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4/24/94

Dear Prof. Burgess,

For the full speed ahead of your 4/19 I'll have to get some jets mounted on my cane. I'm 81 now. But thanks and I do appreciate your letter. A couple of the ailments I'm lucky enough to be surviving ^{ink} (give me strange hours. So I respond while my wife, who takes ^{care} of all except the packaging, is asleep. Perhaps she'll know how much to add to the price of 0 in HO to take care of postage. And please do remit in US funds. Otherwise for us, living in the country, it takes time and the charges of two banks.


Case Open is between 20 and 25% of what I actually wrote. I cannot explain it. But there was much in it that you could use in your single-bullet study. There is more in NEVER AGAIN! which could have appeared before Posner's and as of the last I ^{hard} is scheduled now for September. It also traces a bit of the development of the need for that crazy theory when it became apparent that the missed bullet could no longer be ignored. With what is ^{some} not that you'll find ^{is} under Dr. Charles Dolce who, you may remember, I rescued from evidentiary oblivion in Post Mortem.

You'll be alone if you come here and then I can no longer use my files: they'll be at a fine small ^{local} college, ~~at~~ Hood College. The fine librarian is Charles Kuhn. The history prof who is a dear friend and a subject expert is Gerald ~~Mc~~Knight. And I have all the third of a million records I got by about a dozen FOIA lawsuits segregated so they require no processing for access, as probably my own records will.

Although I'll not return to that in my work I'm interested in the inconsistencies seen between the head X-rays and photos. My own belief, as you may recall, is that the head was hit twice and at least one of those times ^{was by} a different bullet, one that could not have been military ammo.

In the past Canadian stations have aired me by phone. If you know of any who'd like to I'd have to knock ~~me~~ off about 5 p.m. It is now 2 a.m. and I've been responding to yesterday's mail for about an hour! Sleep ^{amnesia} ~~is~~ a ^{compulsion} to get as much ^{as} I still can on paper have ~~me~~ wide awake this early, so I do not fight it and I've been productive.

Best wishes,


Harold Weisberg



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April 19, 1994

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

I am writing mainly to thank you for the unbelievable efforts you have made in the search for a solution to the assassination of John F. Kennedy. You can never be rewarded as you deserve. Your fellow countrymen owe you a debt they they can never repay. In a way, you are afflicted with Cassandra's curse, though after the fact, not before. The tragedy is the same.

I have also noticed in your latest opus, *Case Open*, that *Oswald in New Orleans* is available again. I have all your earlier Kennedy volumes (though *Whitewash* is in the trade paperback, rather than your self-published version) and I would like to complete my set. Could you please let me know the price (with S&H and so on), so that I can order it as soon as possible. I am also eagerly awaiting *Never Again!*

I myself am a professional historian (I received my doctorate from Oxford), and when I am not busy teaching and writing books and articles on ancient history, I am putting together a book on the single bullet theory, what I believe to be the weakest and most self-evidently false link in the 'official' version. This is to be a large, analytical, academic book, not a popular best-seller, like Posner's piece of propaganda. They even had him on TV up here in Canada, debating with some guy from Texas who was more interested in plugging his book than getting to the truth. It was a phone-in programme and there

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were a number of extremely sceptical callers—especially a metallurgical physicist who didn't believe that CE 399 could have gone through all that bone and emerged looking as it did—none of whom got a straight answer from Posner. I have found that for so many of the experts called by the HSCA the question of another shooter came down to a single fact: if the bullet that struck Kennedy in the back did not exit from his throat, what happened to it? That is the point on which everything hinges. If Kennedy was struck from the front (as the medical evidence indicates) and the back, where are the bullets? My only conclusion is that they were removed at or prior to the autopsy (though not in any Lifton-like scenario), but that suggests a massive cover-up, very high in the ranks of the Secret Service and the Navy. Convincing anyone of that, no matter how compelling the other eyewitness, medical, and photographic testimony, is going to be a tall order. Any thoughts on the matter?

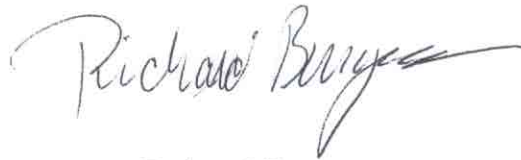
I have even gone so far as to do a blind analysis with the chief forensic pathologist in Ottawa: I gave him all the photographic and written medical evidence in order, but disguised the date of the incident and the victim (this is the only way to conduct such an evaluation). His conclusion was that the wound in the throat was one of entrance and that the wound in the back was at about the third thoracic vertebra. The head wounds he had more trouble with, since the evidence is so contradictory. My father-in-law, one of Canada's leading dental radiologists (who must remain nameless since he doesn't want the CIA coming after him, honestly!), has examined the skull and dental X-rays. He says that the pre- and post-assassination films are of the same teeth, but of course there is no way of telling whose teeth they

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are. He also agrees that the damage to the skull in the X-rays is incompatible with the autopsy photographs. These conclusions are not news to you, of course, but I try to get independent confirmation of all third-party interpretations and analysis. My main problem, of course, being up here in Canada, is access to documentation and at some point in the future I shall have to pay a visit to you and the Assassination Archives in order to get what I need.

I shall close with many best wishes for your continued health and vigour. Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead! And once again, thank you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Burgess". The signature is written in dark ink and has a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard Burgess

Associate Professor