

Robert Bruce  
14237 Morrison St.  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

6/28/93

Dear Robert,

I very much appreciate your thoughtful offer of speaking to your agent even though his is not a literary agency. So, I'll tell you more. Not that I remember what I did tell you. Not perhaps in any sequence, this being off the top of the head which had until this moment been unstuffing itself <sup>on</sup> and the fourth chapter of another book begun only yesterday morning, with the tentative working title-keep this to yourself, please, INSIDE THE JFK ASSASSINATION INDUSTRY. Unfortunately, I also have to interrupt to keep calling the family doctor's office to find out whether he wants to change, meaning increase the anticoagulant dosage because my blood is again clotting faster. Sometimes it takes what seems like forever not to find his lines busy.

Aside from telling the agent anything he may want or need to know, I'd rather you say nothing about what I tell you for two reasons in particular: I want no unnecessary fights and I await a response on my inquiry to the copublishers with Carroll and Graf, who happens to be an old, cherished friend who has so often meant so much to me by his multifaceted ~~help~~ help, all volunteered. I am without question that he is without control of the project. I await a response to my letter asking for the status of the book. I'm anticipating that however it may be phrased it represents a deliberate withholding of this book in the interest of the evil <sup>from</sup> for which they have so often profited, in this instance Harry Livingstone's outrageous Killing the <sup>truth</sup> in which he ~~paints~~ paints all so-called critics as killers of the truth and if he adds <sup>what</sup> when he ~~has~~ has written often, as conspiring to keep him from "breaking the case open." He could break into even Macy's or Gimbles.

I believe that in effect I am being blackmailed to keep <sup>me</sup> quiet about that awful trash when it appears. They have made much from what is his earlier vile trash, if you know the truth and the subject-matter. If I want my book published, it is to suggest to me, I'd best keep my yap shut.

So, early yesterday morning I began this new book.

I ~~need~~ <sup>now</sup> think or talk in such terms but I believe that what I have done is not without literary value or historical importance. Yet when a dear friend of my youth learned it he importuned me to write an autobiography. I declined. He said he would pay for its publication and I declined again.

Now that I must defend myself, my reputation and my work from the onslaught of a combination of a mentally ill author and a greedy publisher whose morals and ethics are dominated by his greed, I've begun this expose by accrediting myself with a limited and focused autobiographic first part. It is limited to those experiences that qualify me for the work <sup>Judge not the others by</sup> in what ~~as a matter of reality~~ <sup>of</sup> their self descriptions just about all the others are what I think of as apprentice KeyStone Kops, junior grade at that. Then I will

address at least a couple of those exploiters and commercializers and they have never been addressed and, if that gets any attention, their evil should be ended.

I've never argued publicly or commented publicly on any of them other than when I am speaking and have little choice, as you may remember you once observed.

Believe me, please, and check this out if you or your agent or perhaps a friend he has in the right agency can, I have done all the factual work that amounts to anything on the JFK assassination and <sup>on</sup> its investigations. I own all of that. I also got about a quarter of a million pages of once secret government records, as you probably know, via a dozen or so FOIA lawsuits. Some were precedental and ended to the 1974 amending of the Act to open FBI, CIA and similar files to FOIA. I doubt that many, if any, other authors can point to such accomplishments on such a basis for further inquiry and writing.

I begin NEVER AGAIN! with some of those once-secret records to prove beyond any reasonable question that there was a conspiracy to see to it that the crime was ~~never~~ never investigated. I also make out a prima facie case, all with official records, of a military conspiracy. Not the conjectures of other, official evidence.

Dave Wrone, Univ. Wisc. Stevens Point history prof and coauthor of the only professional bibliography in the field, knows NEVER AGAIN! ~~VERY~~ He retyped the draft on his computer. Local Hood history prof Gerald McKnight read much but not all. So also did a Wofford College (Spartanburg, SC) sociologist who also teaches criminology. Each also teaches courses in the politics of assassination. Not whodunits. They can all give appraisals of me, my prior work, and in varying degrees of NEVER AGAIN!

Wrone describes the book as among other things unprecedented, his word. McKnight says it should revolutionize thinking about the JFK assassination.

Any agent might worry why with this history I have no agent. I began with one who quit me cold as soon as I queried her on the assassination. She told me what was ~~soon~~ proven correct, that nobody in New York was considering anything not in accord with the official leaks of the moment. I was not able to replace her. After six I gave up. Two at least were then famous.

I had more than 100 international rejects for my first book that, incredible, being the first should have been expected to be very much wanted. But what is really factual remains largely unwanted to day.

This is to say I still bear the Wordsworthian curse of being the first.

Isn't it remarkable that your medium has never address<sup>ed</sup> this so important a subject with concern for fact and for reality? Perhaps as with publishing a taboo remains.

My approach and interests have never been commercial, not that I did not long and labor for the almost indispensable commercial publication. But even when broke and in debt I was not guided by financial return or reward. With the unique archive I have and leave, I refused to sell it to Fensterwald and gave it with no quid pro <sup>quo</sup> to Hood.

Reading and correcting the two earlier pages I see some problems in making it all out but I think you will.

I add something on the condition of the book. It needs elimination of duplication.

I am confessing rather than bragging when I say I wrote it all of the top of the head. My time is finite and it would have taken as long to make a really detailed outline. It would have taken much time for thought also. Because with the cowardice of most publishers and my record I could not and did not assume that the book would be published. My primary objective was <sup>to</sup> clarify and perfect the historical record.

Most of the duplication comes from my writing a preface after doing an introduction and foreword. Probably only the preface should be retained. I wrote it when weal into the book to sharpen the readers focus at the outset. Other duplication is probably not nearly this extensive. But it is a big book and I can't now remember all.

I believe, but probably most publishers won't, that because of my age and the condition of my health some lack of editing will be acceptable. Both of these problems make for a natural and completely honest promotion. In addition, I believe the book will do ever so much better if I am here to be able to respond to questions and particularly any criticism. Criticism can be expected from the official ~~apolo~~ apologists, who always get attention no matter how they lie, as they all in varying degree do.

Because of what this book has and really proves on Arlen Specter, this book should be profitable from Pennsylvania sales alone!

If this book was now rushed it would be the only completely factual and relevant book for the coming 50th anniversary, from what I've read of those coming in Publishers Weekly. I do not get it. All I've read is the early May story. What it says about one of the big deals, that that established writer, who is also a lawyer, proves that Oswald did it by the enhanced Zapruder film, is ludicrous. And that seems to be the most responsible of these described.

I am a publisher and I know what can be done if the publisher ~~wa~~ wants to. I've done it. I know also that publishers are uneasy about innovations and anything that can increase costs <sup>e</sup>ven if it adds to the profit more than the added cost. At least to the degree I've had experience with them.

I'm tiring. Better take a nap. Thanks for even thinking as you have and for anything you may be able to do. Within a week I should know the status of the book.

Sincerely,

Harold



The WALT DISNEY Company®

6/24

Dear Harold -

Here's another couple articles on the Connally death. The TIME magazine excerpt from Connally's book is somewhat interesting.

Best,

A stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RB".

P.S. Just got home & received your latest letter. Sorry to hear about the book - I don't know if I can be of any help since my agent is not a literary agent, but United Talent is a powerful agency here - if you want me to see what I can find out something that may help you publish your book let me know. It's a long shot but — you never know.  
RB