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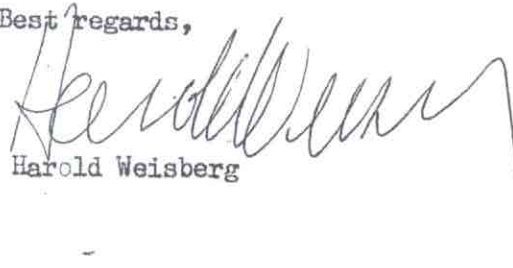
Dear Mr. Pedersen,

That Ruby interrogation is so far in the past in my work I now do not remember clearly but I think it was published by the Warren Commission. If that is correct it can be obtained from the JFK Assassination Archive, The National Archives, College Park, MD but I do not have the zip. The cost is usually about 25¢ a page.

I do not conjecture theories that identify the conspirators because we do not have enough information to be able to do that and not deceive the people and ourselves.

While I appreciate and have read your long and thoughtful letter - and the questions you say have bothered you are good questions - I can add nothing to what I have published.

Best regards,

  
Harold Weisberg

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Henrik Pedersen  
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December 15, 1995  
Dear Mr. Weisberg,

I recently read your book "Never Again" and enjoyed it a great deal. It is refreshing to read statements of fact rather than be subjected to 600+ pages of speculation where a variety of sources, despite their authenticity or merit, are alleged to prove the authors theory.

Inevitably this person names the culprit(s), motive, speculates on how the assassination was carried off and calls for total disclosure from the Federal, State and Local agencies that have any files at all relating to the crime, as if the paperwork will prove beyond doubt that he was right all along.

I didn't know the files of the F.B.I and the Warren Commission were available but if so would you please supply me with a record of the Jack Ruby interrogation done by Earl Warren and Gerrald Ford on June 6, 1964.

As you pointed out, thanks to the various Federal agencies, especially the F.B.I, Warren Commission and the US Armed forces, it is unlikely that the authors of the J.F.K assassination will ever be caught; barring a confession or if the mythical F.B.I report detailing the crime turns up "in toto". Since the nexus of various people with each other and major historical events over the years lends itself to a wide range of speculation about motive and opportunity any one theory is just as good as any other, it seems sensible to deal with the details of the assassination as they are known.

From this information clues about the conspiracy can be drawn which I believe eliminates the Federal agencies, including the Armed Forces, as players in the crime. In any case, if any group, private or official, were to come across the details of a plot to kill the President of the United States how, unless they possessed the means to tell the difference between crank information and actual blueprints, could they decide which to investigate first. If the difference were known or nothing were done that makes the party, or parties, in on the plot, so of course nothing would be done to hamper its progression to fruition.

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Bluntly, the attempt to kill President Kennedy would have been a failure were it not for Secret Service Agent William Greer who stopped the limosine rather than get the cars passengers to safety by speeding away. Further the coign of the conspiracy was Lee Harvey Oswald, who had to die for the guilty parties to avoid exposure. The success of the operation was

dependent on too many uncontrollable variables and that so, only in its execution. For example:

- 1) What would have happened if Lee Harvey Oswald had broken his leg that morning?
- 2) What if Dallas experienced heavy rainfall during the Motorcade?
- 3) What if Lee Harvey Oswald had gone outside to watch the President pass; perhaps even nearby the Grassy Knoll?
- 4) What if Buell Frazier's car had broken down that morning and Lee Harvey Oswald couldn't get to work or, if he did, without the bag which supposedly contained the "curtain rods"?
- 5) Or if Buell Frazier had seen the contents of the paper bag?

Put briefly, it was a sloppy effort which came off by only by a combination of blind luck and the help of the limosine driver.

