

3/16/96

Dear Mr. Shea,

I appreciate your taking the time for your letter of the 13th.

Those events in which as a young man you were so slightly involved do seem to represent the beginning of many changes for us and we cannot see what the end will be yet.

I find it hard to believe that prior to the Bay of Pigs it could have been said as you say correctly, that writers and editors could be so uninformed about an event like the assassination of a President, what is really a coup d'etat.

In the same mail as your letter I got a copy of a New York Times review of a book that theorizes that JFK was killed by the mafia. That baseless conjecture is worth mention by the Time, not unfavorable mention, too.

But neither it nor any other publication reviewed Case Open or NEVER AGAIN!  
Or any of my earlier books.

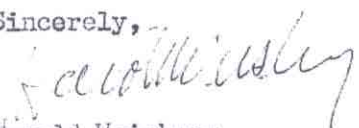
Yet to this day I have not gotten any letter or phone call from any of those of whom I wrote so ritically complaining that I was unfair or inaccurate.

The changes are great and they are not in accord with what once were our basic beliefs.

All that now is possible is to try and inform others as best that can be done.

I do appreciate your letter and I thank you for it.

Sincerely,

  
Harold Weisberg

William F. Shea  
103 North St., Apt. 5  
Hingham, MA 02043

March 13, 1996

Harold Weisberg  
Route 12, Old Receiver Road  
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Enclosed is an order form and payment for a set of your books.

I read a library copy of WHITEWASH some time ago. I have a copy of CASE OPEN which I have read three times, and NEVER AGAIN which I just finished reading for the second time. I have also read the works of Sylvia Meagher, Mark Lane, John Newman, and Fletcher Prouty.

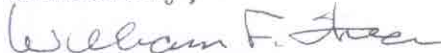
My interest in this most ugly episode in our history stems from the Bay of Pigs. I was present at that debacle while serving aboard the USS San Marcos, an amphibious assault ship. The San Marcos was used to deliver the brigade's pre-loaded landing craft, and was for all intents and purposes under charter to the CIA.

I have this sense of wonderment that I was caught up in the prelude to one of the most momentous events in U.S. history, if only in the most peripheral way. It has occurred to me that I may have actually been in the same room with people who later went on to be players in the events leading up to Dallas and its aftermath.

Whenever I read anything about the assassination in the mainstream press, I shake my head in disbelief that writers and editors could be so uninformed on a subject about which so much has been written. They are not just ignorant, in some cases they are downright flippant.

There was a time when I just brushed their ridicule aside, but no more. Now whenever I see it I counter with a letter to the editor or one directly to the author. Thanks to your inspiration I consider this to be a fundamental act of good citizenship.

Sincerely,

  
William F. Shea