

JOHN A. STOUT JR.

Dec. 15, 1981

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

As sometimes is, only through a progression of un-related events, does one discover something significant. In my case, it was the purchase of the comprehensive historical and legal bibliography compiled by Deloyd J. Guth and David Wrone. I was astounded by your unprecedented legal battle against the government for information related to the assassination. This was followed by the unexpected discovery in a used bookstore of your first work "Whitewash". I thought that I was a fairly well versed student on the assassination, having read most everything I could find in the bookstores around town. I became acutely aware that you are the recognized premier authority on the subject. How I could be so naive, I'm not so sure, a question you could answer better than I.


However, since "discovering" you in a second-hand bookstore, I am most anxious to obtain the rest of your books, "Whitewash II", "Photographic Whitewash", "Whitewash IV", "Oswald in New Orleans" and "Post Mortem". I gather from my bibliography that some of your works were published by you personally, hence this letter requesting information from you on how best to proceed.

I also have a question that I've been wanting to ask an expert, and that is; Will the Justice Department pursue the findings of the latest Committee hearings and in your opinion, will the case ever be satisfactorily resolved?

More specific, boldness aside, because the question has been known to bring gales of laughter from my friends, I've been most intrigued from reading Gaton Fonzi's article in The Washingtonian, Donald Freed's, "Death in Washington" and Anthony Summers', "Conspiracy", with the role Mr. David Phillips might have played in all of this. Any comments you might have would be much appreciated. Should my friends be laughing?

Finally, I want to thank you personally for the time and effort that you have obviously put into this case. I'm positive you will be rewarded in due time.

Sincerely,



John A. Stout Jr.

P.S. Do you know of any organizations or newsletters available?

John Stout Jr.
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Dear Mr. Stout,

12/17/81

Because of the nature of your kind letter, for which I thank you, I report what I do not intend as immodesty, the first of the Whitewash series was done 2.15.65.

I enclose a list of the available books. In addition, there is what is out of print and I did not publish myself, OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS. ^{FRAME} ~~RETE~~-UP, on the King case, has a little JFK assassination information in it. I did not publish it, either.

Interestingly, the two books that were published by established publishers, did poorest.

For those who want it, we have been providing xeroxes of OSWALD for \$27. If a friend keeps his word, I should have a few printed copies. He says he found some and is sending them. The lowest price I've seen them offered by out-of-print stores is \$25. If I get them I'll sell them for that.

Robert Cutler, 38 Union Street, Manchester, Mass., has a newsletter titled "The Grassy Knoll Gazette." Penn Jones, of Midlothian Texas, published "The Continuing Inquiry." I do not know the costs.

In general I question the conclusions and often the integrity of the conspiracy theorists. I've not read the Freed book and don't intend to because I know of nothing dependable he has ever done and I've read more than enough to form an opinion. Summers' is often dishonest and the links to the Mafia range from nonexistent to misrepresented. Not uncommonly he takes as his own what he got from others. With regard to Phillips, whose defender in general I am not, and the Fonzi work, I do not regard it as at all dependable and I know that Veciana worked for another part of the CIA entirely. I do not credit his tale, but aside from that unless at some point he was switched he was not CIA through Phillips but through another.

The Department of Justice has little choice. It will have to do something about what the House committee turned over to it. It has taken this long time because it is trying to work out what will not be unfavorable to it or at the least, puts the best possible face on its many failures and covering ups. The panel appointed by the National Academy of Sciences, to study the police tape, is dominated by a fierce partisan. I have no reason to believe that anything has been done about the Bronson film, another area DJ was to pursue.

Thanks and best wishes,

Harold Weisberg