Dear Editor,

You refer to me and nobody else as "a disgruntled and discredited charlatan" in what I presume is an accurate quotation of Robert Groden in your issue dated the 20th anniversary of the JFK assassination.

In the two paragraphs from which these words are quoted there is not a single truthful word.

Groden says I was "rebuffed" by Oliver Stone. This is a lie and it happens the exact opposite is the truth - I refused to have anything at all to do with him or his commercialization and exploitation of that great tragedy.

He says I "leaked" a copy of Stone's script to George Lardner of the Washington Post for a reason that makes no sense.

I "leaked" nothing to Lardner or anyone else. As Groden knows well, as also does Stone, who has been paying Groden for his evil, I gave the script openly to the Post and its story is quite specific on this.

Why, according to Groden?

"This so-called critic leaked it because he was convinced Stone was going to do his story. Oliver saw through it at the very beginning and wouldn't deal with him. His revenge was leaking the script."

So you can understand the truth of this vicious lie - and the entire reference to me is defamatory (not a threat and I have no action in mind) Groden also told you that those who "attacked the film had absolutely no idea of what it's about..."

The truth is that particularly to coincide with the release of his film "Doors" Stone launched a propaganda campaign for his exploitation, titled "JFK" when it is not about the President. Thus also he took the name "Camelot Productions" for his company and did much else to commercialize the tragedy.

In his propaganda Stone announced that his film would be based on the book, "On the Trail of the Assassins," by former New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison. Stone later said he had also bought the right to use "Crossfire," by Jim Marrs. It is a compendium of all the nutty conspiracy theories whose creators and cribbers flaunt contempt for the known fact of the crime or, in the case of some of those, in addition to Marrs, used as "experts" by Stone, boast about their ignorance. Take this literally!

When I learned that Stone was going to base his movie on as dishonest a book as I knew Garrison's is, I wrote Stone in detail February 8, 1991. Contrary to Groden's additional lie, this was not a request for anything from Stone. I began by telling him he has every right to be a hack Sennett producing a Keystone Kops farce with a Pink Panther and then...
for at least 4,000 words I went into detail, attached some documentation, offered more,
and that greatest ego in the city that is home for as big a collection of them as the
country suffers, did not respond.

Along with announcing that his film would be based on Garrison's book, Stone also
proclaimed that he would be recording their "history" for the people and would tell them
"who" killed their President, "why" and "how." Several months after I wrote him, when it
served his propagandist's purposes and in what he intended as self-defense, Stone was
still using these words and I have the stories and the interviews.

It is because any movie based on the type-set swill to which Stone bought the rights
has to be what I said in description of Garrison's book, a fraud and a travesty, that
I wrote Stone warning him. This was quite some time before he started shooting, so he had
plenty of time to prepare a different script or if he doubted my word, to ask for additional
documentation. It is because Stone himself told the world what the movie is "about" in
saying it would be based on these two atrocious books that there was an disregard of
any subsequent changes in the script, that I had a good enough understanding of what
Groden falsely says I didn't know what the script is about.

Remember, Stone himself uttered the words he cannot now claim he did not, quoted
above. In those words he told the world this was a non-fiction movie.

He may claim the right to rewrite history, as I've heard him say he does, but
that does not mean that it cannot be objected to or exposed. He does claim a first-
amendment right to desecrate our history with his commercialization, exploitation and
rewriting of it but in a number of statements of which I have copies, he simultaneously
claims that nobody has the right to try to do anything about it under that same first
amendment until it is too late, until he has poisoned the national and international
mind with his egotripping that is also crass and disgusting commercialism.

This to Groden "so-called critic" who is also "a disgruntled and discredited
charlatan" is the godfather of his firstborn. When he and his wife Chris lived in Hope-
lawn, New Jersey they spent many a weekend with us as our guests. He did his first work
on the Zapruder film for me. It was I who suggested to him that he create a slow-motion
version by duplicating each frame of the assassination sequence and as he worked on it
he came here with it weekends and we discussed it and what else could be done.

