

July 26, 1999

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Thank you for your letter of 7-20-99, and for the documents you enclosed on the death of Private Martin D. Schreud. I would have sworn that in my last letter to you of July 14, 1999, I had enclosed copies of my two previous letters to you as a base of reference. In any event, I am sorry I did not, and as you can see I am now herein enclosing copies of said letters.

Harold, it appears that for some reason you and I are not on the same page. In my three previous letters to you I asked you to furnish me with support for the statements you made on pages 174 to 176 of your book "Case Opened," that Lee Harvey Oswald had a Top Secret clearance while in the Marines and further, that this fact was expunged from his Marine records. One would think from the language you used in your letter of July 20, 1999, (which served as a cover letter for the Schreud documents you enclosed) that you were finally providing me with this information. But Harold, not only don't the documents you sent me support your aforementioned assertion in "Case Opened," they don't even address themselves to the issue in any way whatsoever. And your cover letter didn't furnish me with any specific citation of authority that would allow me to find these alleged documents. What you've done, with all due respect to you, is try to support your unsupported allegations in "Case Opened" with further unsupported allegations in your cover letter.

of July 20, 1999. When, for instance, you say in the cover letter that several members of Oswald's group in Japan "testified" that they at least had ^a secret clearance, and Oswald had the same clearance, you neither sent me this testimony, nor told me precisely where they so testified so I could attempt to get a copy of their supposed testimony.

Because of your physical health problems, I don't want to prevail upon you any further to furnish me with support for your very serious allegations in "Case Oswald." On my own, I shall attempt to see if I can find any support for the proposition that Oswald had more than a Confidential clearance while in the Marines.

I hope you and your wife regain your respective healths and that you both have some good years ahead.

Sincerely,

Vincent Bugliosi

Feb. 21, 1999

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate you on your enormous amount of scholarly research into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

In doing my own research for a book I am writing on the case I came across the assertion by you on pages 174-176 of your book, "Case Opened," that Lee Harvey Oswald had a Top Secret clearance when he was in the Marines, and that you had made the "records" of this available to John Newman. I may have missed it, but I didn't see any documents or "records" of a Top Secret clearance for Oswald in Newman's book, "Oswald and the CIA."

Would you be so kind as to direct me to the pages or pages in Newman's book where these "records" are? Or, if possible, could you send me a copy of the records? Obviously, if these records exist and were expunged, as you say, from Oswald's Marine record, this would be very significant and would definitely be mentioned in my book. Please send any reply to me, at your convenience, to my name at 1926 W. Mountain Street, Menlo Park, California, 94021.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. I wish you the very best in your continuing work on the case.

Sincerely,

Vince Bugliosi

March 4, 1999

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Thank you so much for your 2-24-99 letter. When you have the opportunity to have someone do the photography for you, I'd appreciate it if you'd send me a copy of the court medical inquest into the death of PFC Martin Sabrend, which you say contains proof that Oswald had a Crypto clearance. I'm assuming by your letter that there's some reference in the testimony at the inquest that Oswald worked inside the Crypto van.

Also, although what you say would seem to make sense, I'd appreciate a citation of authority, if you have it, for the proposition that a Top Secret clearance was a prerequisite at the time for a Crypto clearance. Also, if you have it, please send me your evidence or citation of authority that Oswald's supposed Top Secret and/or Crypto clearances were "expunged from his Marine record," as you write on page 176 of your book Case Open.

I'm sorry you're not as physically agile as you once were, but it's obvious that your mind is fortunately as alert and facile as ever. I want you to know that I really appreciate your very cooperative attitude, and I hope I'll be able to visit you and your family occasionally "liberally" some day. Till then, take good care of yourself.

Warmest regards,

Vince Bugliosi

P.S. I'm enclosing a check for \$10 to reimburse you for the cost of paper and mailing.

Mr. Vincent Bugliosi
663 Arbor St.,
Pasadena, CA 91105

7/29/99

Dear Mr. Bugliosi,

What your letter of the 20th suggests to me is that you are laying a foundation of a future misuse of it. If so, there is nothing I can do about that other than, and please excuse this directness, address you as other than the lawyer who has achieved such fame in that field but as a bewildered child.

