Zugust 20, 1968

Mr. James J. Rowley, Director
United States Secret Service
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Rowley,

A reading of the testimony of Inspector J. Herbert Sawyer of the Dallas Police Department on page 324 of Volume 6 of the Warren Commission indicates that SAIC Forrest Sorrels interviewed a man who had taken pictures of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy from inside the Del-Tex Building. I recall no such testimony by Mr. Sorrels and have found no report covering this and no such pictures in the National Archives.

I am writing to ask whether the testimony of Inspector Sawyer is correct.

If it is correct, then I should like to be referred to the proper file or files to study them and perhaps obtain copies. If there were such pictures, I presume the Secret Service obtained them, in which event I am also entitled to access tokx them and would like to arrange this.

If this testimony is not correct, I deeply regret an inaccurate record is preserved for history, with all its evil potential, with all the trouble and waste of time it will mean for those who henceforth will be studying this record.

Assistant Director Kelley replied for you to my last letter to you. Some time has elapsed and he has not responded to what I regard as proper and essential questions I posed in response to his letter. I want you to be aware of this because letters, too, make a record, for the present and for the future. There are and will be few things in our national history of the magnitude of this great tragedy.

Failure or refusal of the Secret Service to respond will be interpreted in a quite obvious way. I assure you I shall so interpret it and I think it unlikely anyone else not parti pris will do otherwise. This would be, in an understatement, unfortunate.

The unnecessary tragedies in the wake of the assassination are, in my view, of executive-agency creation. I look forward to the day when someone in authority recognizes what this is doing to our society and what will be thought of it in history.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg

8/21/68

Dear Dick,

I was in DC today. Johnson is away for a week. Instead of checking this out there, where I have already checked out all their pictures and have gone through all the picture files, I have written Rowley. Copy enclosed. I suggest, however, that you write Hoods and make a record on that end. I'd like copies.

There is little point in my trying to do much there. They go out of their way to stymie me, forget to copy some of what I order, etc. Last week Hal and Gary were there and left a list of things to be copied. As of today, it had not yet been begun. More than a week ago I ordered 700 pages of microfilming. Today they had not started it, and not because the facilities are jammed. The beginning of that mircofilm order goes back more than two months. They have just stalled.

Frankly, because I think we have come close to draining it, at least in terms of our manpower capabilities, certainly of my own, I also think their leaving this kind of record, ultimately, will make more clear that there has been executive-agency impropriety. Is that enough of an understatement?

With regard to the ABC footage, instead of calling the official, I called my friend who is working with him. I read the letter and tonight am mailing it. I will try and see to it that you are there if there is any examination of this film.

Many thanks.

Looking forward to your visit.

Sincerely,

37 Harvard Drive
Hartsdale, N. Y.
August 20, 1968

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 7
Frederick, Md.

Dear Harold:

I have just made what I believe is a startling discovery and I would like your help in unravelling it. On page 324 of Vol. VI Sawyer says that he found out about a man who had been taking movies from one of the upper floors of the Dal Tex Bldg.

He says that Sorrels talked to the man and implies that the Secret Service had his name and his film. Perhaps Sawyer was confused and it was a man who worked or had an office on one of the upper floors, in which case it could have been Zapruder. On the other hand, it may be a photographer buried by the establishment. Can you enlighten me on this one? I had never heard or read about it anywhere before, that I can remember.

Regards,

Dick