

Mr. George Hoffman
20040 Patrick Henry Highway
Jetersville, VA 23083

4/17/96

Dear Mr. Hoffman,

Most of us when young and inexperienced did what we thought was right when it was not right. I know I did.

I believe the beginning of NEVER AGAIN! encapsulates why the coverup.

You say "We know that Bobby Kennedy was aware of the CIA- Mafia plots to kill Castro." That is what some of the crummier books say but it is not so. I have the CIA's own records. Only six people, all high in the CIA, knew. The plotting was Eisenhower/Nixon of the August before the election. The Kennedys learned for the first time through a related scandal. Giancana was running around with Phyllis McGuire. He believed that she was sleeping with Dan Martin. He asked the CIA's honcho to return the favor (in which the mafia did nothing at all!) by learning about his gal. The wire man got caught in Vegas.

What got the CIA to treat Nosenko so badly was what Nosenko told the FBI that the CIA did not like. I believe all he said before and much of what he said after is dependable.

I did not know that anyone knew a spectro plate had been destroyed. I mentioned it in Post Mortem. If you remember how you know, I'd like to know. The FBI never announced it.

Those with motive for patching the curb (details in Case Open) were the assassins or those who hired them. Nobody else did. Perhaps the FBI not to be embarrassed by the evidence that was gotten rid of that way.

Not only the fragments, 399 was never examined for any traces. That and the full panel report are in Post Mortem.

The ballistics match to the rifle means nothing without proof the rifle was used. It could not have been. I do not have time to go into this and several knoll possibilities most have no way of knowing about. There was nobody on the south knoll and there could have been a shot under the fence on the north knoll. There is a sewer inlet 30" each diameter there, behind the fence. Vertical.

Polide paraffin tests showed no powder traces on face.

There is more I'm sorry I have not time for.

Best,

Handwritten signature

4/13/96

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

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Just got your letter today & am very sorry to hear you were in the hospital. I hope everything is alright and you are feeling better. I myself have severe back problems & and an ulcer & live most of my days in varying degrees of pain & or discomfort.

I really hope you don't mind my letters & questions re: J. E. K. assassination. It's been an obsession of mine for more than twenty years and I am still trying to work out the truth to my own satisfaction.

You know, when I was a boy (and uninformed) I was a great admirer of the late J. Edgar Hoover and believed in the FBI and our other government institutions. I grew very disillusioned after the assassination in 63 and even more so after my own experiences in Vietnam. I have not told anyone this in 30 years, but when in Vietnam with the Marines, part of my time was spent working indirectly for the CIA as an assassin. We (my team) participated in the "Phoenix" program (right from the beginning) and eliminated members of the so called Viet Cong infrastructure. It was legalized murder and it didn't work. You are so very correct when you say that the intelligence community in this country very often dictates government policy. It should not be, but it is true. I have one close friend, a former US Navy "SEAL" who would be most upset with me if he thought I told anyone my secrets. You see, he still "believes". I do not!

In the Kennedy case the FBI covered-up anything that might point to their negligence and simply ignored anything that did not fit with J. Edgar's concept of what really

happened. We know that Bobby Kennedy was aware of the CIA-Mafia plot to kill Castro and was afraid that his brother might have been killed in retaliation by some of Castro's agents. We also have the Silvia Odio story about the two Cubans and Oswald who supposedly visited her just prior to the assassination and the CIA cover-up of Oswald's activities in Mexico. I just wish it was possible to get a true picture of what Yuri Nosenko really knew about Oswald. Unfortunately, his treatment by the CIA has made it difficult to believe very much of what he's told his various interviewers.

now? I have always tried to remain impartial in my investigations of the assassination. That's why I think I've been able to glean little bits and pieces of the truth from all of the books that I've read and all of the films that I have watched. For instance, I knew that a spectrographic plate had been destroyed by the FBI re: the curb stone, but I didn't know that the curb stone had been patched. I didn't realize that until I read your 1st letter to me. Who do you think patched it, the city of Dallas, the Dallas police or the FBI themselves?

I learned from Howard Donahue's book that the two large fragments found in the President's car were never examined for blood or brain tissue because they appeared clean to the FBI and were only checked for ballistics. I also learned, for the first time, about the findings of the Ramsey Clark panel and the fragment (6.5mm) embedded in Kennedy's scalp just below the rear entrance wound. Also, there's the Secret Service man and other eyewitnesses who saw the bullet (the 1st shot) miss the right rear of the President's car and saw what looked like fragments or particles flying around inside the car. If Oswald didn't do all of the shooting, he at least did some of it. After all, even a poor marksman can fire at a target and miss!

Putting aside the so called "Magic Bullet", at least the two large fragments matched ballistically to the 6.5 mm Mannlicher-Carcano purchased by Oswald. Maybe all Lee was supposed to do was fire and miss to draw attention to the Book Depository and get the secret service mens heads turned around. If there was another shooter, he did his shooting from the rear. That would be consistant with putting the blame on Oswald, who of course was supposed to have done all of his shooting from the rear. I'll never believe the "brassy knoll" theories. Its a lousey spot for a sniper. I qualified expert three times in the Marines and made some pretty decent "kills" in the Nam at long range and would never choose a left to right scenario at a moving target for a critical head shot. Going away or head-on, sure! Never left to right or right to left. The distance was to short to properly aquire the (a) scope for one thing so you'd have to wing it with iron sights and Kentucky windage. The distance was too great for accurate shooting with a pistol, a shotgun (per Gordon Arnold) would have sprayed the whole car, ergo a rifle was the weapon. More importantly, as a pro I'd hate to have to retreat into that open parking lot and railroad yard. Besides, all of the medical evidence as well as the Zapruder film point to a rear entrance head shot. In fact, Donahue may have been right about an AR15. Just not the one carried by the secret service man.

Oh well, I've got to go. I've got a house to clean before my wife gets home. I'll look forward to hearing from you again and I really hope your feeling better. I'd love to meet you someday.

Sincerely,

L. Hoffman