

Dear Mr. Ligenan,

2/25/91

*See in Stone files
Date 12/15/91 -*

As I strive to do more than I am able to do at 70 and in impaired health in an effort to leave an accurate record of the JFK assassination and its investigations what I enclose relating to Cockburn's column and Stone's movie grew to greater length than I had intended - and is woefully inadequate and incomplete, so monstrous is what Stone has done.

If as I hope you ~~can~~ find interest in it, please feel free to edit and condense as you see fit. Or do anything else you'd like with it.

Believe me, it is understated!

You are welcome to copies of my correspondence with Stone and to anything else in what is now a fat file.

I want only that there be a truthful record and that those considering seeing his commercialization and exploitation have some reasonable notion of what it really is, aside from the talent with which he made it and his false representations of it.

The records I leave, about 60 files cabinets and innumerable boxes, will be a permanent public archive at local Hood College. Kai Bird and I think perhaps David Corn saw it when here to get some information for the planned book on John J. McCloy.

I am not an assassination conspiracy theorist. There is no conspiracy-theorizing in any of my seven books, six on this assassination, ^{one} on Kings. They are factual, almost entirely error-free and I believe remain the basic factual books on those crimes and their investigations.

There is a truth that I intended to use and from haste and fatigue forgot: Stone is like his hero Garrison; both have difficulty telling the truth even by accident.

Can Stone have uttered a bigger lie than in repeating over and over again that all JFK assassination records are suppressed until the year 2039?

I understand that in the last minute he changed this in his movie. A friend who is a criminologist told me just this week that with great difficulty and effort he got past Stone's palace guard to wise him up and get him to demand the disclosure of the records of the House Select Committee on assassinations for which he had worked. He and another friend have been campaigning for that for years and they wanted Stone's support in it.

Unlike Stone, they know very well that there is no smoking gun in those files. The withholding, by the way, is not special. It is the law relating to Congressional committee records.

Their interest is in having as complete a record of how and what that committee did available to the people.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg
Harold Weisberg