

1/23/75

Dear Ian,

WW IV will go out by air today. As before, please add the actual added postage to the US\$6.00 when you remit. I'll make a special trip to the post office to be sure it goes promptly and properly.

It is quite impossible for me to write what you ask. I can't begin to keep up with my own work. This time of the year we have our only regular income, from my wife's work as a tax consultant. This dumps much other work on me. And except for keeping the books, I have all the work to do with WW IV. Ranging from the promotion to the mailing, and the mailing begins with the packaging.

I had almost completed the draft of a Watergate book in September and have not been able to resume it since. And there is incomplete JFK work of my own, work I had to suspend and want to resume.

After the Ray hearing I was so tired I had to go on a regular sleep schedule, getting closer to a normal night's sleep. Lately, however, I was just getting too far behind, so I'm now down to 4-5 hours' sleep and still can't get back to my own writing.

However, I owe you complete frankness. These reasons do prevent my writing for you. If they did not, I still would not be willing to associate with some of those you have asked. Not in any way. And I'm not going to get into a hassle or long explanations. I'll tell you what I feel and you can believe me or not.

One the one end I'm very fond of Dave Wrono and Bob Cutler. On the other I have refused to even go to the AIB's coming gathering of the nuts. And in the face of the written denunciation I sent them they have been silent. This is a gang that has set out to commercialize the assassinations and has succeeded financially. That they rip off the young is bad enough. But it is worse because they also corrupt the minds with the deliberate presentation of utter falsehood and fabrication they know will be exciting. It is the likes of these whom have destroyed the credibility of the few who do serious work. They do not even pretend to do their own work, so they are no more than cheap publicists at best.

Stealing the mind is much worse than stealing the money.

Also with friendly intent, and I can make an appraisal from these names, I tell you that what you plan is not a work of substance. I have no questions about your intent. But I do about whether you really know enough for what you have undertaken and whether it can, if you do complete it, serve a really useful purpose and whether in years to come you will look back on it with satisfaction. I think not.

Please understand that I could have merely told you I haven't the time and gone on to other work stacked on my desk. I have taken the extra time if your interest. The past tells me that candor is unwelcome but good conscience requires honesty and complete forthrightness. You may not like what I've said but in time you'll learn that it is telling it to you as it really is.

Best regards,

59 Talbot Crescent,
Kooyong...3144,
Victoria,
Australia

19 Jan 75

Dear Harold,

The check for the remainder of what I owe you on "Oswald in New Orleans" WILL be sent next PAY DAY - I hadn't forgotten! Recently, I've been having trouble with checks and cash apparently going missing (together with orders). About \$ 80.00 American is involved, so I have been trying to find out what's been happening.

I trust you got your \$ 10 cash, which I seem to remember was sent by registered mail.

In the meantime I would appreciate receiving a copy of WHITEWASH IV by air. You mentioned previously that the cost of this volume was \$ 6.00 plus postage. I will add this amount to what I'll be sending off on January 30...

I have begun work on a new book on the JFK assassination. It will be more original in content, with a larger ~~size~~ format - and it will have an anthology section of up-to-date material contributed by U.S. writers.

I've left writing to you till last - mainly because, of all the critics, I would want a contribution from you the most...

Among the people I've contacted so far regarding written contributions are: Penn Jones Jr, Jesse Curry, David Wrone, Martin Shackelford (a history graduate to write an article about the way magazines have handled the assassination over the ~~the~~ last ten years), R.B. Cutler, the ~~New~~ New Orleans D.A., the Assassination Information Bureau of Cambridge, W.C. Thompson (to write about how to get books on the subject, and his own opinions on what he's read). I have also written to PEEK Corp to try and get its report on the Nix film, and even the MOVIE WAX MUSEUM, Colorado, for information about its model of Dealey Plaza...

Already, I've had two acceptances (no-one has declined yet!) If everyone accepts, there will be a wide range of opinion and new information. Each person will be writing about a subject they know best or have researched the most - i.e. Penn might contribute an article about the death toll of witnesses. Each article will be independent of the others - and the author is free to write whatever he/she wishes, and be responsible for its contents...

All I have offered - and all I can offer you - is full by-line credits, ^{free} copies of the book to sell for your ^{own} profit once it is published - and inclusion of the materials you have ~~for~~ for sale in a special bibliographical section... Not much I'll grant you, but like yourself I'm struggling on finances - esp. printing & typesetting costs.

I would be honored if you'd accept my proposition.

THE REQUIREMENTS: 1. The article should be a ~~minimum~~ minimum of 750 words, (2) accompanied by supporting illustrative material (diagrams, documents, photos - preferably unpublished), (3) include a recent photo of yourself, (4) supply a short summary ~~sketch~~ about yourself that can appear beneath the ~~sketch~~ by-line.

BY AIR MAIL

PAR AVION

AEROGRAMME



Harold Weisberg,
 Route 8,
 Frederick,
 Maryland...21701,
 U.S.A.

COUNTRY OF DESTINATION

deadline April 1. for articles.

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

T. MacFarlane,
 59 Talbot Crescent,
 Kooyong...3144,
 Victoria, AUSTRALIA
 POSTCODE

FOUR MORE MOISTENING GUM. FOR
 M. N. PRESS DOWN FOR A FEW SECONDS.
 IF . . . CLOSED OR ANY TAPE OR STICKER ATTACHED,
 THIS FORM MUST BEAR POSTAGE AT THE RATE FOR AIR MAIL LETTERS.

*Kind regards,
 Tom MacFarlane*

I would like your article to detail either AN OVERVIEW OF the
 assassination - or, more preferably, the details and outcome of
 your Washington court case. The latter would fit in better with
 the concept of the book, but I'm amenable to suggestions...
 As for myself, I'll be writing the first section of the book - a
 review of the assassination via the collection of the 110 books I
 now have, etc. The presentation will be much the same as in my
 'review', but fuller and more original now that I have the resource
 materials.
 If you decide you want no part of this project, even though any art-
 icle you write would be non-aligned to what others contribute, I
 would certainly greatly value any written advice you can offer. I want
 this next book to be 50% better than the last - and the anthology
 will give balance and strength of numbers for what we all seek to
 achieve - a re-opening of the case; thereby the truth.
 P.S. the tentative deadline for articles is April

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