

Mr. H.C. Nash
209 N. 7 St.,
Morehead City, N.C. 28557

12/28/76

Dear Mr. Nash,

As they relate to citations and quotations of my work I have no objections to your use of the three numbered items in your letter of the 26th.

I do have several suggestions for you.

In No. 2 I am not at all sure that Marina was expelled from the Komsomol when she decided to come here with Lee. I think she became indifferent and inactive first.

I think the footnoting in Whitewash will guide you to the source.

I am certain there is no proof that her uncle was a spook.

Many European governments are structured other than ours.

The police are part of the Interior Department.

But the Interior Department is not only police.

He was in what here would be the Interior Department.

If there is reason to believe more than this I do not recall it. I also do not believe it.

In No. 3 it is my opinion that you lean on Warren excessively. Sure, he was the boss. But the guy who ran it all and did it all was Rankin. You refer to Warren only. Besides him and Russell the Commission had five other members.

It really is not only that no stenographic transcript was made. It is that one was faked.

It also is not only that I was in correspondence with Russell on this. I met with him and he did ask me to conduct a further investigation of this. I did and he was satisfied, perhaps I'd better say persuaded, by the results.

In fairness to the most conservative member of the Commission, not to me, I think his subsequent acts might be considered. They are set forth in Whitewash IV.

I do also believe and I think Whitewash says the effort was made to intimidate Marina. I think her testimony that I do quote verbatim is explicit on this and that no agency, certainly not the FBI, ever disputed it.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

December 26, 1976

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 12
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I am writing to request permission to use the following quotations, which I failed to cover in my earlier correspondence, in my book on Penn Jones:

1. As a chapter motto, this from Whitewash: The Report on the Warren Report:
"There is a spectacular ambiguity about it all."
2. In an appendix ("Forty-five Basic Objections to the 'Single-Assassin' Findings of the Warren Report"), several brief quotations from Whitewash (here I'll have to provide an excerpt from my text for clarity):

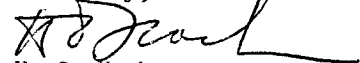
Harold Weisberg and other critics have noted the fact that Marina lied about her membership in a Communist Party youth organization in order to gain admittance to the U.S. with her husband. (She had been a member of Komsomol until expelled following her decision to go to the U.S., and her uncle-guardian was of course an officer in Soviet intelligence.) The fact of her misrepresentation itself made her presence in the U.S. illegal, and enhanced the possibility that she could be intimidated by the FBI and the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. The Report makes no mention of these circumstances; indeed, as Weisberg indicates, the Commission--and especially Chairman Warren--treated Marina in general as though she were "the heart and soul of probity." The Report indicates that Marina's testimony gave the impression that "It did not seem that she respected her husband very much," and implies that Oswald's psychological response to his wife's lack of "respect" played a part in driving him to violent acts against men of public stature.

3. In the same appendix, material from Whitewash IV; here is the entire item for clarity:

30. Why did Earl Warren refuse to honor Senator Russell's request (made during an executive session "forced by Russell" on Sept. 18, 1964) for "a little footnote in there at the bottom of the page" indicating that Russell could not go along with the Commission's essential finding of a single assassin? (See Harold Weisberg's Whitewash IV: JFK Assassination Transcripts, in which the author reveals the background of his correspondence with Russell in regard to the latter's reservations about the Commission's basic conclusions.) Why was no verbatim court-reported record of this executive session of Sept. 18 made? (Instead, there is extant only a paraphrased summary of the meeting's discussion.)

Let me thank you again for your consideration and assistance.

Sincerely,


H. C. Nash

209 N. 7th St.
Morehead City, NC 28557