

Richard Gallen
260 Fifth Ave.,
New York, NY 10001

1/1/95

Dear Richard,

Raphaëla has sent me the page from the C & G catalogue announcing NEVER AGAIN! for April. Please thank her for me. It now cannot save me the time I wasted in writing perhaps a hundred, perhaps more letters in response to inquiries in all of which I gave incorrect information because I was first told what was not to be and then not told anything at all, not even when I asked. I would have mailed many hundreds of announcements if I had been sent any, and I did ask for them, for all of the books. It would have helped them all, too.

I hope that Raphaëla's return is because her father is better, not the alternative.

By and large the catalogue page is very good. I particularly like the emphasis on fact. I do regret that I was not consulted about the brief bio because I have not been "a newspaper reporter" since before World War II and I was not (alone) "the first person to criticize the Warren Report." Millions immediately disagreed with it. I wrote the first book on it.

Raphaëla also wrote that "Peter said the copy editor has the manuscript right now which will be ready the first week of January..." As I once told you, in your name Peter told me more than a year ago that it was to go to the copy editor then. This makes me wonder about "480 pages" because we also had an agreement that the cuts that were made merely to shorten the book would be restored. And because it says nothing about index, pictures or documents.

Nonfiction books are downgraded if they have no index, particularly by reviewers.

I regret very much that there is no index in Case Open and if any copies were sent to reviewers I have not heard from any one or heard of any review by any one. And despite this or any effort to advertise or promote the book of which I know, my mail and phone calls continued to be good. Three calls the past two days and one thoughtful letter enclosed 31 handwritten pages of scholarly if I think minor factual criticism of Posner's book on a half-dozen points. What is new in my experience is that almost all these letters begin by thanking me for doing the book and most tell me how old, meaning how young, the writers were. The oldest I remember telling me his age said he was 12 at the time of the assassination, the youngest only 10 this year and he closed, speaking of JFK, "He left us something." I tell you this because I think it reflects a difference in the age group of the market. The letters are not every day now, but they are frequent and some days there were as many as five recently. This seems to indicate that the book is still selling.

I do want an index, a good professional index, very much and I believe the book is not only entitled to it but that it will recover its cost. Not having one telegraphs that you are doing it on the cheap and that in itself discourages sales. It also reduces the

usefulness enormously on this subject in which most have a genuine interest. As I am inclined to believe you have had reflected to you with other books that are not really books on the subject itself. Which is to praise almost all of them, they being what they are.

When you first offered me an advance on this book I declined it. That was not because its size was insulting. I did not take it that way. I believed you anticipated special costs or problems and in declining the advance I told you that if I could help with those costs or problems to let me know. That was not because we are well off. We are not. If I require a nursing home it will not take long for Mil to be wiped out. If we both are, then the property, which is deeded to hood, will have to go. And Mil is also feeble and would not be able to take care of me. I've become so weak the doctor told me this past Wednesday to suspend my walking for a while even though he told me five years ago that the walking is the only reason I then had my legs which he had expected me to ~~use~~^{lose} 10 years before then. In making my offer I was expressing a willingness to in effect insure you on the book. I was both that willing and that confident. And if you had kept the schedule Peter indicated more than a year ago Mil, who is an excellent indexer, would have done the index, (Indexing is what she was doing for the Senate when we met and you have seen the indexes she did for my books.) This is to say that if there had been normal communication and you'd kept your word there would have been no cost on an excellent index.

I think there must be a good professional index and I think I am entitled to expect it. I think it will at least return its cost and that the book is important enough in our history to require it for our history.

I did send some pictures up. I do not now ~~recall~~ recall which clearly. I think they are important to the book and its sale and influence and to our history. When you responded to nothing, and this goes back close to two years on pictures, and when Herman told me it would be published this March, I had prints made of one that is close to exculpatory of Oswald and sent it to him. He appeared not to understand its importance. Considering what he has published I can understand that. I'll be enclosing what illustrates how it exculpates Oswald. And that, of course, means much more than that. Although I think that alone might get you some help from Marina, who has been in touch with me and now wants to establish his innocence. Despite the desire of her daughters that she forget it.

Long ago I wrote you about those pictures and asked you to get permission to use them from Black Star and if it exists no longer ^{from} ~~for~~ any agency that may have taken it over. That would have given you access to the negatives. I have contacts of them only and had the prints made professionally from them. I have those negatives. Those pictures, dated the day of the assassination, show window-curtains being installed in his room. He told the ~~Commission~~^{police} he carried curtainrods but the Commission refused to believe him. All the

evidence is that he did not and could not have carried the rifle in the bag he was carrying. I'll enclose what makes this clear from Whitewash. When found the rifle was well oiled. The FBI's testing of the blanket in which he'd allegedly had it wrapped detected no oil. The alleged bag in which he carried his ~~park~~ rifle also had no traces of oil on it, no fingerprints where he held it in carrying it, no creases or any marks on it from the rifle being carried it it.

