

Joe Cornejo
11200 W, Vlevenand # E11
West Allis, WI 53227

7/26/93

Dear Joe,

Please try to understand that I cannot enagge in the kind of correspondence you expect and get any work done. I'll answer some of you 7/21 but please do not expect me to continue. I simply cannot.

What you enclose from Livingstone is helpful and I appreciate it. He is about to publish a book that will be pretty much a sick attack on all others and his deifying of himself with the fiction that all other conspire against him.

What validity there can be in the storm ~~drain~~ drain system is not new. I had pictures taken for it in 1967. But ~~as~~ there is no proof of any use of it and a more likely possibility they all ignore.

Of the books you ask about I recommend none and Melandson's and Lane's are particularly bad. Ricco is an obvious fraud, exposed as such in the late 1960s. People like him and Brashears just made things up to get attention, Ricco perhaps hoping for relief from the jail that awaited him. He made up some similar crap relating to the JFK case.

Thanks and best wishes,

David L. Cornejo

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Rd
Frederick, MD 21702

Wednesday July 21, 1993

Dear Harold,

Thank you for your quick response to my letter of July 9. I must say it is a relief to know that there is at least one researcher who I can count on for valid answers and information.

John Kennedy's words to his wife on November 22, 1963 - "We are going into nut country today." - ring more true for the city of Dallas today than for his time. I have just returned from a week long trip to Dealey Plaza today, and I am absolutely astounded at just how crazy some "researchers" (I hesitate to use the word "researcher" but there is no other) have gotten. I heard stories of 9 to 11 shots and gunman behind the small retaining wall on the concrete pergola. I am willing to believe that there were more than three shots, but the defenders of the lone assassin theory deserve an answer when they ask "Just where did all these extra bullets go?" As for the gunman on the pergola (whom this man identified as Jack Lawrence, Lawrence's story is interesting, but how the conclusion was reached that he was an assassin firing from the retaining wall I don't know.) this "researcher" ignores that this assassin would not have even the slightest bit of cover, and would have been in plain view of all the witnesses standing on the south side of Elm street. The abundance of these witnesses is evident in the Bronson slide, discovered during the HSCA investigation, as well as other pictures. I can understand the feelings Jim Moore felt when he wrote that he no longer fit in with the critics. (Jim comes off as an arrogant jerk in Conspiracy Of One, but after speaking with him several times I must say that he is one of the nicest and most credible researchers I have met, even though we disagree on many things.)

Thank you very much for the Oswald in New Orleans index. Should you ever locate the appendix for it or the index to White-wash II, I would appreciate copies.

Enclosed are copies of my brief correspondence with Harry Livingstone, which you requested. I apologize for some of the irresponsible statements made in these letters, but they basically reflect my thinking as of those times. As of this date, I have yet to receive a reply to the second letter, but I will refrain from criticism of Mr. Livingstone at this moment, as there may be a valid reason for not replying. Harry cited the storm drain theory as fact in his letter, without any evidence to back it up. He asked me for my opinion on it, (actually, all he asked me for was corroboration), but when I gave it he apparently didn't like it. I do not discount the storm drain theory, but I do believe that my questions deserve answers from the proponents of it. (The storm sewer (on the sidewalk on Elm, where Garrison and others have alleged assassins) theory is another story. I have never believed it and until someone can present evidence to me I will hold to my opinion. The only confirmation of this theory I have heard is Senator Ralph Yarborough's and others'

story of having smelled gunpowder while riding in the motorcade, but this alone is far from proof. Raymond Broshears told Dick Russell that David Ferrie said that an assassin was located there, but just by reading this sentence you can see that we are getting into fourth and fifth hand information and so I am not convinced.) Jack Brazil, who first informed me of the storm drain and storm sewer theories, gave some information on it and himself. I have enclosed this as well as a newspaper that is sold by vendors all throughout Dealey Plaza. The assassination of John F. Kennedy has been reduced to a money making gimmick, thanks largely, I believe, to one Oliver Stone.

