

Mr. George Hoffman
20040 Patrick Henry Highway
Jetersville, VA 23085

4/10/98

Dear Mr. Hoffman,

Delay in responding to your 3/20 was caused by several weeks in the hospital.

I must confess that after all the years of not thinking about it or related matters I was mixed up. As I try to think about it now I'm inclined to believe that the book I read more than 70 years ago was on Marion.

As I begin NEVER AGAIN!! saying the crime itself was never investigated officially, was never intended to be, so there is little likelihood of any smoking gun records having been collected or generated.

Those books inevitably did mislead and misinform because most of them are in varying degrees very bad books. Lifton's in particular. If Groden says it is raining and you are with him getting wet be sure it is raining before agreeing with him. He can be trusted or believed on nothing at all. He is a subject-matter ignoramus. As most of those who have written books are.

Because there was so little that could be genuinely embarrassing in the records there was little to destroy. I do know that the FBI got rid of a spectrographic plate and consumed a tiny specimen in the spectrographic flame but there is not much reason to believe there was any widespread destruction of what did not exist to be destroyed.

There is no possibility at all that there was ever any reason to believe that single-bullet fabrication that was not even a theory. If you were familiar with my work you'd know that, and it all comes from the official records.

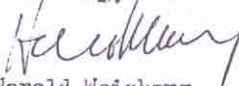
Howard Donahue, who wrote one of the most contemptible of the books, did not really duplicate the shooting attributed to Oswald. Those white tests were with a cart of straight tracks, with oversized targets for the body, and that rifle had been overhauled if they used the Oswald one and was better if they did not.

I am inclined to believe that "impartiality" is not possible. But I believe that fairness is. Not one of the multitude of whom I have written critically has phoned or written to complain that I was unfair or inaccurate with regard to himself.

That carbstone, which was well in front of JFK, was also consigned to the memory hole. It was patched before being tested and the test did not disclose the core of any bullet. It was the carbstone spectro plate that was destroyed by the FBI.

Please excuse the haste.

Sincerely,


Harold Weisberg

3/21/96

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Md. 21702

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Thanks for the prompt reply to my letter & inquiry & please, no apology is necessary about your typing. I can't type at all. That's why I write everything out in long hand. I use the excuse that it adds the personal touch, but it's just cause my typing stinks. Fortunately, I used to have a lady up in New Jersey (that's where I'm from) who did my typing for me. Mostly poetry (some of which has been published) but nothing really great.

Now, about "Mad Anthony Wayne" being the Swamp Fox. Were you testing me, or had you really forgotten that Colonel Francis Marion of S. Carolina was the Swamp Fox and Mad Anthony Wayne was the commander of the Pennsylvania line in Washington's Continental Army. If my wife were to read this she'd just say I was being a smart alec again. She hates history. I love it.

The Kennedy Assassination has always held a great fascination for me. In fact I've been told by my history hating wife that I'm obsessed with it. I think what I'm obsessed with is an honest search for the truth.

I know that there were cover-ups all the way down the line in the case and it haunts me. We also found it hard, at times, over the years to believe all of the hairbrained theories that some writers come up with. David Rifton for one & some of what Mr. Broder has said really distress me.

One thing, however, I would like to put to you - point

blank - so-to-speak and that's the destruction of evidence. In all of the materials that the government has kept locked away (much of which you've obtained) do you really think that the truly damaging material still exists? Or would most of it have been destroyed years ago? If I were a criminal I would not keep a record of my crimes.

I have always been a believer in logic and fate. I believe that many times in life things happen that are very improbable, but they happen never the less. For instance. I've always believed in the "Single Bullet Theory". I acknowledge that it could be wrong, but I also acknowledge that it could be possible. I'm sad to say that I am a combat veteran and I have seen two men hit by the same bullet. This is not common, but it happens.

Also I know that the FBI's expert riflemen were unable to duplicate the supposed performance of L.H.O. with the Mannlicher rifle. However, the performance was duplicated for CBS News by 11 picked riflemen at a specially constructed range at H.P. White Laboratories in Maryland in 1968.

I know that the media are slanted in their ideas about the assassination, but I've seen some of their programs (NOVA in 1992) and some of their arguments are very strong.

Can we, any of us, really be unbiased and impartial? This is why I feel I must read more of your work. I have got to answer these questions to my satisfaction.

Here's something your theory about the curb stone got me thinking about. Suppose the first shot was the one that missed the car. If it hit the street behind the car (right rear) at an angle and at 2000+ fps, might it not

shatter apart sending one chunk (minus the copper jacket) flying off down Elm street to strike the curb near Mr. Lagre. That would explain there only being traces of lead & antimony on the curb stone. What do you think. I'll be anxious to hear.

20040 Patrick Henry Highway
Jetersville, Va. 23083

Sincerely,


P.S.

I can sympathize with you re: your physical problems, I have a partially herniated disc in my lower back and periodically it gives me hell!

