

Mr. Merrill McLoughlin, editor  
U.S. News  
2400 N St., NW  
Washington, DC 20027-1196

7/25/95

Dear Mr. McLoughlin,

Michael Stanke has sent me your letter to him of June 22 and the memo to you by your Gerald Parshall. Of me Parshall says I am "a conscientious man who has spent decades of his life trying to uncover a conspiracy that never existed." He precedes this by saying that I am "thoroughly" wrong, I presume about the JFK assassination.

I'm 82 now, in impaired health, and I'm spending what time that remains to me in seeking to leave the best possible record for our history. Perhaps the day may return when the major media is not the servile lackey of errant government on so many major issues.

So I welcome this invitation by the august and wealthy U.S. News and using it ask you, with or without your subject-matter ignoramus Parshall, to show me a single significant error in any of the many assassination books I've published.

That Parshall is a subject-matter ignoramus (I do not assume he is stupid and in your employ) is reflected in his saying "I've been trying to uncover a conspiracy" that only a determined subject-matter ignoramus and dedicated literary whore can say "never existed."

I am alone in never having sought to try to "uncover" who conspired, and the irrefutable official evidence proves there was a conspiracy.

If your in-house subject-matter ignoramus had read my current NEVER AGAIN! he would know that it begins by stating, backed up with the official evidence, that it is impossible to "solve" the crime.

Parshall refers Stanke to your mishap of Posner's cheap prosecutor-type case, which he read before writing you. I do not think you or Parshall will take the time of that either of you wants to know the truth, but some of it is in my badly butchered Case Open. About three-quarters of it, where I used the official evidence to prove that, using these words, Posner is a shyster and a plagiarizer. Posner had a chance to respond. He has been silent other than proving what I also said of him in Case Open, that he has trouble telling the truth even by accident. In his introduction to his paperback reprint, after going through the motions of trying to relieve his grossest plagiarism in the text, he says that with Case Open I finally got commercial publication. It was my 13th.

Posner's plagiarism was so persuasive that you award him the copyright on some of what he plagiarized!

Except for the record this may be for the future, I believe it is a waste of time.

But while I'm wasting the time I'll waste a bit more and challenge you to read the beginning of NEVER AGAIN! and tell me that does not represent a conspiracy, an official conspiracy to see to it that the crime of the assassination itself would never be officially investigated. I'd like to have that as a record for the future, too.

If travel were not too dangerous for me I'd have held a press conference in Washington and distributed copies of those records. I still hope that the friend who was my <sup>n</sup>awyer in all those FOIA law ~~suits~~, you never <sup>l</sup>regarded as news and never mentioned will ~~hold~~ a press conference for me when ~~his~~ health and schedule permit it. He'll then distribute copies of those records not in the book because the publisher did not want an appendix.

What is <sup>re</sup>gard<sup>ed</sup> as news is not what was news in my youthful reporting days. Then establishing a copyright <sup>pre</sup>cedent would have been <sup>re</sup>garded <sup>as</sup> news. It was entirely unreported.

And when, in Andy Jackson's words, I was that ~~one~~ determined man who became the majority, when the Congress amended FOIA in 1974 to make CIA, FBI and similar records accessible under it, citing one of my suits as requiring it, that also was not news. Nor ~~was~~ it that the sole remaining Kennedy brother is the one who saw to it that the legislative history would be clear on this.

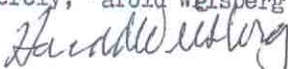
Recent history tells us what happens in countries in which the major media surrender their traditional roles and became accomplices in official wrongdoing. If you cannot see what has happened here you are blind as well as having abdicated your responsibilities that once were regarded as <sup>most</sup> ~~right~~ to sacred in this country.

Please excuse my typing. It cannot be any better.

If neither you nor your hired hand has the kidney for a meaningful, factual response, there is always the Senator of <sup>W</sup>aita Hill fame who parlayed his prostitution of his Warren Commission responsibilities into that Senatorship<sup>er</sup>, Arlen Specter. I have written much about him in the past and much in NEVER AGAIN! Perhaps you can get him to point out with fact any error in what I've written about him.

Specter or any others of <sup>the</sup> ~~that~~ upwardly-mobile non-Portias of the Commission.