In your letter you mentioned that the various forgery theories (Zapruder film, autopsy photos and X-rays) put forth by Livingstone and others are not credible. I agree with you on this at present, because that is all it is - theory. I do think that in all cases there is valid grounds for suspicion, (I cannot see how all witnesses could be specifically wrong about the nature of the head wound), but until these theories can be competently investigated and either proven or disproven, I will continue to share your opinion.

The strongest case for conspiracy in this assassination is Lee Harvey Oswald. It is my belief that even if he did everything the Warren Commission said, he did so under orders and there therefore was a conspiracy. I have not yet been convinced of the lone assassin theory, but likewise I have found no plausible multi-assassin theory. Since you believe the autopsy materials to be genuine, I was wondering exactly how you think the shooting ~~was~~ occurred, as well as who may have been behind it. In a 1988 British documentary, The Men Who Killed Kennedy, you expressed your belief that the people who had the most to gain by the assassination was the "military industrial intelligence complex". Do you still hold this belief?

I have one more question, this one dealing with the Martin Luther King assassination. In addition to your Frame-Up, (which I saw retitled with a new cover in the bookstore the other day. Does the new edition contain any new text?) I have also seen books on this case by Mark Lane, James Earl Ray himself, and Philip Melanson. I have read Professor Melanson's book on Oswald and corresponded with him and he seems to be very credible. Which, if any of these books, do you recommend? (I also recently saw some TV specials on the MLK assassination, one of which you appeared in. HBO held a trial for James Earl Ray, in which everything was genuine except that the outcome bore no effect on Ray's prison term. He was found not guilty. I saw you on the FOX special Who Killed Martin Luther King, which I liked and thought was a good introduction to the case. Another special I only saw half of but was absolutely intrigued by. It was produced by the BBC in 1989 and I think it bore the same title as the FOX special. Melanson appeared with others and a man named Jules Ricco Kimble admitted participation in the plot. If you have a copy of this show, I will gladly pay copying fees, etc. for a copy. I have called every video order company I know of, written to the producer, and asked Melanson for a copy - all to no avail. Also, please tell me your opinion of the program, if you have seen it.)

Again, thank you for the index to Oswald In New Orleans and for your quick response. I have written to many researchers over the past year and over time my opinions of them have changed. Those I once considered credible (such as Alan Webberman and Michael Canfield) I now put little if any faith in, and those who I once thought were crazy (Jim Moore and Carl Henry) I now put more faith in than I do the majority of the critics. My opinion has changed many times, on the critics as well as their theories, but I am glad to know that there is still one down to earth, credible researcher that I can always come to with my sometimes stupid questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joe A. Cornejo
11200 W Cleveland Apt.#E11
West Allis, WI 53227
PH 414-345-3981

P.S. - I am moving on August 15. I do not have an address yet but I will provide it as soon as I get it.

Harrison Edward Livingstone
3025 Abell Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21218

Friday June 18, 1993

Dear Harry,

Hello! I am not sure if you remember me or not, but I wrote you a letter in January. Thank you for your quick response. You mentioned in your reply that you could not have a correspondence with me for "some months", due to your lack of time and strength. Well, it has been "some months" and I have been anxious to write back.