I disagree that the military was involved in the crime however the motivation could have been to facilitate US intervention in Vietnam. I was in the Canadian Army as an infanteer for four years and the way of approaching an objective was to figure out the most direct way to attack and following straight through, all the time trying to keep your casualties as low as possible. Every Armed force in the world have a group of soldiers in its ranks known as snipers. If someone uses a rifle frequently he will become a good shot, most professional soldiers eventually are, but snipers are different altogether. To qualify even for the basic badge in the Canadian Army, apart from the other requirements, you must be able to score a grouping of less than three inches at 500 metres using open sights(ie no scope)- the target is a scale silhouette of a human torso. It is far more difficult for those trying to earn higher badges; however there are many books by snipers detailing their experiences during wartime which mention some of the shooting exploits- for example scoring fatal hits at ranges of between 650 and 2400 metres through targets of their choice. If the US Military at a high enough eschelon of command to feel it could get away with the crime and decided to have JFK killed, then such a man would constitute the most direct method and certainly the most reliable choice in terms of escaping undetected.

Assuming Lee Harvey Oswald must still be the patsy, I believe the crime could be summarized something like this:

- 1) M1 carbine becomes the murder weapon because Lee Harvey Oswald trained on it during Boot Camp
- 2) 1, 2 or even 3 shots would have been fired but only one would be necessary
- 3) It is now safe to trust local authorities with the autopsy and investigation because the wounds match the trajectory while the number of shots heard will roughly correspond to the casings left behind
- 4) Murder weapon will be dumped at the crime scene along with the correct ammunition its box
- 5) Lee Harvey Oswald would have been ordered to purchase the

ammunition earlier, or a box would have been planted at one of his addresses. If the latter then a gunshop owner or employee could be paraded out to identify Oswald as the buyer

- 6) Lee Harvey Oswald is murdered, crime made to look like a suicide perhaps with a note left or killed in some other circumstance that doesn't lend itself to any questions being asked
- 7) Dallas PD connect ammunition to M1 rifle left behind on the 6th floor of the TSBD then traces the ammunition to Lee Harvey Oswald

In this way the time line is blurred and a paraffin test is impossible, so Lee Harvey Oswald can then be postulated as the lone assassin without circumstances ruining the possibility that he was on the 6th floor at the right time (as happened when Dallas Police officer Marion Baker met him drinking a coke), because he will already be gone, headed for home, or at a meeting as per orders.

The shooting could be accomplished when the Presidential limosine crossed the view from the 6th floor of Main street or while it approached before turning onto Elm street as it did. In any event, the crime could have been accomplished just as well in Butte-Silverbow, or any other city, if a Military sniper was employed. The shooter would never say anything because it was just his job, what he does, providing of course one could be found who is either retired and/or sympathetic to the conspirator's cause.

There would likely still be questions, but no leads and a plausible connection between the late Lee Harvey Oswald, the rifle by virtue of the location from which the shooting took place, and the ammunition; when his efforts in New Orleans and, if they happened at all, in Mexico are discovered close the book on motive- he becomes an angry young man with delusions of grandeur and a Communist who kills JFK to be the Red revolutionary he considers himself to be.

I do not mean to say that the Armed Forces could not have been involved operationally, but there appears to be only the circumstantial evidence of their actions after Airforce One left for Bathesda, to support the idea. In my opinion it is only typical heavyhanded military procedure when dealing with a matter of great significance that gag orders, armed guards, etc. would be employed against their own personnel, while the autopsy was attended by field grade officers over the rank of Colonel.

What always bothered me about the crime are, basically, 7 main points

- 1) Why Dallas, Tx?
- 2) Why Lee Harvey Oswald?
- 3) Why photographs of LHO with firearms and newspapers?
- 4) Why was the motorcade route changed to put the limosine in line with the Grassy Knoll and the DalTex and TSBD to the rear?
- 5) Why the occurrence of the 3 bullets fired myth, which was substantiated by the casings being allegedly found

- on the 6th floor?
- 6) Why was Officer Tippet murdered?
- 7) Jack Ruby murders LHO

I understand the idea of plausible denial, but who in their right mind would allow their interests to be served by a conspiracy that could only succeed by fluke, that depended on Lee Harvey Oswald's death, and moreover would have been foiled by any number of small accidents. Even if JFK was killed and Lee Harvey Oswald survived, unless the plot was not conceived by an independent group it would be irrelevant if the dirty linen came out; since other countries have had political murders with their systems surviving intact. Of course, if it were an independent operation, then the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald becomes a matter of life and death.

