

**WILLIAM L. NEICHTER**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
1313 LYNDON LANE  
SUITE 115  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40222  
(502) 429-0266

June 10, 1996

Dear Harold and Lil:

Hope both of you are feeling well today. I just got back from visiting my 92 year old grandmother. She was out gardening. Harold, I want this to be an inspiration to you. Keep on getting up every morning, and stay out of that hospital!

I had a mild personal triumph this weekend. My best friend is a amateur historian, but he really knows more about World War II, and Custer's Last Stand than most history professors. He is also a world class beer advertising collector, called breweriana.

I made him read Whitewash I and II. He likes to argue the Warren Commission standpoint. We were talking about the JFK case and he finally admitted that, with the Tague bullet, and with the hit on the limo window frame, that there is an awful lot of holes for not too many bullets. I told him, that is kind of the point! Every damage, whether to a body or a car or a curb, had to have come from somewhere!

Just like I like to find new stuff on JFK, no matter how minute, I got him the other day. Before Custer went West to meet his destiny, he was stationed near hear, at Elizabethtown. After the civil war, it was kind of lawless. Custer and his men broke up a vigilante and Ku Klux Klan group who had been terrorizing the populace. They called it, "Custer's Next to Last Stand".

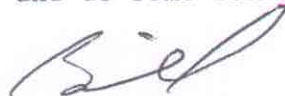
He had never heard that! The Custer situation ended up rather tragically for the Indians. Because it hit the papers in the East around July 4, 1876. it dominated the news. White people could not believe that pagan Indians could win a fair fight. Unfortunately, this led to the slaughter of Indians that perhaps could have been avoided. But it kind of got blown out of proportion, and led to a hardening of Washington's attitude towards them.

Just like the Custer deal took on a bigger signifance(sp), because it occurred near a big holiday, I have always felt that the JFK murder, coming almost on the eve of Thanksgiving, and the holidays, took on a bigger life, because we were all getting ready for one of the nicest times of the year, and it suddenly became the worst.

Things are going well for us. Our parents are doing well. We make almost of Dick's meals, Betsy's dad. Freeze them into 3 part plates. To carry all this food back to Chicago, he has most of my coolers. I had to buy another one today, he has the one that fits in the boat.

Gotta run and do some banking. Write you soon.

Bill



Harry W. Merritt  
330 Park Avenue  
Lexington, Ky. 40502-1744  
May 16, 1996

William L. Neichter  
Attorney at Law  
1313 Lyndon Lane, Suite 115  
Louisville, Ky. 40222

Dear Bill Neichter:

Thanks for your latest mailing. Interesting.

I don't know whether we'll ever have that lunch we've been writing back and forth about for so long. My days in Kentucky are almost over; on June 2, I leave for Baltimore and a new job as the arts editor of The Baltimore Sun.

Where does that leave the John Sherman Cooper book project? Well, I'll take it with me. I want to finish it, and I hope to do further research and interviews in the Washington area. The Sun has a long tradition of authors on its staff; in fact, among the writers on the arts staff, the movie critic is also a best-selling author of thrillers and the art critic is about to write a book about H.L. Mencken.

I'll catch up with you at some point. Good luck, and thanks again.

Sincerely,

Harry Merritt  
Harry Merritt

→ Wonder if he will run my  
book reviews!

P.S. If it  
does not quit  
raining, we are  
all going to  
SNAP!