

Two weeks ago yesterday I was hospitalized for what was to have been a day and a half that lasted for two weeks. I was allowed home yesterday in time to read the mail of those two weeks. I begin to respond on my 83rd birthday. Responding to all of it will take some time. I'll not be able to respond to much of it as fully as in the past, as I hope some of you will be able to understand. It ^{is} a box that held 100 file folders. Two weeks of book orders have also accumulated and filling and mailing them will also take time. As will additional medical appointments several of which follow today. and, perhaps from two weeks ^{no} of my physical activity at all instead of the ~~my~~ limited physical activity that had been possible for me I am also a bit weaker.

The initial diagnosis at the hospital, based on fluid in my chest, was congestive heart failure. Not quite a full quart of fluid was taken from my chest. Analysis of it disclosed nothing. Several cultures ^{also} were made. It will be some time before the results of them ^{will} be available.

I was told I have some anemia and that my kidney function is less than it should be.

The fluid was not in my lungs and there was no blood in it.

If the doctors learned more than this I was not cold. Several specialists were involved and at least one of them will continue to be in ^{care} ~~care~~ examinations. I do not suggest that the doctors learned more than they told me.

I was ambulatory all the time that I was hospitalized and to a degree I was able to continue work. I've about completed research for another manuscript that can be of book length. When I can get to it!

I hope this explains my delay in responding and in my responding at less length than in the past.

For which I am sorry but my first ^{priority} remains completing the work to the degree now possible for me.

Harold Weisberg 4/8/96

Reur bypasses, of which I had four in 1989 without a vein they could take and use, be as active as you can be safely and in particular walk regularly, daily. Best medicine. Sorry no time for more now but be assured that Garrison made his Dr. X up and in a different sense than Stone used. I was there and I know, as did his staff, which laughed at his version behind his back. Tragically, he made it all up out of nothing except what he cribbed and enlarged on. Stay well!

Harold

4201 Peachtree Place, Alexandria, VA 22304 Mar 22, 1996

Harold Weisberg
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Dear Harold,

Pleased you are reading my book, and hope to hear your comments as you progress through it pages. It developed strangely. An editor asked me to write about the CIA. I ended up writing 19 articles. That was 1985-1987.

Oliver Stone saw the articles because he has always been interested in Vietnam. Obviously the Vietnam chronology led to the JFK assassination. It was this that seemed to strike the right note with him.

Unfortunately, our first meeting took place just before I had a Triple by-pass coronary and our next meeting was the day after I got out of the hospital. As a result we had little opportunity to work together, but those Vietnam chapters led to a book.

As you will see, I was quite close to Vietnam from 1945 until 1964. It was a mess and it was for the most part delegated to the CIA, at least until 1965.

I am not at all surprised by your reference to Churchill's demand that the UK's intelligence be refocused on the USSR right after the invasion. You'll come to the part where I was ordered to pick up American POW's after the USSR entrance into Romania, in Sept 1944, and that in the thousand or so Americans the OSS (Frank Wisner) had slipped one hundred or more Nazis.

You are quite correct. Wisner and the cooperating Nazis had hidden a good supply of their intelligence material for eastern Europe and western Russia. From what you write I'm sure you know the story of Gen Sibert, Lt Col Quinn and Gen W.B. Smith with reference to an enormous supply of Nazi intelligence records and the deal with Gen Gehlen.

Since I was never in Intelligence I was never privy to the records that were there from Germany and Italy. Of course in the BLOWBACK and DEEPWATER flights that I managed I knew we had a lot of stuff that no one saw as well as the Germans.

I trust all goes well with you. I have just had a small bout with a hospital and the related time lost with the medics. Right now I feel quite well and am looking forward to a good Spring. I look forward to your comments as you continue with the book.

Ciao,

Fletcher
L. Fletcher Prouty