His work photographic work is impeccable, but when he opens his mouth cover your
ears and head for the tall timbers.

Nine, first published August, 1965, was the first book on the Warren Commission. I
have published six on the JFK assassination and one on that of Dr. King and they are
accurate, they stack after all these years of critical examination, and they are factual.
There is no theory in any one of them. They represent most of the fact as distinguished
from usually wild and untenable theories that has been published on the assassination.
As Groden knows very well, I also filed a series of lawsuits against the government, mostly the FBI and CIA, under the Freedom of Information Act. As a result I have and make available to other writers in all about a third of a million pages of once-withheld records about a quarter of a million on the JFK assassination. These are the very records that Stone, who has trouble telling the truth even by accident, has laced the country with two lies that they are all withheld until at least the year 2039 and that he has used in his film "all" the information that has come to light. Is this alone less than the most dishonest commercialism and exploitation? Yet knowing all of this is freely available, Stone did not ask to see a page or for me to send him a single page.

He has been wallowing in the swamps of indecent fabrications that are dignified by referring to them as "theories."

Groden also knows the opposite of his inference that I was seeking some reward. He knows that with no quid pro quo at all I have given all I have to local "ood College, where it will be a free public archive.

What is little understood is that the government never investigated the crime itself and never intended to. Instead of Garrison's sordid and to me disgusting fictions of his own invention (I was there- I know- I spent much time on damage control or his fasaco would have been more of a disaster and underpinning of the credibility of all responsible criticism) he could have used official records that say what I say, clearly and unequivocally. Without a real official investigation there are no real leads to be followed.

So you can better understand not only what I say above but also the degree to which Stone was informed, I referred to Garrison a false representation of how he came to fire a man he'd hired who used the name "Bill Boxley." Garrison was going to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the JFK assassination by, among other things, charging one Robert Ferrin, who had killed himself in Garrison's jurisdiction in 1962, with being a 1963 Grassy Knoll assassin! I gave Stone more details and offered his access to my proof and the investigative report that gave Garrison little choice. He could hardly fire himself and he made this utter unsanity up, not Boxley, and Boxley went out and manufactured "proof" at it.

I do not know what the last script contains but I do know that the one I was given- Stone called me a thief but he had to know that was a lie - has this wretched business in Garrison's shameless version!

And this is but a glimmer of the outrageous commercialization and exploitation about which we will soon be flooded with all sorts of fictitious accounts of how wonderful it is, witness those threed Oswald, etc.

I'm 78 now and, as Groden knows, have survived a series of surgeries, some life-threatening, at least two of which were not expected to survive, the last open-heart,
and I am severely limited in what I am able to do. Ordinarily I would ignore such a story
in a small local paper. Stone and his flunkies, of whom Groden is but one of many, have
given many false accounts of which, as with your story, I was sent copies. All I’ve done
is ask Stone to stop lying by saying he is using my work in his movie. He was not man
enough to respond in his own name or through an assistant at his instructions. He referred
one of those complaints to his lawyers, one of whom wrote in non-responsiveness that his-
try cannot be copyrighted. (Another reflection of the fact that Stone really has said and
does believe that the garbage he has on film is accurately our history.) This brave, bold,
innovated man, long on the bull that the CIA was out to ruin him when it is to his
knowledge I and I started it, had the second one stamped, no forwarding address!

He did not ask my right to use any of my work, I did not offer it to him leave alone
want him to use it and pay me for it, as Groden has it, and when I got a thinly-hidden
effort to bribe me from his flunky who styles herself his research coordinator, I rejected
it and could not have been more explicit in saying I wanted nothing to do with them.

What a phony! Aside from what his flunkies like Groden say. On the one hand I am
CIA and on the other hand he is using my work?

