

Hal Verb
PO Box 421815
San Francisco, CA 94141

12/27/94

Dear Hal,

I wrote you, last time as soon as I got your package and before I had a chance to go over it, as I thought I then said. I read it all later and agree with Paul on your first-shot paper. However, there is a possibility that is rarely if ever talked about, the use of a silencer of silencers. Absent dependable reports of more than three shots it is inevitable that silencers were used.

I've completed a book ms., Waketh the Watchman, in which I go into the military and other advice JFK got at the time of the missile crisis. The AP story you sent on the tape disclosure was not in the WX Post. Thanks for it and the rest.

I'm not taking the time to read Lattmer but you understated. He is a deliberate liar, a subject-matter ignoramus and a dishonest researcher. I noted your underlinings. I'm glad to have it on file!

You may well have been in the studio when I was in the KNEW control room so I'd not have seen you after the beginning of that conversation. I do not dispute that the caller-in said those things. Merely that I do not remember them. I was not in a position to make any notes. If you have a set I'd like to read and file them.

Thornley testified that at El Toro LHO worked in the CID office. Thoughtful of Dolan to put you on an extension. But I have no recollection of Kitson.

I'll send a copy of the Schackelford piece to a friend who is working on that, those Posner changes. If you are in touch with MS, other commercial publishers are the "cell subsidiary in England and Feltrinelli in Milan. In what he said about me Posner proved all over again what I wrote about him, he can't tell the truth even by accident.

When Newman's book is out that Belin and Blakey claim they saw all should be remembered!!!!

I've heard that Max Holland, who used to be with The Nation and Sy ^Hersh have assassination books coming out. Neither know the subject-matter, which, obviously, is the major qualification today! Holland has written an article in which he is both prejudiced and ignorant. Or dishonest if not both.

Nothing like having part of a 1972 book make the wires in 1994. Somerset/Milteer! What Posner says has not been done with his book and the nuts and bolts is what was cut out of Case Open when it was published. I did it in detail.

Posner had to change what he wrote about LHO's shooting after Nosenko, to his face, told him Oswald never got any game and couldn't. But Robert is wrong in saying that it was because of the firing pin of his rifle. He had no rifle. He had a shotgun. Robert may have said the opposite years ago, if I recall correctly.

No new word from AARB.

Thanks and have a good year ahead!

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HAL VERB
P.O. Box 42815
S.F., CA. 94142-1815

12-22-94

HAROLD WEISBERG
7627 OLD RECEIVER ROAD
FREDERICK, MD. 21702

Dear Hal =

Thanks very much for sending me copies of your letters to both the AARP and to Woolsey. They are, indeed, much appreciated.

I am enclosing some items which I thought you should have. First, there is today's story in the S.F. Chronicle about JFK being "urged" to invade Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis. I see virtually nothing new here. What is new is the recordings at the JFK Library in Boston. I mean "new" in the sense of being released. Otherwise nothing really significant. The more important story would be information about a second invasion of Cuba in late 1963 or early 1964 - all the rumors now being circulated.

The other item is the Shultz story which appeared in the S.F. Examiner. Again, here there is virtually nothing new.

Other items include an article which appeared in "The Investigator" which is an update on Posner's "revised" edition. Martin Shackelford whom I know very well mentions me in the article.

And finally there is the 1974 (November) issue of "Medical Time" in which the 3 Lattimers write on the single bullet theory. You said you didn't think you have it so I'm sending it along for you to keep. It is chock-filled with silly errors & wild speculations and his version of the event (with the first shot missing) is hopelessly out-of-sync with the evidence. (By the way have you gotten around to read my

"COPA" paper I delivered at the "COPA" conference in Washington, D.C. this past October. I sent you a copy of it which was on the "FIRST SHOT WAS NOT THE MISSED SHOT." I cited 8 witnesses in support of my argument and have since that time added 4 more. (They are the CHUMS (2); BRANSON; MRS. CONNALLY). There may well be more but I have not exhaustively researched how many could fit in my scenario.

Paul Hoch came up to me after I gave my talk at COPA on the "first shot" & he said he was impressed. (And you know Paul with all his guarded observations!). I sent a copy of my talk to Joe Riley (whose great work in the head shot a copy of which I sent you) & he said it was convincing & logical. I also showed it to Gary Savage who wrote a book with his uncle (Rusty Livingston) called "First Day Evidence". They are both staunch supporters of the Warren Report's lone assassin version. After Gary read it he told me something like: "Well, you have your eight witnesses and I have mine." Of course they have nothing of the sort and certainly no photographic, acoustic or other scientific evidence backing the Savage position.

As I was going through my notes about my past appearances in "COPA" and at the "ASK" events plus my attendance at the AARB hearings in both Washington & Dallas I found a few things of note.

As I mentioned to you I testified at the Nov-18, 1994 hearing of the AARB in Dallas. After I got through with my testimony (dealing with Oswald & "crypto") Henry Graff queried me & said: "Mr. Verb - what is crypto-secret clearance?" & I responded by saying first you had to have top secret & then went into some detail about "black box" & SAC, etc, etc. At the time I was intrigued that of all the Board members Graff should ask this question. Then I did (later) a little research on him. I found out

that Graft is 72 years old, is from Scarsdale, N.Y. & is a retired professor of history at Columbia University. But the most significant item about him is that he was an Army cryptologist in World War II. I find this extremely interesting & can understand why he would've queried me.

By the way here is a rather amusing incident as I was going through my notes on "crypto". Once when I was in Pittsburg, Kansas doing research on my proposed book on Haldeman-Julius, publisher of the "Little Blue Books", (which unfortunately I've set aside but not given up on) I heard on TV in my motel room that a horse came in first place in one of the races on the day of November 26, 1988. The horse's name was: "CRYPTOCLEARANCE!!" I never did follow up on that but wouldn't it be interesting to learn who the owner of that horse was and why he chose that name? My guess is that the owner had such a clearance. I wish I could tell you where the race was but it came across the TV so quickly that I never got that info.

By the way regarding the caller who phoned Joe Dolan's station back in 1966. The caller did state the story about the CP (& Oswald being in their office constantly). And the caller said it was the weeks before Oswald got his discharge so it had to be EL Tor. My notes taken at the time reflect this. And it was Dolan who let me listen into the conversation between yourself & the caller. Dolan told me something like "Hal, I think you ought to listen in on this - it could be important." I may not have heard the very beginning of the conversation but I heard all the rest of it to the very end. If memory serves me right, as soon as the call was over you said to me (& it was over the phone): "Did you get all that?" &

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I responded by saying: "Yes, I did!"

I asked my friend, Don Kitson, who was with me in the studio at the time I spoke & he said I was alone & there was no one else with me so I believe you are thinking of another time you were on Dolan's show. Dolan complained about my friend's smoking a cigar and he stopped doing it. These I recall very well & so does my friend.

I'm meeting with Dr. Aguilar at his home on Dec 30th. A few of the other researchers will be there. Aguilar did a great job at COLA and equally well at the "ASH" conference. So did Walt Brown. (Walt will be my guest on my TV show in April of 1995 - he's agreed to come on).

I guess I'll close now & get all this in the mail for you. I hope everything is fine for both you and your wife.

By the way - any news of your book, "Never Again"? What's its status?

Best,

Hal Ver