

Mr. George Roman
CBS News
2020 N. St., NW
Wash, D.C. 20036

9/11/81

Dear George,

If it is possible I'll be holding a press conference after Labor Day, after my lawyer, who has to be away, ~~is~~ has caught up with what he has to file in my FOIA cases. I think it will be possible but it will present some problems because I can't drive to Washington. While I can ride, those who could provide the ride all work. My younger friends. After we were last in touch I had further and emergency arterial surgery.

In the oldest of all FOIA suits, beginning with a 1966 request - the case over which Congress amended the investigatory files exemption in 1974 and opened FBI and CIA files- I've just completed a book-length affidavit. It is 112 pages of text and has 82 exhibits, ~~mostly~~ ^{mostly} once secret FBI records. The suit is for the results of the scientific testing in the JFK assassination investigation. We've deposed FBI Lab agents in this case and have learned significant information from that. We've also learned a bit from discovery. And I've gotten records not provided in this case from other litigation.

The FBI did destroy evidence and the results of scientific testing, unless they are lying. Which they are about other things. They did know that they were making phony tests and they pretended otherwise and ~~the~~ went ahead with them. They knew, for example, that the curbstone struck by the "missed" bullet had been patched but they went ahead, made spectrographic examination of the patch, of all things, and then withheld from what they gave the Commission so the Commission would believe that the test proved the impact of a bullet, which it didn't. When I say they know it, I have that record. It is the synopsis of the report they gave to the Commission -without that synopsis.

After all the many demands, after the case going to the Supreme Court, after its leading the Congress to open those files, and even after reminders of all of this by judges and Department officials in internal records, the FBI is still withholding the results of tests the performance of which was testified to by Lab agents. The reason is that the test results destroy the official account of the crime. As such new evidence now does.

It really was a non-investigation, and this, in part, is what is being covered up now. They even conned the Directors, Hoover and Kelley in the exhibits I use in this affidavit. I've gotten and use some of the evidence the FBI deliberately avoided. By such deming-do investigations as ignoring all of the 18 motorcycle cops who provided JFK's escort that day.

To bad it took so long for me to get and put all of this and very much more together, ~~SMEE~~ that I didn't have it when Cronkite suspected a conspiracy.

It has been so long since you interviewed me about my earliest work you may not recall that it focuses on the scientific evidence and the Lab in particular. In those days the Lab ~~actually~~ cooked up a scheme to "stop" me, their repeated word by tying me up in a spurious libel suit. (They chickoned.) Thanks to this present suit and the reaction to it I've been able to get the records I cite. Some of the other stuff was pretty bad. They are very dirty people who appear to regard truth as the cardinal sin.

The extent of the dishonesty still surprises me. For example, they did elaborate qualitative spectrographic ~~analyses~~ ^{analyses} over which they led the Commission to believe that all the shooting was by Oswald and from that rifle. They never let anybody know that the way to determine this is by quantitative spectrographic analysis. So they did the ~~qualitative~~ ^{quali} test, which told them only what they know to begin with, that bullet metal is bullet metal, used the word "similar," which means no more than that lead is like lead, and deliberately avoided the quantitative testing that would have told them whether or not the tested specimens were of common origin. It was safer to gull the Commission and though it the nation.

There is so very much more! All I can do now, if anyone is interested, is make what I have available on a hold basis, until I can have the press conference. We have a decent but slow copier and can provide copies. (There also is a 40-foot swimming pool we inherited when we got this place.) We are only about an hour from your offices, less from part of northwest. And I'll take what time anyone want for explanations and, to the degree now possible for me, the production of other pertinent records. I have more ~~an~~ destruction of records, more on the pre-conception without any investigation at all, more on the FBI's dirtyworks, like convincing LBJ that there was a plot involving the CIA.

My appeals from the denials and withholdings of records about my wife and me are ignored, but the records we've gotten, directly and indirectly, are about as nasty, vicious and dishonest as I've ever seen.

Best wishes,

Harold Weisberg