

San Francisco, Calif.
December 28, 1966

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Md. 20734

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Life Magazine regarding the assassination, and will ask you some additional questions on the subject.

1. On page 221 Whitewash II you suggest that some frames had been removed from in between frames 226 and 227 of the Zapruder film. Are these numbers on the archives' copy of the original the same ones shown in Life of 11/25/66? Using that issue of Life, I took a ruler and lined it up with the right hand side of the sprocket holes in both frames (226 and 227), noting where it coincided with the upright post which holds the sign proper. Then I did this same thing with the square holes in the white wall in the background of the pictures. In 226 you will notice six holes plus 1 hole in the area above the first six, while in 227 there are just barely six holes in the lower level. Now line up the bottom of the tree trunk and also the top of the sign. Note that in 226 you can just barely see the head and hand of the figure at the right front wheel in 227. Notice also the position of the back of the auto in relation to the edge of the sign. Had there been some frames cut out between these two the reflection on the side of the auto in conjunction with the side of the sign would be different. This all indicates to me that he moved his camera slightly to the left and also slightly downward during the panning to the right movement, which is clearly in evidence.

2. Since Life has asked for a re-opening of the case, why would they conceal the frame 210 of the Zapruder film as you suggest in your Friday 12/16/66 program in San Francisco Hall of Flowers? On your Joe Dolan - KNEW - program of 12/14 did you not say that Ruby's lawyer told you the cancer was not an induced one? Yet when the subject was brought up on 12/16 you did not volunteer this information. Why?

3. On page 112 Whitewash II - Dr. Humes seems to be pleading for reproduction of the autopsy pictures - if he was falsifying, why would he ask for them?

4. Why did you appear on a program sponsored by a "Socialist" organization? From the books they were displaying and presumably for sale by them, I'd say they were more Communist than Socialist. Don't you

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think that this will affect people's thinking about you, even though you and the Militant Forum speaker each disclaimed that either of you represented the other?

5. While I thoroughly agree with you that there was a whitewash (although the word "Hogwash" keeps coming into my mind), nevertheless I can't help but feel that your way of writing the two books is done with the idea in mind of influencing the reader as much by insinuation as by showing the fallacies and contradictions in the Report. For this I think you will be criticized, but it is done and cannot be undone.

In spite of this small fault-finding regarding your book, I am very much in favor of the continued search for the truth, and am indeed thankful for such men as you and the others who dared risk the condemnation coming from the exploding of one of our most sacred cows - otherwise known as the FBI.

Very Sincerely yours,

Helene E Blackwood

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Time, Incorporated
Mr. James A. Linen, Pres.
Rockefeller Center
New York, New York 10020

Dear Mr. Linen:

Your November 25, 1966 issue of Life says that the investigation of the assassination of Kennedy should be reopened. I fully agree with you and would like to submit some questions and comments which have come to my mind, some of which may not have been raised before:

1. Will you compare the controversial figure in the "blow-up" of the Altgen photo on page 250 of "Whitewash II" with the photo of Oswald on the cover of "Inquest." Alongside this Altgen picture are the photos of Lovelady, who claimed he was the one standing in the doorway. Did anyone ever question Lovelady about the difference in the two shirts? William Shelley, who was acquainted with both Lovelady and Oswald, claimed Lovelady was seated on the steps, yet Lovelady claims he was standing on the steps. (Whitewash II page 186, and Rush to Judgment page 355.) Weren't any of the people on the steps questioned as to who was standing next to them?
2. Oswald claimed he ate lunch after the encounter with an officer (p.145-6 "Inquest"). Were any of his fellow employees ever questioned about having seen Oswald between 12 and 12:30 that day?
3. Why did the Dallas police keep such a close record of Oswald's activities while in their hands, yet keep none of his interrogations? Wouldn't a complete record of his interrogation be needed at his trial? Or did they know he would never go to trial? Did the Dallas police find out the truth of the matter during their questioning of Oswald and destroy the records of the interrogation?
4. If Oswald and Ruby were both "loners", then why all the secret documents?
5. When was the exact route of the motorcade published in the Dallas papers? If it was Friday morning, then Oswald would not have known that it would go past his building - so why would he have gone home on Thursday to get his rifle? Could he have had secret information about the route prior to Friday? Who could have given such information to him?

