

January 13, 1971

Muhammad Ali
1835 N. 72nd St.
Phila., Pa.

Dear Mr. Ali:

I am writing you on behalf of a political researcher and author, Mr. Harold Weisberg, concerning a matter of interest to all of us--the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Mr. Weisberg, who has written several books on the John Kennedy assassination, dealt into Dr. King's death immediately. His work on this has been quite intense, and immensely important. Thus far, he has written a book on the subject which will soon be released, and has successfully sued the Department of Justice for documents relating to the case which the government was illegally and wrongfully suppressing.

The implications of Mr. Weisberg's work are of great relevance, for his contention is that Dr. King was killed by a conspiracy (not by James Earl Ray) and that Ray was framed as the assassin in another conspiracy involving the federal government.

I can personally assure you of Mr. Weisberg's honesty and integrity, plus the seriousness of his work. He has devoted his life to this research which bears so much on the integrity of our government and the causes of minorities, such as the blacks.

Yet, his work on Dr. King is now threatened for lack of funds. Because of his unselfish dedication to his work, he has gone broke. I do not exaggerate when I tell you he can barely afford even the interest on his indebtedness. He must often chose between spending on the essentials of life or on his work.

I strongly feel that we cannot afford to have Mr. Weisberg halt his work on the King assassination.

If at all possible, I suggest that you contact Mr. Weisberg at your soonest convenience. By writings:

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Md. 21701
or by phone, 301-473-8186. It would probably be more profitable if you called him; he can usually be reached this way. Once you have talked with Mr. Weisberg, I think you will be quite impressed and shocked.

Congratulations on the recent Supreme Court decision to hear your case. Best of luck with it.

Sincerely,

cc. Harold Weisberg

Howard Roffman

3/6/71

Dear Mr. Ali,

Howard Roffman has written me of his efforts to interest you in my investigation of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and in my book on it, FRAME-UP, to appear in a few weeks.

Since then I have been in Memphis, where I interviewed a number of important witnesses, in most cases on tape, and discovered rather sensational evidence that is suppressed.

In the past I have sought to interest a number of prominent black leaders and a rather large number of those who basked in the friendship of the victim. To date, no single one has responded, no single one would lift a finger to in any way help us learn who really did kill this great man and at whose behest. I so wish I had back this time I wasted so I could spend it in further work!

As with John Kennedy, no one of whose "friends" had any interest in who killed him or why, no one of those made important by the touch of his greatness would even answer a letter, so also do I think that with Dr. King history may record that among the many unnecessary tragedies in the wake of the great one, one of the more painful was the total unwillingness of any one friend to be a man and to think, act and speak with manliness.

When you have recaptured, hopefully, that of which you have been robbed, I hope you will have the time and the disposition to be the exception. I would like you to read this book, hear these tapes, see what I have - and then find the courage and the manhood others have not.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

February 22, 1971

Muhammad Ali
1835 N. 72nd St.
Phila., Pa.

Dear Mr. Ali:

If you recall, I wrote you last month about Harold Weisberg, who has done extensive work on the King assassination.

Enclosed is a review of an advance copy of Mr. Weisberg's book from the trade magazine, Publishers' Weekly of Feb. 1, 1971.

I thought you might want to see this upon your return from trying to win back what was stolen from you.

Best wishes,

Howard Roffman

Ali Refuses Australian Commercial

Reuter

SYDNEY, Aug. 9—Former world heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali declined an \$11,000 fee to make a 30-second television commercial for a Sydney car dealer because he disapproved of Australia's immigration policy, an Australian advertising executive said here today.

The head of the Smithson Advertising Agency, Ken Smithson, said the commercial was to have been taped in Houston and screened in Sydney during live coverage of the Ali-Jimmy Ellis fight in July.

But a New York advertising firm, Norman, Craig, Kummel—which had been handling the negotiations in the United States—quoted Ali as saying he would not make the commercial, "if you handed me the world's heavyweight title back on a plate," Smithson said.

Smithson said the U.S. firm told him Ali's reason for refusing was his disapproval of Australia's immigration policy.

He added that he hoped to get the present world champion, Joe Frazier, to make the commercial when he next defends his title.