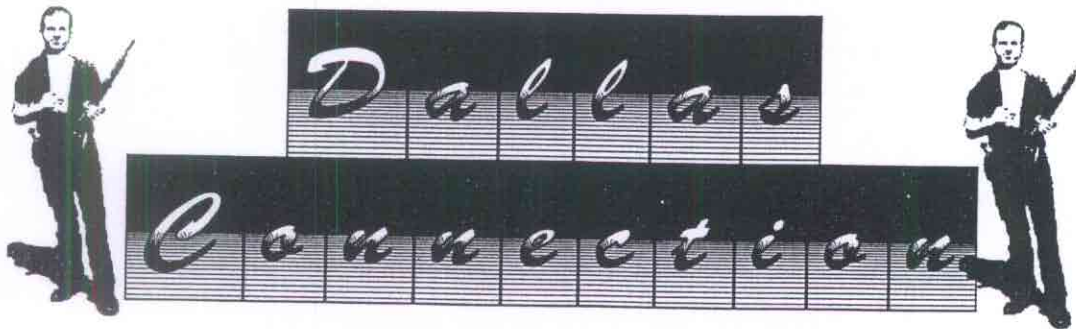
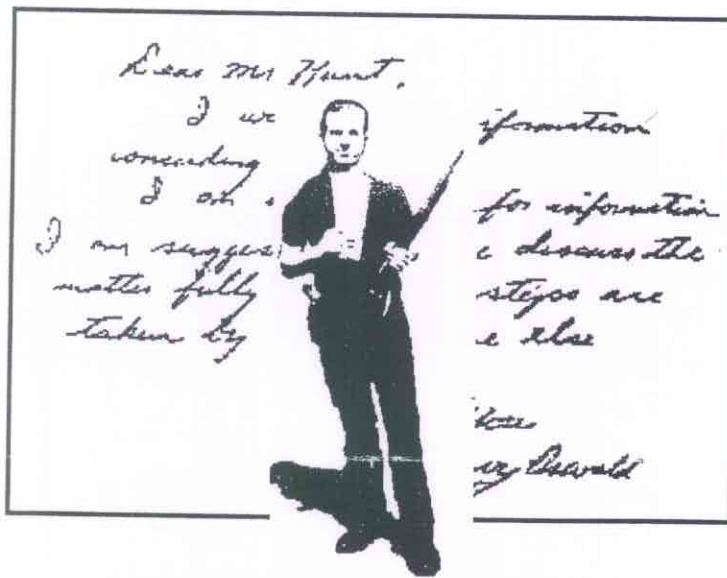


THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY - IN SEARCH OF THE TRUTH

DENNIS BISHOP'S





Author of High Treason
Harrison E. Livingstone
Replies To
Marrs and DeVries

This is in response to Jim Marrs' denial that he plagiarized *High Treason* in his compendium, *Crossfire*.

If I have made a false accusation, I am heartily sorry, and apologize to Jim. I don't think I have, for the following reasons.

There are not one but two lengthy quotes from "Robert Groden" in *Crossfire*. Both are verbatim to be found in *High Treason*, Conservatory Press Edition. The first--to be found on page 378 of *Crossfire*--states that "Groden later told his (sic--"this" was meant, but quite a Freudian slip, maybe?!) author..." This is a long verbatim quote which is to be found on page 7 of my book. Since my book was printed at the end of February, 1989 and not available for a few weeks, as Marrs said, it would have been impossible for him to have copied these passages and not know where they came from before his book went into editing. Since his book was published a few weeks after mine and copies were available almost simultaneously with his receipt of my book on March 23, he could not have placed these quotes in his book without having the manuscript. Publishing simply does not work that way.