This is some 6 1/2 what you cut from Case Open. You did say I'd have been a real Clarence Darrow but you cut all the Darrow that was in the book out, enough to now make an important book. One of the pictures I did send, along with the pertinent testimony, show that the rifle was not and could not have been tossed aside in alleged flight but was so carefully hidden it was missed many times in the search, including by those who searched that very spot, behind a barricade of books in cartons. With not a print lifted from any carton. The picture I sent shows that the rifle was below the overlap of two cartons and sitting upright on edge. When in the official reconstruction, which I'll also enclose from Whitewash, even with Oswald not ~~even~~ taking the time to put the ~~rifle~~ rifle inside that barricade, the time reconstruction exonerates him, even only second more becomes overwhelming.

You are a lawyer, I do not have to explain the totally exculpatory importance these have. *Or, more important, what that means.*

By the way, although Black Star dated those pictures 11/22/63, from the internal evidence I believe that part of the 36-exposure roll was made the next morning. They could have been made that day but I believe not. And even with the curtains in place, that room was a fishbowl. You can see through them.

Bearing on proof of a conspiracy, I urge two others, both in Post Mortem which so few people have seen. One is of the shirt collar and tie, and I've sent at least xeroxes of those, and one is of the cryptstone, which you also cut from Case Open when I planned them for it. You did not cut the ~~essential~~ scientific examination that ^{confirmed} ~~id~~ ~~closed~~ the hole had been patched with cement paste but the pictures are graphic, important ~~and~~ and sell books, I think also exciting people so few of whom have seen them, so very few.

As you are well aware, I have no ego involvement in what I've done and am doing and I've done nothing for financial reward. I set out to perfect the record for our history and when I can I am still doing that. What I've done that you know nothing about is now quite voluminous. As I told you, I wanted you to share in any kudos from it and I looked nowhere else when that was not impossible for me as it is now. I'm sorry for you, for me and for the country that you have diminished this as much as you did in Case Open and in delaying this book. I did deliver what I promised and you have the best possible peer endorsement of that and I can give you more. I hope you and C & G will have enough concern for the country that has given you your opportunities to do this book as it should

be done and as I had every right to believe it would be done. And I think, without knowing any details of Newman's, it will help it, at least fortify it in a different area.

In this regard I tell you that I have completed a relatively short book that I think is important, and in writing it I regarded it as a equivalent to NEVER AGAIN! I think it can add to a late sale of Newman's and mine. I have not even told you about it because I simply am not up to more of what I have had with these two books. Its title is Waketh the Watchman: Our Strangelovian Military and the JFK Assassination. You should remember hints of this from NEVER AGAIN! It addresses motive, means and opportunity and it is a genuinely frightening book. It has been retyped except for a few corrections but I've not heard from the student who is doing it since before final exams. I think I will after the holiday period. Another now former student is retyping a much longer one and I'm enlarging the article I set up and did not even get acknowledgement of, Senator Russell Dissents, going into the other area of which he had serious questions, "I'm satisfied they have not told us all they knew about Oswald." I think that with any effort at all the original article, which I've had retyped since then, aside from its own and documented importance, it should be helpful to the Newman book and to mine if placed in a magazine. Because I doubt you even bothered to read it I tell you briefly that both Russell and Cooper, and this I have documented by them, refused to sign the Report based on the single-bullet theory and never changed their minds, also documented by them, long later. They were conned into what they were misled into believing was a compromise that accommodated their views by Rankin and Warren. Who even faked a transcript of an executive session Russell forced on it. When I put proof of that in Russell's hands he encouraged me to his dying day and never spoke to LBJ again. He told me that ~~Boggs~~ Boggs also disagreed but not as strongly.

So, as I told you, using Frost's words, I have been trying to keep those promises and if they end as no more than a record for our history history for now, I'll have kept those promises at least as a minimum. I wish I thought I have enough time for mere. How I wish you could think in those terms! Especially with the visible changes/since the JFK assassination. We had a de facto coup d'etat. I've done as much as is possible in making case that it was intended, and by whom.

In saying "documented" above I mean by both Russell and Cooper. I have what Russell prepared and read at that executive session, his latter written references to this and Cooper's.

Sincerely,