

Gary Mack, archivist  
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3/7/95

Dear Gary,

You are right and I can't account for my not remembering what I know very well, or know and probably forgot much about, the early history of the Zapruder film. I even had lunch with one of the LIFE people involved in it 20 or more years ago.

It did not leave until Saturday.

But I think you are wrong in saying that Z held all copies. I think, and I'm not checking WW II to find out, that ~~the~~ it was the Secret Service copy that left that night with a handlettered short memo by Howlett.

I agree that Crenshaw and Shaw are not entitled to money damages but I hate to think of the boost that will give to JAMA. Unless my NEVER AGAIN! gets the attention I do not expect for it.

I left a message for Aynesworth at the Wash Times. He has not been in touch. I did not know from the story that he is still in Dallas. No dateline on it.

What JAMA did, aside from them, was truly despicable.

I've gone over the copy ~~edited~~ <sup>revised</sup> proofs of NEVER AGAIN! Atrocious! But I do not expect them to make the corrections, as they did not with Case Open. There was also some cutting but it remains, as I think you'll agree, a powerful book.

Of JAMA, too.

But those stupidities, ~~like~~ <sup>like</sup> changing the spelling of X-ray to eliminate the h yphen several hundred times, gives ~~many~~ <sup>lots</sup> nit to those looking for nits to pick.

They are also using only a couple of the pictures.

Unless they make the corrections, which can take time, their schedule was for it to be in the stores in about a month from now.

I ~~pl~~ plan to send you, Dave and Mary copies but if as in the past I get them about three weeks after they are on sale, please let me know if you (pl) have gotten them. Not to save the books for me but to save the time it takes me to wrap and mail them.

Best  
Harold

March 3, 1995

Mr. Harold Weisberg  
#100 Route 12  
Frederick, Md. 21702

Dear Harold,

I'm slow getting back to you with our 6th anniversary here and arrival of the FBI model and the return of our original sniper's nest window, removed by owner D. Harold Byrd a few weeks after the assassination and kept in his family. His son, Caruth, loaned it to us for two years. It's on exhibit, too. I've also been out of town at an archivist workshop and battling one more of my regular winter colds.

Your picking on Harry was quite funny, as always. You, of course, are correct that "they" must have been pretty sneaky conspirators to get their hands on all copies of all films and alter them all the same way so as to be undetectable. In fact, Bronson didn't even bring his film in for processing until Monday the 25th!

You did mention one thing, though, that I must correct. The original Z film could not have been copied in Chicago the night of the assassination, as you wrote, because Zapruder kept it with him. He didn't sell print rights to Life until Saturday morning. That's the day the original left town. On the afternoon of the 22nd, Zapruder had three copies made in Dallas and he kept them until Saturday. The following Monday is when Life purchased all remaining rights and is also when Dan Rather first saw the film - I have the videotape of his CBS appearance and it was moments after Oswald was buried.

Thanks for the Aynesworth article. He's been working on that since the book came out. Dave has helped him and I've assisted some defense lawyers.

Dave has Crenshaw's two 1992 FBI interviews in which he repeatedly said parts of the book were incorrect and "poorly worded." That doesn't make the JAMA stuff acceptable by comparison, but that's a separate issue anyway.

It is flat out wrong for Crenshaw and Shaw to collect anything. As of today, no settlement had been signed and I hope there never is one. That book is filled with inaccuracies and embellishments from start to end. For example, Crenshaw wrote that the Secret Service man (Hill) was waving his gun around the operating room with the hammer cocked. To the FBI he admitted he meant that the man's arm was cocked, not the gun, and that he was never in fear for his life!

Speaking of new documents, I've just received nearly 40 pages of Beverly Oliver's nonsense to the HSCA in 1977. Wouldn't you know it, parts of her story today are different. Back then there was another person present when Ruby blew Oswald's cover by introducing him to Beverly and Jada. It was Andrew Armstrong, who was still alive. I wonder if she knows that and no longer includes his name. Dateline Dallas ran my Oliver review and everyone's furious; they asked her writer to do a rebuttal and he refused. I'd say case closed, but you might not laugh!!

Best to you and Lil,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Casper', written in a cursive style.