It is also interesting that on that same page 378, there is a long quote from Arlen Specter in *U.S. News and World Report* which is very hard to find and hard to have known about. It is identical to my quote on page 74 of *High Treason*. The problem Jim has is that he copied my mistakes and those of my typesetter, and changes in the quote. Note the last sentence where it says "...under oath as opposed to adding..." There is supposed to be a coma after oath. My typesetter dropped it and so did Marrs. See page 53 of *U.S. News*, also on page 105 of *Whitewash II*. On the same page of the magazine you will note that my quote was actu-

ally composed from two different questions and answers Specter gave, which I separated with the dots. It is impossible for Marrs to have done the same thing and not have copied this from my manuscript. He repeats the same pattern through the book.

Note also that he has twice changed the date of the article, directing people far away from the actual year. My date is correct: October 10, 1966, but in his hardback edition he gives us 1986, and in his trade paperback changed it to 1968. Close, but no cigar.

The Groden quote is not claimed to be plagiarized, as Marrs wants us to believe, but is put forward by me to show that Marrs had the manuscript prior to his book being printed, and that is how he came to use large segments of it as though it was his own work, merely rewritten. You can check what I wrote on page 408 of *Killing the Truth*. I show the Groden quotes in Marrs as proof of how he did it. Marrs hangs himself when he actually changed the wording on page 378, from one edition to the next, when Marrs knew he had serious trouble with this, and yet I did not know that he had borrowed from my manuscript.

In the original hardback edition of *Crossfire*, on page 378, Marrs says "As Groden later wrote..." and then comes the long quote taken from page 7 of *High Treason*. Marrs changed this in the trade paperback edition a year later to read "As Groden later told his (sic: "This", as Marrs properly quotes it in his letter to *Investigator* Editor G. J. Rowell which was published in the June - July 1994 - issue # 9) author...."

Now what does this mean? Carroll & Graf, the publisher for *Crossfire* - as well as my own *High Treason 2* and *Killing the Truth* - does not allow changes between editions. But this was changed. Why?

Another key point in understanding Marrs and what he did is Marrs' statement to Rowell. He writes, "...what we have here is a case of 'inadequate attribution.' As Mr. Folliard so correctly noted the quote is preceded by the words, 'As Groden later wrote:' Again, there was no attempt to claim the statement in question as my own." There is a massive problem with this. Marrs distorts/evades the issue by addressing two different issues and making them one: I never said the quote was plagiarized merely because it said that Groden wrote it (Marrs later changed it to "Groden later told this author"). I maintained that it is evidence that

Marrs had the manuscript prior to publication of his book because, as Marrs said in the next paragraph of his letter to Rowell:

"What happened here is that when I was asked by my publisher to produce a 'notes and sources' section for the trade paperback edition of *Crossfire*, I was rushed and unable immediately to locate the source of the quote. Since I had known Robert Groden since the mid-1970s and had interviewed him often about this topic, I simply stated 'As Groden later told this author.' This statement is true. We had talked about this issue long before Groden and Livingstone began working together."

Obviously, if he quoted something at such length verbatim, without a word changed, he clandestinely had my manuscript quote a long time before. The only place he could have got it was from my manuscript. The statement "As Groden *later* told this (as quoted from Marrs' letter to Rowell, emphasis mine) author, it would have been impossible for Groden to have used those precise words (which he did not, since I wrote it long before I showed the manuscript to Groden) and Marrs remember and write them down verbatim. Although it is as Marrs said, a case of inadequate attribution, one must ask about the credibility and lack of sinister intent of someone who wrote and published a book of this research without sources and notes even in manuscript and had no idea where he got it. Clearly, Marrs had a very good reason for this irresponsibility.

So why did Marrs change the way in which he attributed the quote from the original's "As Groden later wrote" to "As Groden later told his (sic: this) author" in the trade paperback edition? He knew he had a problem because my book had come out before his did. He is saying it was a simple inability to find the source for it, so he fudged it and said Groden told him that. The real issue is that it means that he had the book and used it before his was published at almost the same moment that mine was, and therefore, the large segments that are identical to my book probably had to come from my manuscript.

Nobody is saying, as Marrs implies, that he is claiming the *High Treason* quote as his own or that it is plagiarized. Marrs is deflecting attention from what he in fact borrowed.

