no one ever forgets what you've done to bring the public closer to the truth. I look forward to reading "Never Again".

My best wishes to you in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,



Ray Hoey