In addition, it is full of suggestions that you are going to write about Oswald without knowledge of what the Warren Commission's published information says. You even question what I said, that all those who served in the role in which he served testified that he had at least Secret clearance. I cited by name the officer under whom did that work and when you cite Oswald in New Orleans where do you get off pretending you do not know what testimony I referred you to or cited to you. I gave you the Donovan name and in that book I quoted his Commission testimony. All the testimony I referred to was the Commission's and my God man, if you could not recognize that how can you possibly believe you can write a responsible book about Oswald? *(rather case open)*

I told you that he and four others took ~~advanced~~ ^{advanced} radar training at Keesler Field and that all were assigned to that special duty. They, except for Schary, who was dead, testified that the clearance requires was at least secret, I'm not going to take the time at this stage of my life and with the added problems in it to look up their names for you or to cite that testimony. If you have the 26 volumes, which is a prerequisite for any responsible writing on the subject, you have no trouble finding it without asking an ill and feeble man of 86 to do it for you! *feeble old*

The problem is not as you say, that we are not on the same page. The problem is that you want to say what is placed in question by all of this and that you do not want to do ~~and~~ ^{and} about the existing official evidence you are underinformed. How you could presume to write a book about Oswald without reading the testimony of his marine mates I can't imagine in any way that leads me to believe that you have a responsible, factual book in mind. You know what you want to say and regardless of fact you are going to say it.

You even ask where Oswald's marine record are. They are in the 26 volumes.

Do you really believe that for the cryptographic part of that work the marines used anyone with the minimum security clearance? You demean yourself in this. CRYPTO meant access to the cryptographic. But that is not in any of those records relating to Oswald. As you can see for yourself if you have those 26 volumes that are indispensable in what you are doing.

When Oswald ^{defected} "defected" the Navy in DC sent the embassy in Moscow a cable in which it told Moscow that Oswald records show no security clearance but he could have had Confidential. When the FBI went to the Navy after the assassination its report contained no reference to any security clearance. So, if you admit that he had a Confidential clearance you are also recognizing, whether or not you know it, that the Navy 's records are not to be trusted on this, Sorry I can't use the basement stairs to get copies for you. But from your letter I doubt I would anyway because it is clear you have made up your mind what you are going to say and have no intention of making any change in it.

Which, of course, is your right.

The Schrand inquest identifies the place in which those five, including Schrand and Oswald worked, as the Crypto van. Which as I recall it also said had been removed from the deck of a carrier. Or, the carrier had a need for it and had that need served.

When I was in the military nobody could enter a classified area without the proper security clearance so to enter the Crypto van required a crypto clearance. I was told, as I wrote, that it required a TOP SECRET clearance. That may or may not be the condition today but what is obvious from your letter, including its ~~one~~, is that for all your experience you have not just called up the closest Navy installation and ask if they still have Crypto clearances, what the prerequisites are and, if they know, whether they had special requirements in the late 1950s.

I wrote more than a sentence about this in Oswald in New Orleans, which you do not mention. I think I told you that I checked out all that could be checked out that my unidentified source told me and that all of it did check out.

You say that the Schrand inquest does not address any of this and you say that knowing better because it does establish that those five, of whom Oswald was one, did have CRYPTO clearance and that they worked in what it referred to as the crypto van.

If you wrote it seriously, you say much about your lack of responsible preparation for a responsible book in criticizing me for not sending you all that marines testimony about Oswald. If you were at all familiar with the Commission's relevant testimony you would not be asking that seriously, especially not of a man of my age, with all my physical limitations and problems and when at my age I am still writing and can hardly spare time for such things, would not if I could because your asking it discloses that you have a format

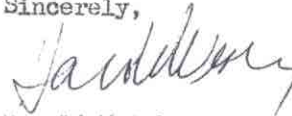
in mind and come hell or high water that is what you are going to do. Or contracted to do.

If you want to be a Manson of the mind you have that right but I feel sorry for you if you have gotten yourself into this kind of fix and with such ignorance as your qualifications.

I doubt you'll want to do it but if you'll read what Oswald ^{privately} disclosed his politics to be that the Commission published you'll find an encapsulation of them with citations to the Commission's published records. My recollection is that what I wrote began on about page 120 of my printing of Whitewash. (1965) He was anti-Soviet, anti -Soviet Communism and anti-United States Communism.

If you write books like I think a district attorney works you would have first sought what you regard as proof that Oswald was the assassin and that that rifle was actually fired that day in the assassination. An inexperienced lawyer could have beaten you in court on this.

Sincerely,



Harold Weisberg.

In reading this to correct my typing I see I forgot what you said about Newman. I gave him the Schrand record to read, offered to make a copy for him and he said he'd get it from the Archives. And I was confused about which of my books you read. I thought you'd said Oswald in New Orleans. There is mere slight mention in Case Open. And I've not had a single denial from any sources since Oswald in New Orleans was published in 1967. In all those FOIA lawsuits if what you want to believe had been true the ^government/FOIA defendant could have used that to counter my affidavits and assault my dependability. It didn't and at one time in the Civil Division alone they had a crew of six working against me.