There is another verbatim quote to be found on page 377 of *Crossfire*, which Marrs failed to mention in his

letter to Rowell. That quote says that "Groden wrote" and then it quotes from page 7 of my book. I think everyone knows that Groden did not write that. He did not even originate the questions about the autopsy pictures, which began with their appearance in hearings and committee rooms at the House Select Committee on Assassinations when we all saw that something was obviously wrong with them. I was the one that got his memo into the news in 1979, which was evidently written in response to what numerous critics were saying. The territory was co-opted, and a terrible price I paid for it. I am sure that Groden's memo to Congressman Louis Stokes was never intended to be news. I broke it out, even getting it on the front page and on the wire.

The proof that Marrs had the manuscript before either book was published is clear from his statement that "Groden wrote," and the verbatim quote that followed. Marrs' book was in production. Marrs tries to confuse the fact that he *did* have the manuscript with my charge of plagiarism. The above quote is obviously not plagiarism. Marrs did not and could not have taken this quote from the published book because his book was in production when he received the published *High Treason*. The issue is the major portion of Marrs' book which was lifted.

Why did Marrs not write, "Groden *and Livingstone* wrote"? That, you see, is the key to a lot of the nightmare we are now experiencing.

Plagiarism is the act of appropriating the literary composition of another, or parts or passages of his writings, or the ideas or language of the same, and passing them off as the product of one's own mind. To be libel for plagiarism, it is not necessary to exactly duplicate another's literary work, it being sufficient if unfair use of such work is made by lifting of a substantial portion thereof.

As for Marrs' statement that we were drawing on the same data pool, with regard to the truly major borrowings of research from my book (and I don't mean attributed quotes) and those of others, that's hogwash. If he wants to produce the original clippings for his history of the HSCA, for instance, let him. The collection I made of the data was unique, (all of which was shown to lawyer Eugene Schieman of NYC prior to publication) and Marrs could not have had access to it. The data source pool for the history of the HSCA was

much larger than what I used, and it is more than significant that Marris nowhere draws on any other sources, or almost any other, for the history of the Committee than what I printed. He could not have done that research and got that into his book while it was technically at the printer, or have done it at the last minute. His history of the HSCA is nearly identical, though rearranged a bit, to mine which is found in *High Treason*. There are still more areas of the books which are far too similar.

His selection of data shows that he *only* worked from my data in some of the segments he used.

Jim DiEugenio is a writer who knows how to correctly work from the research or published work of another, even though we were working from the same data base. An example is his use of my original acoustical chapter for his last book. He correctly attributed that synthesis *in the text* of his book, *Destiny Betrayed*. Not that we both didn't turn out to be disastrously wrong about the acoustical evidence.

Most people have a poor understanding of the law, especially copyright law. Especially people in the remote and culturally isolated rough and ready State of Texas, home of horse thieves and the Cowboys, rednecks and the fine art of the flim flam. Just as certain researchers confuse criticism with slander, many inexperienced writers think that it is alright to take the *pattern* of another's research or use all of the same sources without permission and correct attribution. That is a violation of the Copyright statutes. Someone has done the work and another steals it. Because we are all trying to solve a great tragedy and crime, there was a certain amount of leeway given for transgressions, but there are also certain ethics that must never be violated.

Groden had told several people (who later told me about it) that he had given a copy of my manuscript to Marris for comment. Groden told me the same. Since I did not show the manuscript of *High Treason* to anyone else and since two years elapsed before I could get Groden to return to me the copy I loaned him, which only was returned when he saw that I was going to self publish it and he either was to get onboard as "co-author" or get off the pot quick (I hired him), that I got it back with a few marginal comments and short statements, some of which I used. That was about the

extent of Groden's contribution. Marris originally told me that he had the manuscript, but changed his story later.

Marris puts it this way: "I never obtained a manuscript or any part of *High Treason* from Robert Groden prior to that book's publication." This gives him an out, if they had a middleman.