In your reply letter, you mentioned that the head shot could not have come from the "grassy knoll", but most probably came from the storm drain where the picket fence joins the triple overpass/underpass, and I asked me to elaborate this. On my first pilgrimage to Dealey Plaza (I am visiting Dallas again on July 15 to July 17) I had the opportunity to speak at length with Jack Brazil, who I mentioned in my first letter to you. Jack claims to be the creator of the "sewer shot theory", although I have heard that it came from the mind of Penn Jones, Jr. I recieved some papers about Jack and "his" theory, which detail his sending of a person through the sewer system as well as background info about Jack himself (such as his being a school-mate of Lee Oswald and his associations with Gordon Novel and others). Hopefully Jack will have his presentation set up on the pergola during my next visit as well. As to why the head shot could not have come from the "grassy knoll", my opinion is this: A "grassy knoll assassin" would have had only a cross-shot. Had the president been hit from this angle, his head would have gone mostly left and slightly backwards. But what we see in the Zapruder, Nix, and Muchmore films is a mostly backwards/slightly leftwards head snap. This snap, if you discount the "jet effect theory" is consistent with a shot from the storm drain. Jack Brazil or someone else removed two of the boards from the picket fence by the storm drain, and so when I climbed into the drain I was able to see the type of shot an assassin would have had. This assassin, if he existed, had a good shot for the head shot, but could not have inflicted the neck wound, if it came from in front. (Previously, I was convinced that the neck wound came from the front, but I am no longer as sure, although I certainly don't rule it out. My main basis for the doubt is John Lattimer's experiments conducted with pork meat. His theory is that the 3x5mm size of the wound can be accounted for by the tightness of Kennedy's shirt collar. I am trying to contact Malcolm Perry, who made the tracheostomy, to find out if the wound expanded upon the loosening of the collar. The only problem with this is, even if he tells me "no", the argument can be given that the loss of roughly a pint of blood due to the head wound would prevent the wound from expanding.) Getting back to the storm drain and the alleged wound in the back of the head, (I'll explain why I say "alleged" later in the letter), the only way that this alleged wound can be consistent with the head snap is if the bullet entered somewhere in Kennedy's right temporal-parietal area. Had

a bullet entered anywhere else, it would have caused a different head snap and/or a different wound. One problem that I have with a shot from the storm drain is that no witness described smoke there, no witness saw the protruding barrel, none of the people standing on the triple underpass indicated that the shot was fired from a point so close to them, none of the triple underpass witnesses smelled gunpowder when they ran within feet of the storm drain moments after the shooting, and, although it may have been altered since 1963, the sewer did not seem big enough to crawl through when I observed it. The assassin could not have ran through the parking lot, because it was a "sea of cars", most of which belonged to police officers, (which casts further doubt on the picket fence being such an ideal location for an assassin(s)), and so he could not have gotten through the parking lot fast enough, which is why I have trouble with Jesse Price's story. (Mark Lane's interview of Price in the Rush to Judgment companion film was taped on a Sunday, when there are no cars in the parking lot. Had this interview, in which Price claims to have seen a man "running" through the lot been taped on a Friday, which was the day of the assassination, the viewer could have seen the cars which cast doubt on Price's account. I am not completely certain that Price's story is a fabrication or mistake, but this discrepancy compiled with his hearing of a last shot five minutes after the first volley certainly damages Price's credibility as a witness.) The head shot could not have come from anywhere on the picket fence, as you wrote, but I have serious doubts about a shot from the storm drain. (One thing that would lend to the credibility of the storm drain shot would be an examination of films and still pictures to see if the proper boards were missing from the fence at the time of the assassination)

Another theory I have serious doubts about is one that I am sure you will agree with my viewpoint on: the "jet effect". Dr. John Lattimer, the late Luis Alvarez, and the other proponents of this theory would have us believe that there was no second, synchronized, frontal head shot. I understand the theory behind the "jet effect", but Dr. Lattimer's own experiments combined with the autopsy photos (since Lattimer believes them to be genuine) totally disprove this theory. As mentioned in High Treason 2, the skull in Lattimer's experiments was not connected to a mass equivalent to that of a human body. Also, the skull merely topples backwards a few feet off the ladder. But John Kennedy's head was rocketed backwards at the rate of 100.3 feet per second. To add to all of this, Lattimer made the mistake of publishing photos of the skulls from his experiments in Kennedy and Lincoln. The skull shown on page 254 of this book shows almost the entire forehead area missing. Perhaps the "jet effect" could explain the head snap if this was the nature of Kennedy's head wound, but the autopsy photos, which in Lattimer's

mind must be genuine since he discounts a conspiracy, show a wound on the top of the head and an intact forehead and face; a point which you successfully "hammered home" in High Treason 2. Previously, when a friend or family member would ask me if there was any credibility to the theories of frontal shots, I would answer "yes". I am still hesitant to say "no", but in my mind,

