

Russell Harrell
78-23 73 PL
Glendale, NY 11385

12/19/94

Dear Russell,

I've been up for 14 hours. In that time I've written 20 pages and I'm ~~tired~~ tired. I have other correspondence that I prefer not to let accumulate and the packages to make. So I hope you will understand that I do not intend to be short, much as it may appear that I do.

I will not argue Jack "hite with you. I've been impressed by some of his work, if not all. But he knew with that bit about Oswald and Ruby being ~~in~~ arrested at the same time that it was a fake created in the Garrison day, possibly with the intent of booby-trapping him. Gary Mack broke off all relations with Jack after that, close as they were and well as they worked together.

In the third graf of your ~~12/15~~ ~~12/15~~ you miss the point in your discussion of the Commission and the HSCA versions of the medical evidence. Referring to my old friend Occam you say, "In other words, the simplest answer cannot be the correct one." To say this you avoid the "simplest answer" that the Zapruder film confounds them both.

I do not agree that Humes could have provided the Commission with "clear sailing" nor do I believe his autopsy report, written before they existed, was to mock them. He lived with his own problems, as you may recall from Post Mortem.

He did what the Navy wanted him to do.

Contrary to your description of him, Baden whored with out precious history for the House assassins and he knew he was doing it when he did it. He also admitted to me that he knew the FBI had untied and retied the knot on the time often yet he treated it as pristine while ^{he} ignored the actual evidence it and the short bore. Lied, really.

If that to you is a "Bold spirit" to me it is not in the way you use it.

Thanks for the offer of that cassette. If you do not want to keep it I'll deposit it at Hood, but I do not take time for that kind of stuff when there is more to write than I can hope to get on paper ~~but~~ ^{that} can mean something.

Thanks for your good wishes. We hope you also have the best of holiday seasons and that there is a good year ahead for all of us.

Harrell

12-15-94

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Rd.
Frederick, Maryland 21702

Dear Harold:

I'm working up what may be some useful observations regarding Posner's book. When they're complete I'll forward them to you. In the meantime I'd like to comment on a few other matters.

You're mistaken about Jack White. Jack never states as true what he believes is not. But he is of two minds. As a pure investigator within the realm of his expertise, he has reached certain irrefutable conclusions. As a theorizer, his sense of discipline leaves him. He believes the likes of Cutler and Eddowes and, believing, he is somewhere down the primrose path of wasted research. Currently he is not speaking to me because I suggested gently to him that his campaign to open a congressional investigation into the identity of the "false Oswald" killed by Ruby is not based upon evidence sufficient to start an investigation. In the event that you have not seen the marvelous work White has done in "Fake," I will be glad to forward my tape to you.

Several months ago, in one of our telephone conversations, I asked you why the HSCA had concocted an entirely different version of Kennedy's wounds. You said that you did not know. I don't know either, but I've thought of an explanation that would meet the requirements of an ongoing coverup: By eliminating the Parkland and the Bethesda versions of the head wound, HSCA effectively eliminates testimony as embarrassing as it is conflicting. As well, in my opinion, HSCA's version serves to conceal the faking of the Zapruder film. You have said that the Z film does not support the Parkland doctor's version. But it does not support the Bethesda version either. Occam's razor, cutting in both directions, does not reveal the tissue of underlying truth. In other words, the simplest answer cannot be the correct one. The House version is so outrageously untrue, so contrary to everything that we do know to be true, that its untruth has to have been devised to serve what was conceived as a useful purpose. I can think of no other reason save the above. When all previous testimony regarding the wounds has been effectively eliminated, then the most dangerous witness of all has been neutralized and negated, and that witness is Commander Humes.

Humes could have provided the Warr. Comm. with clear sailing, and I cannot but believe that they must have applied what pressure they could to get him to do so. And yet, his autopsy report, in giving them half a loaf, has the effect of mocking them. Humes could see that fate had conspired to put him at the very crossroads of the assassination conspiracy, and he was smart enough to see that if he had given the Comm. everything they wanted then he himself would not be safe. If, in other words, he had placed himself (and the military) in such a position that, if and when the conspiracy began to unravel, the Warr. Comm. could absolve itself by stating that they had been, in all innocence, deliberately lied to by one military pathologist named Humes, ^{then} the "sudden and unexpected" death of said pathologist would ~~then~~ have closed every loop, and there would have been none left to hold the bag, since plausible deniability could have been easily fashioned by everyone else.

Humes was, willy-nilly, in the position of having to carry the coals of both the murderers and the coveruppers, and he had to be nimble. He was.

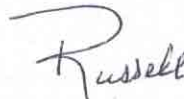
By artful use of the word "presumably" in regard to wounds of entrance and exit, by describing impossibly severed peduncles and an impossible parasagittal slice, by describing a brain impossibly loose within the cranium, by writing a report with no brain weight and then giving two different brain weights (either of them impossible in light of what we do know) and then leaving this mare's nest to the Comm. to interpret in whatever way they would, he and his sponsors made absolutely sure that the Warr. Comm., in drawing ridiculous conclusions from obviously tainted evidence, would be forced to shoulder the burden of co-conspiracy. The Comm. could not be allowed the appearance of being unwitting co-sponsors.

There are words in mitigation of Humes, Finck and Boswell. I am always struck by the certainty that, of all of those doctors who refuted the single bullet theory, those from Bethesda had to be the ones to know the vital significance to the conspiracy of concurrence in the matter. These guys were actually ready to tell the whole truth if they had just had the protection implied by the existence of an honest investigation. They played, however, the cards the Comm. dealt them, and played them in such a way that at least they wouldn't leave the game as losers.

In a previous letter I dropped a hint of things to come. Read the Sibert-O'Neill report again. Try to identify what specific words therein could be used to show conclusively that either agent, or Humes for that matter, had actually seen or touched a brain.

Incidentally, and this is entirely unrelated--quite a few years ago, when Michael Baden was Chief Medical Examiner for New York City, he was fired for having stated that Nelson Rockefeller had died during sexual intercourse. From this experience, no doubt, Baden learned quite well the lesson that one must never inject forensic truth into the political realm. His is a sad ending for a once bold spirit.

Best wishes and a merry Christmas to you and to Mrs. Weisberg.



Russell