There is in existence a long study made of the source notes in both Marris' book and mine, showing the clear cut pattern of borrowing. True, a lot of us are writing about some of the same things, using the same sources, but some writers, such as Marris and myself, each have unique areas of research that would make it clear to others that they were not using their own work, if one

of us borrowed from it and did not make that clear. I have this problem now with someone who has produced a manuscript on the medical evidence that relies very greatly on the pattern and research in my work and none other. This doctor sought to publish it under his own name—a criminal act.

One of the bitter truths of this community is the hot trade in other people's manuscripts, which are stolen, copied, borrowed, bought and sold on an underground market that ultimately often benefits anybody but the real author. Newcomb and Adams made a biting statement about how their manuscript and concepts were taken over without attribution by a researcher widely known for his body alteration theory, in a notice at the beginning of the Collector's Archives edition of their unpublished book.

Marris chooses to make a gratuitous and totally false slam at my reputation. Granted, it is in rough shape, but the reasons are far different from what Marris wants people to believe. The issue I have been trying to bring to the fore is that no-one in authority or in the media in this nation is going to listen to any leader of this community whom they know to be personally dishonest.

One of the things I am trying to teach, along with the work that I do to battle child abuse and mental illness, is educate people in the effects of slander. People in this community are not looking at it because they don't know what to believe, or do not have the facts.

The first move, when I began shouldering my way in among the big boys, was to make this life unlivable for me with terrible slanders. I was accused me of every-



thing in the book, none of which was true. In fact, a list of these statements were just filed in a Federal Court proceeding against Robert Groden.

So what did Marris mean when he impugned my character? Let's set history straight. What are my "past actions" which Marris refers to as a reason for people pushing me out of the way and threatening me with arrest if I go to their conferences? I did not write what I published in *Killing the Truth* without the full backing of our mutual publisher, who demanded that Marris source his book, albeit, belatedly, and Marris did not do a very good job because he had no records, he says. I did not write and publish that exposé (with the most powerful truths and punches often held back) without it being true, and without my having been pushed to the wall before I reacted. I fight back.

We don't need all of this, and everyone knows and regrets the fighting. But far too many people in this life cover their eyes and let others be falsely destroyed.

In regards to how much money Marris may have gotten from Oliver Stone for use of his book, the late Larry Howard and numerous others in Dallas stated that Marris received \$300,000 for his book from Oliver Stone. Granted, there are various reasons why this figure may be in error, since Marris would not and will not even now say how much he got.

Finally, I don't cheat, I don't lie, I don't commit crimes. I don't plagiarize. If I want to highlight the work of others, I make damn sure they get credit for it. All my readers and most researchers know this.

This whole matter should have gone by the boards. Marris has a couple of things he can apologize to me for, as well. But it is alright. I'll do without it.

This is a response to Tom DeVries's "Open Letter to the JFK Assassination Research Community" in the December 1994, issue #11 of *The Investigator*. DeVries makes an interesting point when he suggests that "Someone needs to restate and assimilate a variety of ideas in clear and concise ways in order to enhance and increase the interest of new students." As long as that "someone" gives credit where credit is due. But if there is no clear synthesis of evidence or "ideas" and only a hodgepodge of conflicting theories of evidence, which his statement encourages, then we only get a survey of the field. DeVries doesn't know what he means to say. What is he talking about? I guess what

he wants is a sort of encyclopedia of theories, and perhaps a simplistic one at that.

Some of us have been breaking new ground and bringing forth a massive amount of new research. One of the problems is that there are many conflicting ideas competing for attention and the conflicts of ideas has created such a morass of opinion that we don't end up with a clear synthesis or unified theory of the evidence, let alone the conspiracy. Part of that problem flows from deliberate misinformation in the research, and another part flows from just plain mistake or wrong headedness.

He wants us to present a "cohesive alternative to both the disinformation the major media continues to offer the public, and the prevalence of dissension and acrimony in the current research field. The research community needs unity."

