

Dear Mr. Sobel,

10/21/96

As one who makes movies should know, when you make it up you can make it attractive. Which is what Hugh McDonald and his ghost writer did. His book is fraud from beginning to end. I checked it out for a prospective publisher and wound up with three entirely different summaries of it by McDonald. In fact, he made a major change in it at my suggestion. He had his "Saul" lingering for a full hour in advance of the shooting of all places, in a woman's rest room in the courts building! And that at lunch hour yet! I'm told there was no such rest room on that wall.

If you intend a serious movie, one that does not misrepresent, mislead or lie, you need do much more than study the Z film and the autopsy pictures. There is a limit to what you can deduce from there and there is much that is more probative, more informative than those films. I think that before you get into what you suggest you should read solid, factual work and become somewhat familiar with the official evidence. Aside from the books I published myself, having no alternative, my most recent is one you should be familiar with. Your book store can get it. I can provide all of mine.

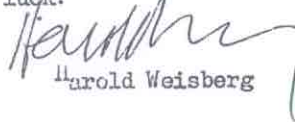
McDonald is perhaps the most gifted and brazen liar I ever met.

It is not easy to understand what books you can depend on and which you should shun but if you intend serious work you'd best begin learning. That you could go for that McDonald crap leads me to believe you found in it what you wanted to believe and went no farther before believing it.

If you are ever near here you are welcome to go over the third of a million pages of government assassination records I got by a series of FOIA lawsuits.

Sorry my typing cannot be any better. I'm 83, feeble and unwell.

Good luck!


Harold Weisberg

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Mr. Harold Weisberg
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October 18, 1996

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

I'm a filmmaker with a lifelong obsession of the JFK assassination. I was 7 years old when the President was shot, and have been haunted by the mystery ever since.

I am writing because you strike me --- from TV interviews and your writings --- as an impartial professional, and I am wrestling with some ideas that I'd be grateful to receive your opinion and insights on.

After studying very good stills of the frames of the Zapruder Film, as well as published copies of post-mortem photos, I have been bothered by contentions that the fatal head shot to the President came from either the Knoll or the 6th Floor Depository. Based on a visual analysis and a knowledge of physics, I have had a gnawing feeling that only a shot from the rear left, and at a low angle, made sense to me to explain the fatal head shot (this doesn't preclude shooters in other places including the Knoll).

As I've never read anyone purport this idea, (other than roof shots from County Records or Dal-Tex, which would still be too high), I never really gave it much obsessive thought. Then I read APPOINTMENT IN DALLAS, which seemed to make sense of everything that I'd felt.

One doesn't read or hear much about "Hugh C. McDonald" --- possibly because he has no proof of his story, other than he came up with (what I consider to be) the right answers to the physics years before it was possible to get ready access to good quality enlargements of Zapruder frames.

If you might have a few minutes to drop me a short note, I'd be interested in knowing what your opinion is of the "Saul" theory based on your research, and if you know anything about it beyond what was written in the book. In your opinion, was Hugh C. McDonald credible?

Thanks for your time. I'm enclosing a pre-stamped envelop for your reply.

Very Sincerely,



Mark Sobel