2

no one has come up with a plausible explanation of the location of the frontal assassin. The nature of the head wound and the double head snap seen in the Zapruder, Nix, and Muchmore films would lead me to believe that there were indeed two, synchronized head shots, but so far there is no theory that I am willing to place any firm belief in. The "grassy knoll", storm drain, and particularly the "jet effect" theories, all have serious problems, and until they are resolved, I am afraid that none of them explain the events.

There is but one reason that I refer to the wound in the back of the president's head as the "alleged wound". If this wound indeed existed, and I am most inclined to believe that it did, then that means that every photograph showing the back of the head taken after the head shot(s) is a forgery. This list includes the Zapruder, Nix, and Muchmore movies as well as the various still photos such as Mary Moorman's polaroid, the autopsy photos, and the autopsy X-rays. While I agree with you that it is inconceivable that all the witnesses to the president's wounds could be wrong, isn't it just a tad bit unreasonable to say that all the postmortem pictures (I say "postmortem" because the president was dead before his head hit the back seat) could be wrong as well?

As I said, I liked High Treason 2 very much, but in discussing it with other researchers it appears that I stand alone. When I asked Jim Moore to refute all the eyewitness testimony given to corroborate what is said in High Treason 2, he told me that most of the witnesses were among your best friends, and so "they approached the whole thing with your point of view that the pictures were fake, etc.". I could do nothing but accept this statement at the time, as I did not have you on the other phone line, but I give you the chance now to refute it. As for the authenticity of the photos and X-rays, Jim encouraged me to speak with Clyde Snow, which I plan to do as soon as I get his phone number.

In High Treason 2, you mention that the "Gorden set" of autopsy photos may be "hoaxes" since they have no background and they changed almost everytime you viewed them. The implication I got was that Gorden had manufactured these photos himself. I realize that if this is what you were saying that you couldn't very well put it that bluntly, but I doubt that Robert could obtain a libel or defamation case out of a letter to sixteen year

old kid, so please let me in on your opinion of the Groden pictures.

In your letter, you mentioned that a video form of High Treason 2 was in the works, as well as a new book coming out this fall. Please give me some details such as the new book's content, release dates, etc. Thank you and please write back soon!

Sincerely,

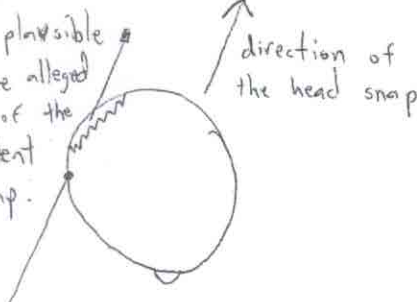
Joe A. Cornejo
11200 W Cleveland Apt. #E11
West Allis, WI 53227
PH 414-545-3981

3

Harold - At the end of this letter was a drawing w/ some text. I do not recall the exact words, but it was something to this extent.

THE HEAD SNAP/ HEAD WOUND

This is the only plausible way I see for the alleged wound in the back of the head to be consistent with the head snap.



Had the head shot come from the knoll, the head snap would have been more to the left, and the wound would be in the left occipital-parietal area. Had there been a "gunshot wound to the left temple" as Dr. McClelland speculated, the head snap would have been back and to the right. The bullet had to have entered somewhere in the right temporal-parietal area in order to be consistent with the head snap and the alleged wound.

Harold - After viewing the angle of the shot from the knoll I now realize that I was in error. The shot could have come from the knoll just as easily, although I still feel ~~that~~ that if there was a wound in the back of the head, the entrance was where I said.