I have offered a synthesis of the evidence in my last two books, which I'm told are quite clear and easy to understand, as well as being a significant contribution to the understanding of that evidence.

DeVries, like others, want unity among us. I think that is a serious error. He misses the whole point of our legal system, our Constitution, and social and political organization in this country. It is only through competition in a free marketplace of ideas (the Red Lion anti-trust case) will we obtain a higher level of thought and understanding in the JFK and other cover-ups.

DeVries writes that John Newman's oral expression—in a remote outpost of civilization such as Sudbury, Ontario—of belief that there was a conspiracy in the case, is sufficient to establish Newman's credentials. I think not. We too quickly accept people among us without examination, and Newman moved into a powerful position out of nowhere very fast. I never "implied" (as DeVries writes) that Newman had a duty to establish in his fine book on Kennedy and Vietnam that he believed there was a conspiracy. I would not have even thought of mucking up that subject with the question of his death.

But Newman did have a duty, in light of his employment with the military and his clear record of pointing attention away from the military in the case and toward everyone's favorite whipping boy, the CIA, to establish his theory of conspiracy and the evidence for it. This he has never done in any article. In fact, in previous discussions, it was clear that he thought that a for-

eign power might have been involved, if there was a conspiracy. I like Newman personally, but I want this cleared up, since, he is ignorant of the main force of the medical evidence.

I find that in the many comments about me recently there is a constant pattern of inferring what I allegedly "imply" by my statements--reading into them what I haven't said and don't intend. This is very unfair.

With regard to DeVries' statement that my comments on various of the famous people who led this case are "out of bounds," I would like to ask, just *what are the bounds?* Who is judging the rightness or wrongness of that? Who does DeVries think he is in a free country that demands criticism of public figures as a matter of right, criticism which is protected under the Constitution and that constitutes journalistic privilege? I'm sure he knows nothing of that, since so few in this community do. Many think that Constitutionally protected criticism is automatically "slander."

If the famous old bunch that led us to disaster after disaster are above criticism and out of bounds, then we have the very dictatorship and authoritarianism I have no doubt that the fuzzy thinking Tom DeVries would make a stand against.

I guarantee you this internal dissension not only means nothing to the press--as does the case itself for the most part--but if anything, helps us. What killed it for the media was our monolithic structure with its blind adherence to the insubstantial evidence of conspiracy that ruled this case for decades, and the obvious lunatics (as far as the press was concerned, but this is quite clear when you really know them) that were so revered by all of us. The former famous people that lead us failed miserably. Only by making it clear to the press that we are purging that failed leadership can we hope to regain credibility. If I performed lip service to the wonderfulness of the Old Guard, I would not have a hope of credibility. But that is not the primary reason why I went into opposition and made a fight over this. That is not the reason why I ask Wecht et al to get out of this case.

They have to get out of it because they not only failed miserably and mislead us on the evidence, but because they have another agenda in this case which serves the political opposition to what John Kennedy stood for. They must make way for a new leadership

which is forming itself around the primary thrust of the evidence I am spearheading in this case: forgery, and a faked case. They have no right to slip in like oily snakes in the grass to take over and co-opt the evidence developed by others which they fundamentally opposed for so long, and all of a sudden claim that they are now convinced of what I have to say. How come they tried to block it before I began to overrun their position?

DeVries makes a clearly wrong statement when he says that "The medical evidence is very important. But Livingstone focuses on it to the apparent exclusion of many other extremely important aspects of the case...." First of all, no one in a free country has a right to tell a

writer what to focus on. In addition, each of my books contains major areas in the evidence that are not medical, as does my new book about to be published. Never has the medical evidence constituted a majority of my books.

DeVries' gratuitous slam about "confusing paragraphs" and syntax in my writing is a cheap shot. Granted, some things may in some places not be perfectly expressed, since I was

dealing with new concepts and a vast amount of evidence not much discussed before. He should know that to produce three massive works of research in the past four years under the great pressure of deadlines is going to result in some imperfections. I deeply regret those, but to focus attention on those is unfair when so much else in those books is well written and perfectly clear. What I have to say about "obviously forged autopsy X-rays and photographs" is the primary message I had, and it certainly was *never* an issue until I got into this case. To him it may be obvious now, but to no-one else in the past. Lifton's whole point was to stifle even thought of forgery.