There are several other reasons why I make an exception and take this time to write
you. One is that I was born in Wilmington, raised in Wilmington, and still have relatives
in the area. Another is that many of your readers may remember my many appearances on that
really fine talk show of that great Irishman Jack McNally when he was on WCNU radio. These
listeners, who may if they stop to think recall that I never advanced any theory as sug-
gested I had solved the crime, I would like to know the truth. I did not impose on their
trust and what you have published about me is in each and every word, not only false but
was known to Groden to be false.

He should have gotten more than 30 pieces of silver for defaming one he befriended
him.

He is trying hard to earn it! Telling me nothing about this story he phoned me last
week to tell me that his former coauthor, Harry Livingstone, has written in a new book
that I leaked the Stone script wholesale. Groden said he has excerpts, he promised to send
me copies and I have not received them.

The things some people do for money – or for other reasons!

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg
Victory parade set

CHESTER - Supporters of mayor-elect Barbara Babcock-Sharp will hold a victory parade Saturday, starting at 9 a.m. from Democratic Headquarters, Eighth and Avenue of the Stars.

The parade will wind through the city, starting on North Street and end at Municipal Park in the West End. Babcock-Sharp will be in the parade with her campaign manager, Councilman-elect Arthur Foster and Chuck McLaughlin.

The Democrats shouted the county when Babcock-Sharp was announced as mayor on Election Day, the first time in nearly a century.

No to sabbaticals?

WILMINGTON - The school board's work toward the final Delco school board voted unanimously to look into whether recent requests for teacher sabbaticals can be met by transferring funds in the budget. While such sabbaticals had been an annual event, this year, the district approved the first four applications.

Supervisor Larry M. Hill said saw the recently received sabbatical requests in an era where, with the district operating in a budget deficit, the district is running the risk of losing balance.

The money was in there at $116,000 but Hill said, referring to the original proposed budget. The final budget was trimmed to $108,000.

The board will vote on the sabbaticals at Monday's school board meeting, which will be held at 2 p.m.

Blue maps for asking

KILBURN - PennDOT is offering free maps of Philadelphia's Blue Route color brochure which illustrates where those roads are and how they can be used for economical and efficient travel.

Maps may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to 1311 North Front St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19122.

Maps may also be obtained from local legislators, businesses, non-profit organizations and churches that have responsibility for distribution to their constituents, employees or members.

Thou shalt not steal

CLOVER HOMESTEAD - Anyone who is looking for aluminum cans and aluminum recycling containers will be fined $50 for every offense, an increase from the original fine of $30.

The fine was approved by the city council last week.

The council said that council will strictly enforce the $50 penalty for stealing aluminum cans and aluminum recycling containers, after Mayor Marie Hagan said that, while there have been reports of steel being stolen in the area, there have been no reports of aluminum cans being stolen from recycling containers.

If residents see anyone taking recyclable materials they should immediately report the police or their council representatives, said Harmon.

2 quilt in Upper Ch!

UPPER CHICORY - Convention Hall was the setting for the second annual Upper Chicory Quilt Show, sponsored by the Upper Chicory Quilt Show, which was held on Saturday, May 9. The show featured 100 quilts and 5000 visitors.

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'JFK' Delco writer acted, assisted assassination film project

By KEVIN ANDERSON

Boothwyn - When Oliver Stone's movie "JFK" hits the theaters in December, Upper Chichester resident Roger Groden probably won't be noticed at the movies for the three minor roles he has in the film.

But if he is, it will not matter. Groden, who has fought a long battle to get the truth about the death of John F. Kennedy told, will be the least of his worries.

Groden is one of those few experts on the jingle of evidence and intrigue surrounding President John F. Kennedy's death, Groden has been exploring the possibilities and possibilities surrounding the assassination, as well as the events leading up to it, for years.

"I've been looking at the evidence, trying to put the pieces together," said Groden. "I've been working on this since the early 1970s, and I'm still not finished." Groden said.

Groden's latest film, "JFK," has been in the works for several years, and he has been working on it since the early 1970s.

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