

8/9/73

Dear Mr. Kabak,

The conflict is apparent, with Dutton. I do have other legal problems and at the moment I have no lawyer, the one had done nothing for so long having been temporarily disbarred and been too embarrassed to tell me. In some three months he has not responded to several requests for the files.

This kind of thing is one of the more disagreeable aspects of poverty. It entices crookedness that means more debt and assures that the possibilities of help are remote. It has been a major intrusion into productive work because of the time it takes and because when problems press, concentration on anything else is not easy.

If it has official encouragement, it is one of the more effective ways of deterring me.

Can you make any recommendation?

Either of the reasons you give for your interest in the JFK assassination is good enough. I prefer the former, as I think of it not so much in the working of the political process but broader, in the functioning of a representative society that can be free. I think my formulation includes your interest.

There is something with me close to your drive to solve puzzles, but again not the same thing. I have never tried to learn who fired shots and I believe that it is close to impossible for an individual and would not be believed anyway. I believe society must do the solving and that the function of the writer is to help the functioning of society.

The challenge of figuring things out and then seeking the proof is my approximation of solving puzzles. It has been a gratification, as has been the rather satisfying record of correctness and success in obtaining the evidence.

The Ameriform coup d'etat to which I referred in Frame-Up (actually in a much larger version dating to 1968, titled Coup d'Etat, continues. Watergate is another stage. There is no reform possible ~~from~~ from it that can undo the damage to any kind of representative government. No reform can restore faith and there is no reason for faith from reform alone. Each one of these things, whether it succeeds in its apparent immediate purposes, helps establish an authoritarianism that much more firmly. (This is what I said in 1968 and will be carrying forward in the book on which I am now working, Watergate: Fascism's Floodgate. Whether the tide is restrained or floods through is yet undecided.

If nothing else, referring to your comment about complicity in high places, there can be no doubt of high-up complicity in burying truth. In some ways this is worse than the initial crime. So many people otherwise, I'm certain, decent people, were good Germans. They required no orders. They knew what had to be done. In another aspect of this, in Post Mortem, I document how one of Bobby's most trusted, a man with fine liberal credentials, was part of framing Bobby.

If you do not expect de luxe accommodations, your coming here will not really inconvenience us. If you'd prefer otherwise, there are a "oliday Inn and a Red Horse Inn across the highway from each other, less than 10 minutes from here.

I look forward to learning if there is anything in the Andreas case. Did you notice that the most recent testimony has it that the White House interest was in foreclosing the CIA with regard to this money, referred to as the Dahlberg money from the man who handed it over?

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

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August 3, 1973

Mr. Harold Weisberg  
Route 8  
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I regret to inform you that I will be unable to handle the matter to which you refer in your letter to me of July 28, 1973. E.P. Dutton & Co. has taken over Saturday Review Press, one of the clients of this firm. In view of this fact, a conflict of interest would arise were I to represent you therein.

On a more pleasant note, as mentioned in our telephone conversations, I shall endeavor to obtain for you the disposition, if any, of the case of United States v. Osborne Andreas. Furthermore, I will of course return to you a xerox copy of the book Oswald in New Orleans.

I am most appreciative of your offer to allow me access to unpublished material dealing with the Kennedy assassination. Although I am by no means as conversant as you with the underlying facts of that tragic affair, I am more than a willing pupil. Whether out of interest in the political process, pure and simple, or as part of an instinctual drive to decipher puzzles, the Kennedy assassination has been a matter of compelling interest to me. I have read, inter alia, portions of your Whitewash books and have recently finished Frame-Up which I read in counterpoint to Gerald Frank's An American Death. I share your sentiments about the latter book. It is my belief that you are entirely correct in the statement that you make in Frame-Up to the effect that the rash of assassinations in this country have had the effect of a coup d'etat. Moreover, what to me is more troublesome, aside from the psychic damage that has been wreaked upon this nation, is the nagging fear of complicity in high places and the implications thereof (notwithstanding the minimal amount of reform that may be produced in the aftermath of Watergate).

Again, I would very much like to avail myself of the opportunities you offer within the next month or two, although my wife (who shares my interest) and I would not want to impose upon you in any way with respect to accommodations.

Cordially,

Edward Tabak