And if you really want to learn a little about that travesty I'll be glad to lend you a copy of a lengthy article I wrote about my relations with the former Commission member, Senator Russell and <sup>on</sup> how he and Senator Cooper were cowed into signing the Report. They both went to their graves refusing to accept the basis of that non-conspiracy Report, the Specter bastard of the single-bullet theory which isn't even that. It is a fabrication. Russell approved my work and encouraged it until his daying day. <sup>N</sup>aturally, that is not news.

Sincerely, Harold Weisberg  


June 22, 1995

MEMO TO MERRILL McLOUGHLIN

RE: Mr. Michael Stanke's letter about our cover story, "Case Closed."

Mr. Stanke is correct. Mr. Harold Weisberg is not "another crazy assassination nut." He is thoroughly sane but also thoroughly wrong, I believe, a conscientious man who has spent decades of his life trying to uncover a conspiracy that never happened. Still, Weisberg can be a persuasive writer if your knowledge is limited to the facts and interpretations he presents. For another view, Mr. Stanke may wish to read Case Closed, by Gerald Posner, the Random House book excerpted by this magazine in August, 1993.

Gerald Parshall  
Senior Writer

Ok Really,

**U.S. NEWS**  
& WORLD REPORT

Merrill McLoughlin  
Editor

June 22, 1995

*IF you notice  
in my letter - I  
MAKE NO mention  
of Case Closed*

Mr. Michael Stanke  
136 South 13th Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

Dear Mr. Stanke:

~~Thanks so much for writing about our cover story, "Case Closed." I brought your letter to the attention of the main reporter on the story, Gerald Parshall. Attached is his response.~~

Critical or complimentary, it is helpful to hear from readers. I hope that you will continue to follow U.S. News, and that you will find we are still offering the candid and accurate journalism you value.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Merrill McLoughlin

MM/nm



20 July 1995

Greetings Harold:

I enclosed a few books that I would like you to sign. The used Never Again is my personal copy. The others books will be gifts to a few friends of mine. Scott Wilson said you have an index for Never Again. I enclosed a check to cover the expense of handling, postage etc.

I'm working on my second draft of my book review of Never Again. I shall keep you advised. In short, I tell the reader that this is **THE** book!

I hope all is well with you and your wife.

With a great deal of respect and admiration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike".

Mike

*Harold  
I sent this to three  
major periodicals.*

**To:** U.S. News and World Report Editors  
**From:** Michael Stanke 136 South 13th Street La Crosse, WI 54601  
(608)785-0218  
**Re:** Book **Never Again** by Harold Weisberg  
**Date:** 7/19/95 **Time:** 2:09 PM

Writings, documentaries, films, and discussions on John F. Kennedy's assassination have become so convoluted since that sad day in 1963 that most Americans really have no real understanding of the event. I challenge the News and World Report staff people to do a story on the one American, Harold Weisberg, who for the last thirty years has used ONLY government documents to prove conspiracy. I know you are already thinking, "Not another crazy assassination nut". Believe me when I tell you that I know how you feel and I totally agree that 99% of the so called documentaries/books/articles are pure rubbish. But, also seriously believe me that a story on Harold Weisberg and his latest book, **Never Again**, would be not only a truly fascinating biographical story for your readers but it would finally shed some light on the truth of the Kennedy assassination. I do not expect or want you to blindly believe me. I do want you to read/study the book and check the documentation of government documents. I would be willing to send you a copy. Also, check with **Mr. Weisberg (301) 471-8186**. Although he is well into his eighties, his mind is very sharp. Perhaps you can visit his home in Frederick, Maryland and inspect his basement filled with a half a million government documents.

I can tell you that Mr. Weisberg is not into ego or making money in his writings. He is into doing his part to make America a better place to live in. As a first generation American he is very aware of the goodness in this country but is worried about parts of the government that unnecessarily keeps secrets from its citizen. As for myself, I seek nothing and expect nothing from your possible article on Mr. Weisberg biography and book.

I have never sent a letter like this to any publishers before and probably never will again. I do so this time because I honestly believe this is an article/topic that would make **U. S. News and World Report** and its readers "proud".

Thank you very much for your time and considerations on this possible article.

A loyal **U. S. News and World Report** subscriber,

Mike Stanke

ps: Please call Mr. Weisberg between 8AM and 4PM eastern time.

*Also  
I sent  
copies to  
TIME  
&  
Newsweek.*