Ruth Paine is a disturbing character in the events around the assassination because:

- 1) she got Lee Harvey Oswald the interview at the TSBD
- 2) a green rambler was spotted being driven away from the crime scene - hers as Lee Harvey Oswald seemed to think?
- 3) photographs connecting LHO to firearms were found at her home along with the blanket the 6.5mm Carcano was supposedly wrapped in
- 4) she practically babysat Marina Oswald
- 5) probably was connected to George de Mohrenschildt who put the Oswalds into contact with her in Dallas

Perhaps Ruth Paine's efforts did not go unnoticed by the plotters, and so the motorcade was maneuvered past the TSBD, or worse, her being instrumental in getting Lee Harvey Oswald his job there was the last part of the plan to kill JFK.

It seems as though the plotters did not anticipate there would be a discrepancy between the number of rounds fired, the extent of the injuries and eyewitness testimony, and thus were inflexible enough to not have had up to the rifles 6 round capacity worth of empty casings on hand. From the conflicting reports concerning the rifle, the number of shots fired was probably not decided on until later on, by which time the President's body had been taken away to Bethesda, Md at gunpoint and the investigation was taken out of the hands of DPD. Now the government becomes stuck with the pristine bullet. In any event the casings were never marked by anyone from the police department and are thus worthless as evidence.

The murder of J.D. Tippet is unbelievable, to put it mildly: ignoring for a moment if Lee Harvey Oswald could even be at that crime scene and further assuming that he did in fact kill officer Tippet; for what possible reason would Oswald gun down a policeman, empty the revolver's cylinders and leave proof behind connecting him with the crime (because he keeps the firearm) then go to see a movie for which he doesn't pay to see, to draw even further suspicion to himself, and awaits arrest. Again it seems the plotters decided that with their patsy dead, there would be no problems they couldn't handle because there would be no evidence of any value left and the suspect unable to challenge the frameup job. Probably the tag of copkiller was thought to be sufficient to ensure Lee Harvey Oswald was killed

during the arrest. When this failed the only option left for disposing of Lee Harvey Oswald was Jack Ruby it being possibly too much, as if everything up until then were not enough, if the alleged assassin was killed by DP attempting to escape their custody.

The fact that JFK's body was removed at gunpoint and brought to Bethesda, Md for the autopsy is most likely the Federal Government deciding that anything a State can do they can do better from Washington, DC and injecting itself where it does not belong. In an effort to control events the US Armed Forces were employed because they are Federal and have medical personnel and facilities available. Obviously the Federal government ended up supporting the lone gunman theory but are undoubtedly sorry to be stuck with, what would become, CE 399-the Magic bullet.

Why they did this I do not know, since it seems to me that the plotters consisted of a small group plugged into the Dallas Police department and probably Anti-Castro Cubans; through whom Lee Harvey Oswald became a candidate for patsy with the help of Ruth Paine. Probably events were politically convenient for the LBJ administration which decided to advance the agenda of armed intervention in Vietnam, while at the same time, maintaining the appearance that the US is a nation of law, where a conspiracy does not alter the political situation.

The US Federal government is apparently unable to admit any conspiracies under any conditions. Most people believe in conspiracies because they happen all the time, the best example being organized crime. The F.B.I. denied anything of the kind existed for many years finally grudgingly admitting a small degree of organization/conspiracy. Other examples include pricefixing, insider stock trading, espionage, etc.

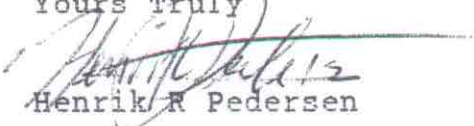
Why else are there laws covering such crimes in the first place?

It is hardly suprising that the Federal government maintains the single bullet theory, etc. and has remained silent otherwise.

Unless the private conspiracy which killed JFK and was protected by the Johnson administration because it was expedient to do so was dealt with; and there really is something in the mysterious deaths list. Otherwise the government was an accessory after the crime.

These are some of my thoughts on the JFK assassination. I am looking forward to hearing from you about your views that the US military was involved at a high level in the crime or any comments about the above.

Yours Truly

  
Henrik R Pedersen