

Dear Richard,

2/4/94

Raphaella did not exaggerate in what she said about the publisher's preface and I do thank you for it.

The contracts came today. I've signed them and return them herewith, and I appreciate your note with them.

You have used as the title both Case Open and Case Opened. I think Case Opened is better, more appropriate, but that is up to you.

On remaindering, I would like them to be offered ^{to Lil or} to me, my executors or estate of heir, which is Hood College, at the highest offer received. ^{for them} (I do not think that will apply to Lil or to me but Hood will have all our unsold books and will continue to sell them, ^{a job for pay} ~~the proceeds~~ to go to the students who package and mail them and the proceeds for maintenance of the archive or whatever else Hood decides.

If the change in the standard form for movie and TV is an act of kindness, thanks. It more likely represents the reality. However, it serves to remind me of what can happen, slight as the chances may be. One is the importance of restoring that incredible Hubie Badeaux stuff at the least on that subject because it is the kind of thing the media can well go for and because I think you should send a copy of the book, with a marker in that place, to Cokey Roberts.

In what I wrote about that I did not give the name of the fine, wealthy and ultra-conservative lady who gave me Badeaux's book with its enclosure. I enclose his endorsement of it and the title page, but do not want her name used. If she is alive it would embarrass her no end. She came from a wealthy maritime-industry family. The name is not easy to ~~read~~ read in "Hubie's" handwriting. It is Jahncke.

We have no way of knowing what attention the book may get but on the chance it does get the attention I consider possible under the right circumstances, I think it would be a good ~~idea~~ idea for me to have gone over the retyped full ms before then and for you to keep a copy of it. I will read and make any corrections as fast as possible. If C & G has anyone who knows anything about publicity as news rather than as promotions, contradicting the coming NBC-TV miniseries can start a real controversy. And for that the parts not used can be very ^{powerful} stuff.

Posner is now aware of some of his mistakes. He is having to correct them for the paperback, and that is what he means when he says in the enclosed copy of his letter to a friend of mine by "revisions."

I think also that in terms of the most effective clobbering of him possible there is nothing better than that Hartogs stuff. That, too, is what the media can understand and go for, deliberately lying about what he and his publisher say is the "heart" of his book. I enclose that page of the PW initial story on the anniversary books.

While with so short a publisher's preface I doubt if you'll want to lengthen it, early ^{this} morning I started something I enclose so you can consider some of the ideas

in it. I think it will be a serious mistake to entirely ignore what he says about me.

It will be a serious mistake for and with the media, too, and it will give him an opportunity to use the resources he has and I do not to misuse it and to get attention for his misuse.

I hasten because there is someone here who can mail this and have it reach you by Monday.

Again thanks and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hamp".

Dear Richard,

2/4/94

This morning I remembered that Raphaela said you have written something very nice for a foreword. Thanks. In thinking about it I wondered is perhaps that might ~~Not~~ be an appropriate place for explaining that the original work is more inclusive and to deprecate Posner's snide cracks about me. If so, with regard to the former I have a suggestion, that you consider along these lines.

When I learned that Weisberg was writing a lengthy and detailed analysis and commentary of the ~~Conser~~ book I asked to see it to decide whether to do it as a book.

Believing that a book ~~did~~ not require all that detail and documentation, with Weisberg's agreement I have shortened it considerably.

Because of his interest in having the lengthier and more detailed information available for the historical record, I have provided full and unedited copies for deposit at the University of ^{Stevens Point,} Wisconsin, with his history professor friend, ^{Dr.} David Wrone, ~~xxxx~~ and at ^{Hood} College, in Frederick, Maryland, where the Weisbergs live, with his friend, Dr. Gerald McKnight, also a history professor.

The research for Weisberg's pre-assassination writing, particularly relating to native nazis and their organizations up to the time of Pearl Harbor, is at Wisconsin. When Weisberg is no longer able to make all his other records available to others they will be a permanent public archive at ^{Hood} College. His records, mostly of formerly withheld official ^{assassinations} records plus his own work product, take up some 60 file cabinets and innumerable boxes.

He obtained these once-withheld official assassinations records by means of a dozen lawsuits against the government, mostly against the FBI. Some of these lawsuits lasted a decade or more. Several were precedental and as the text reflects, the Congress amending the investigatory ^{of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)} files exemption to make FBI, CIA and similar ~~xxxx~~ records accessible under the FOIA.

His copy of the full manuscript along with the documentation for it ^{are} in his files that are while he lives accessible to all writing in the field.

The Weisbergs have also made ^{Hood} College the beneficiary of their property, more than five acres near the bottom of the first range of mountains going westward a few miles southeast of the presidential retreat, ~~near~~ Camp David, near ^{Thurmont} ~~Thurmont~~ Maryland.

Many elements of the major media, including major newspapers from coast to coast and TV networks and stations and some from Europe have used the Weisberg files over the years.

^{Because} Posner's criticisms of Weisberg and his work are so petty, prejudiced, factually incorrect and often not relevant to the thrust of his book, this book wastes no space on them.

BOOK NEWS

EDITOR: SUZANNE MANTELL

Assassination Anniversary Marked by 'Definitive' Works

Several big books purport to answer the question, Who killed JFK? Unfortunately, their findings conflict

BY ROBERT DAHLIN

The very same images from Dallas that prove to one man's satisfaction that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in killing President Kennedy 30 years ago this November lead another to conclude with confidence that a hideous conspiracy destroyed him.