If, as he says, I have "failed to communicate clearly ideas from my research because of confusing syntax and poor transitions," (especially in my work on the autopsy photographs and X-rays) then how come this case has gotten refocused on the issue of forgery of the autopsy materials? I was the only one writing about this. And, I had to struggle against the ruling theory of body theft and alteration as an explanation for the failure of the photos and X-rays to convey the wounds everyone saw. Until I brought it up, nobody ever questioned the X-rays. I have driven that issue to the fore,



with many commentators and researchers working on it, as I drove the issue of the photos to the fore, and vanquished body alteration as a viable explanation.

DeVries says that the material is "obviously forged." The public doesn't know that. My mission has been to make it a part of the public consciousness. Whatever play Robert Groden got for the idea of forgery of the photographs he tried to take over, he got the exposure and publicity as a result of my efforts in 1979 and the books I wrote afterwards, including the one that bears both our names. *Forgery is the key to the case.*

Granted, I criticized another critic for his poor writing, and I have no doubt that is why DeVries says what he says, not noting that my books have been greatly praised for their fine writing and good expression.

I feel that the question of *who* some of the people are among us, as in my response to Gary Mack's attack on me in a recent **Fourth Decade**, "Who is the Real Gary Mack?" which was printed by Jerry Rose, raises important questions as to Mack's true agenda and past, let alone his real name. He even uses his pseudonym in his new job at the Sixth Floor exhibit at the TSBD. Think about the fact that any alleged critic would seek a job there and who financed that place.

DeVries takes some more cheap shots when he accused me of having what he calls a "Christ complex," and having paranoia, wearing my ego on my sleeve and having a chip on my shoulder. Certainly, this whole community should be informed of what myself and others experience when some among us try to destroy our very lives with terrible lies. Most paranoids often have a very good reason for their feelings. Certainly being on the defensive against a secret terror campaign of slander such as I was subjected to will put one's tattered ego on one's sleeve, along with a chip on the shoulder.

He says that "professional courtesy" should be extended among conflicting organizations and people in this case. DeVries, like so many others, is willing to look the other way or not inquire into the vicious personal attacks and character assassination launched by the famous people in the old leadership in this case on those researchers with whom they disagreed. DeVries and many others not only don't know the facts, *they don't want to know about them*--in the interest of unity.

This was a terrible tragedy for me. Yes, I wore my heart on my sleeve over it, because I nearly lost my life

from the emotional and physical strain of these attacks and slander. Only then did I launch a counterattack in late 1990. My publisher's lawyers filed suit this year in Federal Court against the person who is responsible for all of what you now see--turning many people against me before I even opened my mouth. And yes, everybody in this case should give a lot of thought to why I behaved as I did, and ask questions about what was done to provoke all of this "dissension," and how it has effected this community and the evidence and ideas that I was bringing forth. Think about it.

The reason is that the some of the leading critics who so mislead this research for three decades are, as I know now, not just wolves in sheep's clothing, but are keys to the truth in 1963. Some of these people are directed, perhaps even paid, by the powerful forces that killed JFK. We have among us people who lead this research for many years who not only despised John Kennedy, but are here to trick us. And everyone bought it because we have the same thing as pack journalism and the herd instinct controlling what we do. Nobody asked questions about these people. You better start.

I wish that I could list here the many well known researchers who agree with me on many of these people, or who had similar experiences, but they kept their mouths shut because there was no way to turn or make this public until I made it so.

But the DeVries of this case, not known for their research or writing, are quick to stand in judgement of people and things they cannot possibly have investigated.

