Rt 12, Frederick, Md. 21701 12/6/75

David Banjo, Editorial Asst.
Rolling Stone
625 Third St.,
SanFrancisco, Ca. 94107

Dear David,

I am overwhelmed as much by two successive normal, nice letters from anyone at by Stone more than by the endless and now particularly heavy struggle against the fedfinks.

If you review Post Mortem, please remember that we are two people, one partly handicapped, and if you do not include the price and address it becomes a great liability and a futility if no more than the name is given.

At this point I was interrupted by some of the wonderful,young college people Who work with me. And I with them. They are taking care of getting up and out a press release for a news conference I'll be holding in Washington to give away more of the results of my work, this time what I forced out of the FBI - far from all, only a new beginning - of what with decent press attention should break the King assassination open. Handciapped as I am by phlebitis these people will do everything except speak for me unless in the last minute I have to make arrangements for space. The greater handicap will be my inability to provide free copies and the attitude of the press. Two major two papers are off and running of a new Whitewash for which they can use only what is leaked to them by the feds. Nothing personal but given the policies and hangups of the other than straight press there is no real choice for me. I'll not be able to tape this myself but I'll try to get someone else to in the event it later turns out to be of interest. (Stone has missed an awful lot over the past couple of years by its attitude and hangups, reducing itself to overt plagiarism at higher cost than that of honest dealing in one case.)

This is to explain that overnight I've lost one of the thoughts I had for you. I do want to caution you about people and experts. I know this kind of comment is not well received but you reach young people and I owe them effort. Of the people you ,ention Penn Jones is gutsy, paranoid and generally wrong and undependable. Whst he says has appeal but it and he are both crazy on this subject. It has been one of the great obstancles to getting truth out and accepted. It turns those who reallt count off. Thompson is a croos with credentials and the scruple required to come up with two contradictory theoretical explanations for money. His was a formula book to which he added untanable invesntions after taking tye work of others, without permission and in a very large number of vases the plagiarism disguised with phoney footnotes. You'll find that every reference to a documents "recently discovered in the Archives" is a crib from my second book. Meagher is magnificent but of the past and we are, those few of us who do real work, so far past that point you can't believe it. However, hers is one of the two dependable basic books, a magnificent one, and I encourage you to get in when it reappears in March. The other one is my first, which was the first, dating to 2/15/64, hers to 9/67. There is notbing basic and dependable in the other early works of other authors and where they repeat they have nasty slants, especially Lane and Epstein.

You do not mention Howard Roffman. Big mistake. He is great, personally and in his Presumed Guilty. He has done a superlative job with this concept, not covering the whole field but restricting himself to making the case he set out to make. He does it honestly, overwhelmingly and comprehensibly. I am prejudiced but you will find this no exaggeration. We have the relationship of brothers but I also have the emotion of a proud father. Howard started coming here when he was so young he had to phone home on arrival. I have seen him grow and I can vouch with his integrity. One who is new and has not written for publication and has done more good than some you name is Jim Lesar, whose unpiad legal work has been tremenduous in my suits and the Ray case. Hastily,

P.S. on the chance of Stone interest.

David Belin's coming out for a new investigation, with all the sanctimony he added, is not as spontaneous as he makes it seem. It was my objective. I went to a contracted confrontation with him at Vanderbilt, in Nashville, 11/99 with this purpose so totally my objective I prepared a speech, which I never do, and the speech was 100% Belin to Belin's face. I have it. I had to do it so fast I never had a chance to finish reading it before I read it in public. Prior to this, on 11/14, embargoed until AM's 16, I challenged all those I names as perjurers and suborners of perjury to get under oath with me before any Congressional committee with authorization. To this combination of a) charges and b) proof as they relate to Belin I added Post Mortem, which I rushed to him and he began reading before our confrontation. When he saw the "new evidence" and what I'd woven in of the old, including on him, he saw the handwriting on the wall and did three days later what he repeatedly did when I asked him repeatedly. In fact, my speech builds to this. Although walking and standing were hard for me and I delivered the speech (poorly read) sitting down with my legs raised to the left of the lodium, at its conclusion I stood up and offered him my hand as I repeated the request. He went off into a stonewaller's illegality I clobbered. The deal included a tape the college somehow managed not to make. I have students looking for tapes made by the audience. You will find it a classic case of how all of this was brought to pass: officialdom is right because it says it is right and therefore needs no proof and its dubious word becomes proof, all else is false, regardless of authenticity, and there is response to nothing. A personal note: He is such a stonewaller, such a psycho, I left feeling I had failed, partly and I think more because I sized him in advance as a psycho than because he left hardheaded and black-faced and unrepentent. It was particularly disappointment because the trip was too much for me. I could not lace a shoe the morning I left, could hardly get one off the night after this encounter, and the next morning couldn't get soft moccassins on without trouble. I returned in them and a couple of wheelchairs provided by the airline at each end. I'd taken a student as a precaution. I learned of Belin's change from the same student, who heard it on the radio. No paper or wire service would carry the account of how it all came to pass. I also have the unedited text of the speech, which is quite a case study of how evidence was corrupted to make it appear that Oswald was the lone assassin of both JFK and Tippit, with what Belin suppressed to make it seem possible.

ROLLING STONE

625 Third Street San Francisco California 94107 (415) 362-4730

December 1, 1975

Harold Weisberg
Rt. 12,
Frederick, Md. 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Thank you for your quick response. You read my thoughts correctly and I am very appreciative. I recieved the books this morning and am sending this off immediatlly. I certainly honor your letter as a bill and am enclosing a money order for the amount specified.

I could explain why the MO is signed David Leishman, but that would take time. Sufficeth to say, I am not trying to pull any fast ones. I would appreciate it if my real last name were to extend no further than yourself.

I do not wish to extract any of your work. If I do write a review, I will send you two copies and will take no untoward liberties.

I have a great deal of respect for you and your work as I mentioned in the last letter. Along with Sylvia Meagher, Penn Jones, and Josiah Thompson, you have formed the cornerstones of my research into the assassination. I have done my level best to transmit information to folks I come into contact with and have even given a few lectures on the subject. As as individual and as an American I thank you for your inspiration.

I'm sorry that there have been incidents in the past which have made it difficult to deal with Rolling Stone. I don't know what the cause was, but I can certainly believe it. If you find it necessary to deal with us in the future, feel free to address your correspondence to me.

Yours,

David Banjo

David Banjo
Editorial Asst.