Such starkly conflicting views will collide in bookstores this fall from, among other houses, Random House and Viking. Though wave after wave of books on the assassination have appeared in the years since President Kennedy's death, it is noteworthy that this season brings books from large houses that can afford lavish productions and promotion, which has not been the case with most of the earlier books on the subject.

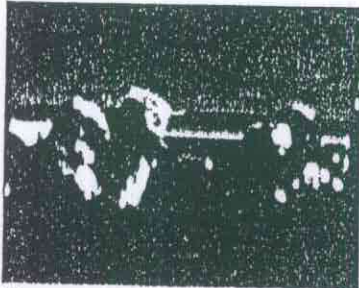
The Lone Assassin

Random's *Case Closed: Lee Harvey Oswald and the Assassination of JFK* by Gerald L. Posner (Oct., \$25, with 16 pages of black-and-white photos) takes what has come to be the more controversial position—the single gunman theory, which holds that Oswald acted alone. This is the official position of the Warren Commission, about which Posner is otherwise critical. To reach his conclusion, which the publisher says answers all lingering questions about the assassination, Posner, a lawyer and author, reexamined the case, conducted dozens of new interviews and viewed computer and laser enhancements of the eyewitness Zapruder film. Posner was unavailable for comment at this writing.

Random House vice-president and executive editor Bob Loomis is reluctant to reveal much of the book's contents: It's too early, he says. "We commissioned this book a couple of years ago," he explains. "At the heart of it is a biography of Lee Harvey Oswald

that confronts various conspiracy theories as it goes along. Posner takes up separate episodes as they occur in history—episodes in Oswald's life, in [Jack] Ruby's life—making a chronological scenario in which we see how it all fits together."

Loomis says Posner has followed leads that no one else has, receiving new cooperation from Marina Oswald,



The new wave of books reexamining JFK's assassination mix old evidence and new technology. Here, "enhanced" frames from the Zapruder film.

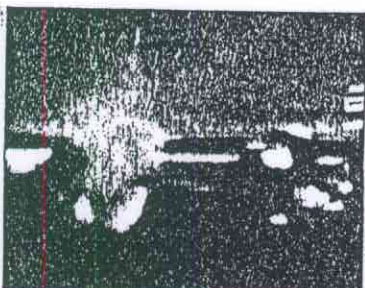
the autopsy doctors, Oswald's friends and others. "All the conspiracy theories have undermined the public's belief in the government," Loomis says. "They believe that everybody's in cahoots, that we have murderers in the CIA. That's what has been accepted, and that, to me, is a crime."

Because Posner steadfastly rejects the conspiracy theories in a heavily footnoted argument, Loomis expects the book to arouse controversy. "It's not that the people who have written otherwise are frauds," he contends, "but there is almost a religious fervor out there about conspiracies that is impervious to contrary evidence." A 50,000-copy first printing is planned, with author tour, advertising and an *At Random* feature. First serial rights have been picked up by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Photos Prove Conspiracy

Just as Posner sees the Zapruder film as confirmation of the lone assassin theory, Robert J. Groden sees it as proving exactly the opposite. There was a conspiracy, he asserts. *The Killing of a President: The Complete Photographic Record of the JFK Assassination, the Conspiracy and the*

Cover-Up (Viking Studio, Nov., \$30) uses computer technology to uncover new details and provides hitherto expurgated transcripts—including that of Jacqueline Kennedy's testimony before the Warren Commission, which is shown to have been originally edited for public consumption. Groden, who has been a student of the assassination since it occurred, was staff photographic consultant to the House Select Committee on Assassinations, as well as technical advisor to Oliver Stone on his film *JFK*. Groden was also unavailable for comment. Speaking for him, Michael Frag-



From *Viking's The Killing of a President*

nito, editorial director of Viking Studio Books, says *The Killing of the President* is the only book to be entirely comprehensive in the sheer number and quality of photographic evidence. "There will be more than 650 photographs in color and quadratone," he says, "and a four-color separation of black-and-white photos for maximum clarity. More than 100 of the photographs here have never been published before." Among these are previously suppressed color photos of the autopsy on JFK's body that record bullet entries, and a restoration of the damaged frames of the Zapruder film.

Groden also reportedly uncovered new details in photos already available. "Some of the photographs taken right after the shots were fired show people running toward the grassy knoll [behind], where they saw a puff of smoke," Fragnito says. "Robert makes it very clear that the shot that killed Kennedy came from the front, and if that is true, a conspiracy certainly did occur."

"Robert calls this a howdunit, not a whodunit," continues Fragnito. "He's not one of those wacko assassination buffs. His point is that a conspiracy occurred, but he doesn't claim to know

Dec. 12, 1993

Dear Mr. Keel -

As you can imagine, my schedule with CC has not given me much chance to respond to the recent flurry of letters I've received.

Sorry I did not get a chance to answer your questions before the 11/93 TFD review -

I am working on an updated + revised edition of CC for the paperback to be published next September. Most of the issues raised in TFD commentaries will be addressed. I will also try to drop you a more detailed note

regarding your review at a later date -

Unbil often, enclosed is the book plate -

Sincerely
L. M. Keel