One thing is clear: the pattern of slander I experienced is *directed*, and it comes from *trained* people. What I experienced, which had the effect of discrediting me and the research I was trying to bring forward, kept me out of this case at a key moment. If I was not able to continue to write books and publish them, I would never have survived it or been able to redirect this case in large part.

He says I have "perhaps been hypnoprogrammed to help the research community to self-destruct." Researchers are going to continue no matter what happens, and not self-destruct. What we have here is DeVries' fuzzy mind dealing with vague concepts he can't grasp: Dissent and criticism is the very essence of a healthy body politic and DeVries and the other lemmings in his group want to destroy that God given

right.

I feel that the overall attitude expressed by DeVries is immoral. It is not my job to sit in judgement of others and especially to judge their morals, but he brought it up. All I know is that the monolithic power structure as it existed in this community is capable of doing massive damage not only to new research or ideas, but to people. It had to be resisted.

It is only in the crucible of the conflict of ideas will we come to higher truths. I feel that when Jerry Rose (whom I also admire for other reasons) cut off the only free-for-all discussion (at the first Fredonia conference) that may have ever got going at a major meeting as to the nature of the conspiracy, we had an example of the control of ideas in this case. The discussion should have been allowed to flow for awhile, so that people could test themselves and their ideas.

That is what is going on in these pages, and we will be the better for it, thanks to G.J. Rowell. I am not here to be diplomatic, as DeVries wants me to be ("Livingstone's accusations alienate people because of the way they are stated") and make friends. I have plenty of those. I'm here to stir things up. I have gained many more friends for being straightforward and calling a spade a spade.

If anything, we need more firebrands and catalysts.

Sincerely,
Harrison E. Livingstone
P.O. Box 7149,
Baltimore, MD 21218

Think of it as "Tough Love"

To the Editor:

Harrison Livingstone was kind enough to immediately send me a copy of his response to my "Open Letter..." which was published in issue #11 of *The Investigator*. Virtually everyone in the research community knows that Harry is one of the finest researchers in this field. I want to once again acknowledge that and make it clear that I seek to find common ground with him. I believe (as far as I understand his ideas) that he has correctly interpreted much of the medical evidence, particularly regarding the forgery of the autopsy photographs and X-rays. He states in his response that the public doesn't know they are forged. My letter made two specific suggestions as to how

Harry and others might accomplish the goal of helping the public learn this.

First, instead of continuing the impossible task of waking the media, maybe we should work at getting the attention of high school teachers and college professors. But the academic community holds quality publishing in very high regard. High quality writing and editing are an essential part of quality publishing.

Secondly, I can only echo what Vincent Palamara stated so candidly in his letter in *The Investigator* #11; the silly infighting needs to stop. My agenda is to motivate and assist people who are beginning to investigate this case. I want to feel more comfortable recommending Harry's books (and some other books, many published by Carroll & Graf, which have obvious editing problems) to academics and others. And I don't want to explain to them why so and so hates so and so (because it's the one thing about the case I haven't solved yet). *The Investigator* is a research journal which also facilitates dialogue, but as far as acrimony is concerned, enough is enough.

I know that Harry will be upset with me for awhile. He feels that I was attacking him personally, but I was actually attacking some of his attitudes and methods. Let's just think of it as "Tough Love." There are many of us who want to be his ally, but that would be easier if he focused on attacking problems instead of people. Of course, as Palamara also indicated, he must appreciate that most of us who desire to assist him will continue to praise, appreciate, and criticize whatever and whomever we see fit.

Sincerely,
Tom DeVries
805 Kendalwood N.E.
Grand Rapids, MI. 49505

Senators feuding over Waco hearing

WASHINGTON (AP) [5-10-95] Two Senate Republicans [Orrin Hatch of Utah and Arlen "Magic Bullet" Specter of Pennsylvania] are feuding over which will conduct a hearing on federal law enforcement actions against the Branch Davidian cult in 1993.

The raid against the Texas cult had received new interest in Congress in the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing on April 19, which was the second anniversary of the fire that killed more than 85 Branch Davidians.