

Dear Ms. Dekker,

1/24/76

In October I learned I have phlebitis. It lingers and severely restricts what I can do.

While in the past I'd have welcomed time with your students, today it is impossible. I haven't even caught up on filing of four months ago and have day-to-day work in which I'm also getting behind.

They have written me a courteous letter in which they list eight points of major interest.

I doubt as they do that they'll get anything from the FBI.

I believe they will be able to get more than they can use from several of my books, which cite or reproduce sources. I also suggest that they may have set their sights too high. I don't think they can do justice to all those topics. If you would convey these suggestions to them I'd appreciate it:

Conspiracy is not a question of theory but of fact. It means a combination to do wrong. If evidence establishes that more than one person was involved, whether or not one was Oswald, this is proof of a conspiracy. This kind of theorizing has become popular but without any solid basis of which I know for theorizing responsibly about who the possible conspirators may have been the students may be leading to a futility. I think they'll find their work more rewarding if they stick to fact, particularly because so much is available on some of the other items.

Their items 1, 2 and 7 are thoroughly covered in simplest form in Whitewash. I carried this further in Whitewash II. In the recent Post Mortem, which may be a bit heavy for them, it could not be more definitive. This alone will give them more than they'll have time to master. It abounds in facsimile reproduction of this kind of suppressed evidence.

Item 3 ~~xxxxxx~~ is covered in the chapter on Oswald's Legal Rights in Whitewash. I can't now add substantially to it.

I have not written about Ruby's trial and conviction. I know of four books on it, all partisan, all angled, none short. I also have avoided it in my own work.

My own opinion is that there is nothing linking Oswald with the killing (No. 5). However, I address what the Commission claims does in the first two of the Whitewash series and, ballistically, in Post Mortem. There is a separate chapter on The Witnesses (No. 6) in Whitewash. All the books deal with this kind of testimony. There are more extensive studies of some of the Witnesses in Whitewash II.

There has been a recent outpouring of the most irresponsible writing, largely of commercial inspiration and almost without exception undependable, unoriginal or both. I would encourage them to steer away from this and just about everything in the "alternative" press. These ripp off the mind.

Sorry I can't be of more help. However, I'm sure that if they master what I've outlined they'll be proud and their teacher will be at least satisfied.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

CATOCTIN HIGH SCHOOL
THURMONT, MARYLAND 21788
PHONE 271-7406



HARPER LONG
Principal

EDWARD J. KERNS, Jr.
Vice Principal

January 22, 1976

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

We, Kevin Mick and Belinda Fogle, are seniors at Catoctin High School and are working on an independant project for Social Studies. The subject that we are investigating is the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

We have been referred to you by our teacher, Ms. Alice Dekker, whom you had in one of your seminar classes at Hood College. We would like to request from you information on the following topics:

1. The bullets used in the assassination
2. The autopsies performed on Kennedy
3. The interrogation reports dealing with Oswald
4. Ruby's trial and conviction
5. Anything that directly linked Oswald with the killing
6. Testimonies of witnesses
7. Laboratory examinations of the body
8. The theory of a conspiracy.

We would especially appreciate your views on the above topics along with any other information that you may be willing to give us.

We have written to the F.B.I. for the above information, but do not expect too much from them. We feel that anything you may supply us would be original and not tampered with.

We thank you for your cooperation and would like to be able to talk with you on this subject. If any time is convenient for you, please let us know. Once again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Kevin Mick

Belinda Fogle

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Belinda Fogle

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Dear Mr. Weisberg,

In the spring of 1974 I was a senior at Hood College majoring in history and was a member of the seminar Dr. McKnight conducted on the assassinations of the 1960's. I am now a social studies teacher at Catoctin High School in Thurmont and am supervising an independent study for two senior class students, Kevin Mick and Belinda Fogle, on the assassination of President Kennedy.

I remembered all the help you gave our class at Hood and have taken the privilege of telling my students to get in touch with you for help in their investigation. These are extremely capable students with a good inquisitive sense for research and I write with the hope that you will be able to help them with this independent study. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Ms. Alice Dekker

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