ML

February 24, 1967

Mr. Ted Siminoski
2437 Piedmont - 304
Berkeley, California 94700

Dear Ted:

Sorry, too busdy. Most of the answers are in my published works.

You better check on your franking. Mine came through postage due.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

Ted Siminoski
2437 Piedmont
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. Weisberg

In the past month or so, I have made substantial progress in my research into the assassination. Though I am still into the 1st four volumes of Testimony, I am beginning to see the pattern of distortions and misrepresentations as I compare the testimony with the final Report. Though I naturally try to be objective, my original thesis as far as the assassination part of a possible conspiracy (as opposed to the cover-up part) was that Oswald was framed and was in no way, other than innocently, involved. It would seem that the evidence I have gone through so far does not prove in any substantial way that Oswald was involved. Though there is much which is contradictory and fallatious, there are still some factors which I cannot easily explain. Most importantly, I do not see how the two bullet fragments found in the limousine could have gotten there if they weren't either planted by the Secret Service agents who found them or had come from the gun. If they did come from the gun, that would mean one, or maybe two shots, which would be feasible as far as the timing is involved. The two fragments provide the link to the gun, in fact provide just about the only link that I can't explain. Well, add the fingerprints on the gun. The blanket and shirt fibres could have been planted, it is obvious that 399 was planted, the shells could have been fired earlier and then planted. But what about the fragments. Also, how can Jarman (or is it Norman's) testimony about hearing the bolt action and shell ejection on the sixth floor and the dust on Bonnie RaeWilliams be explained. If Jarman is correct then someone was up there and he either shot a gun went through the motions of operating the bolt and dropping the shells. Also, though it's of little consequence beyond speculation about what he did, I wonder why he left all his money in Irving, why he brought no lunch that day, and why he didn't wait for Frazier as he usually did. Also I wonder why he left work that afternoon, and why (regardless of what he did in the meantime) he went to the Texas Theater with a gun.

As far as the Tippit affair goes, if Oswald did kill him, it would seem that he went out of his way to shake out cartridges where everyone would see them. That was difficult to explain.

Wow, that's a load! When I think over the details, those are the problems that stick out in my mind. I'm sure there are others--why did Oswald use aliases; for that matter, did he?

What is your feeling as to Oswald's involvement? Do you think he was involved and fired some of the shots?

Also, do you believe that the assassination and the Whitewash were related parts of a criminal conspiracy, or do you feel that the Whitewash was for a purpose such as to soothe public opinion? If there was a conspiracy, do you believe it would be right wing, left wing, or neutral. Of course I haven't one into it too much, but I look at it as a right wing conspiracy otherwise the basically right wing elements (Dallas police, CIA, FBI, State Dept, Dulles faction on the Commission) would have gone along. As far as motivations, I've heard one researcher (I don't remember which one unfortunately) suggest that Kennedy refused to escalate the war in Vietnam, which would be generally consistent with the supphosed statement by Morse that Kennedy was on the verge of some sort of major announcement about Vietnam, possibly that he was about to withdraw. This is all very rough and general of course, but basically that's how my thoughts are running. I'm not even certain that I will go into this matter formally due to my time limitations. But I certainly hope to. I wouldn't attempt if if I didn't have time to do a thorough job.

By the way, the University's Political Science Dept came through with about $40 worth of office supplies to help me along, plus franking priveleges. (this comes to you ala the Political Science stamp machine, so feel honored). If I get to Washington this Summer I have until September to finish my report. Otherwise I have till January which is a hell of a long time. Also, there is a distinct possibility that I can extend my 1st year's research (I'm still a lowly Junior) another year by getting into the Honor Program and do my thesis on this topic. So there's a possibility of another nine months. At this point it seems quite exciting. Maybe by then I'll be so disillusioned b American government that I811 feel like quitting the topic. Who knows.

At any rate I plod along.

One last note before I let you get back to more important things like Whitewash III, IV, and V (from what I've seen, it seems like there's enough for about 10). What do you think of the Garrison investigation in New orleans? I can't believe that the truth is really going to come out it certainly seems promising. Have you found any information in the course of your research which might suggest the lines his investig tion is taking? David Ferrie doesn't seem to be much except that the Civilian Air Patrol doesn't sound like it would be a left-wing pro Cuba organization. But if Bringuier (spelling?) is a friendly witness, it's certainly not going to be a ~~left~~ right wing plot.

Thanks for the time you've spent reading this tome. I got carried away with myself.

Sincerely,

Ted Siminoski

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