6. What about Oswald's request for a second passport to Russia shortly before 11/22. Is it true that this request was expedited ahead of the others who had applied on the same day? If he was a suspected Communist or subversive element, why would the passport be granted in the first place? If his application was put ahead of the other applicants, would not that indicate the government had a special interest in getting him into Russia?
7. When the Oswald rifle was first located under the boxes, did it show any evidence of having been fired that day? Were any tests made to see if it had been fired that day prior to the test-firings by authorities? I am not acquainted with the chemical action which takes place inside the barrel of a gun after firing and before cleaning, but I would think time would be of the essence in this matter.
8. The Dallas doctors seemed to be of the opinion that a shot entered Kennedy's throat. If so, where is the exit point? How could the shot be fired from the grassy knoll and not hit the windshield, Connally or any of the bystanders? What about the priest who is said to have claimed he saw a wound in the left temple of Kennedy, and also Dr. McClelland's statement to that effect? If a shot came from the grassy knoll and the first two shots from the rear were too close together to have come from Oswald's rifle, wouldn't that indicate three men firing? If there were two men with two rifles in the building, whatever happened to the second rifle up there?
9. There is much speculation of frame 210 of the Zapruder film. Since you purchased the original from Zapruder, can you publish that frame and the several consecutive ones on each side of it? How do they tie in with the still photos made by Willis and Altgen at the same time? (pages 144-146 of Whitewash II). The Moorman, Hughes and Betzner films were said to have included the sixth floor windows. Were they taken near enough in time to the actual firing to show what was in the window supposedly gused? (pages 344-348 Rush to Judgment)
10. On page 190 - Rush to Judgment - Lane has a footnote re the committeeman who called Mrs. Markham an utter screwball, who was this member and how could he remain silent as to the way the investigation was being conducted. Has he ever been questioned as to his opinion of the investigation?
11. Page 48B of your 11/25 issue - "Before the Warren Commission began ...It was also believed there was only one assassin - Lee Harvey Oswald." Wouldn't this preconceived opinion indicate a tendency to color the investigation?

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12. Why does Mrs. Kennedy still have a Secret Service man with her when she travels? I can understand why the law providing such service for the first year after being widowed was extended for the second year, but why the third year and now going into the fourth year? Isn't this overdoing the courtesy bit? Who is threatening her? Who is she being protected from?

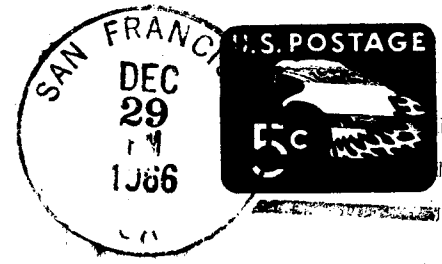
13. Governor Connally is adamant in his belief that his wound was from a second bullet, yet he also claims to believe the Warren Report. If there were two gunmen firing from the rear, then the Report is wrong from the very start. How can Governor Connally justify his beliefs?

As far as the government being willing to reopen the case if new and valid evidence is discovered, I do not think any new evidence (short of a death-bed confession) would be necessary. I think a re-evaluation of the evidence at hand by an unbiased committee and with a panel of defense attorneys for Oswald is called for. But since I also doubt that the government has any intention of re-opening the case, it remains for the private citizens who do not believe the Warren Report, to do the work which that group of men so badly botched up. I urge you, please do not cease your work in publishing articles of the nature of your 11/25/66 issue. We must find the truth regardless of who or how high in government circles the guilty ones are.

Very truly yours,

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