

Dear Marina,

9/11/94

If my book LOWER AGAIN! HAD BEEN PUBLISHED WHEN I had expected it to be it would be easier for you to understand that the assassination was never officially investigated and was never intended to be. This decision was made as soon as Washington knew that Lee was dead and that as a result there would not be any trial. You will see some of that in Post Mortem when you read to that point, where I go into the changes in the autopsy. If you had been able to accept my invitation for all of you to come here years ago you could have gone over the documentary proofs I have of this. It was so that you and your daughters could be able to see and understand that that I extended that invitation to you. At a trial the alleged evidence could and would have been proven to be false. This is what I did in my books and have done in my writing that has not been published and am continuing to do. It will exist as a record for our history. It will all be a permanent public archive, as I told you, at an excellent small college, Hood, here in Frederick.

From time to time some of the young women students there make special studies of the evidence. When I am asked ~~get~~ for suggestions I make them. Several years ago one named Renee Davis made a study of how you were abused by the government. If you would like a copy of that I will ask that one be sent to you. Right now another one is making a study that will last for a year on how the whole thing was controlled.

Please excuse my typing. It cannot be any better. And now it is difficult to get even a decent ribbon for a typewriter. I cannot use any computer. Not even a modern electronic typewriter. This unevenness is from a brand new ribbon, too.

From the time they were small your daughters were undoubted subject to peer pressures by those who had been influenced and did not understand. As your daughters grew those who applied the pressures on them were ignorant but reflected what had been impressed upon them by those who were also ignorant of the facts. One of the greatest of the tragedies is that so many of those who did not agree with the official solution considered themselves to be great detectives when the brightest of them were fools or worse. Some saw the commercial possibilities and were dishonest enough to seek to make use of them. One or two did make a quite a bit of money that way. So, because their nonsense did not hurt the government it could be printed and because most of what they wrote was made up it could be exciting to the people who wanted to know and had no basis for distinguishing between what was true and what was not true. A few are really bad people but most are not. They are just lost when they consider themselves to be brighter than others. I presume it is from some of them that you developed your fear of me. I did not ask you when you told me that you did not come because you were afraid. They were afraid because in varying degrees they knew they were dishonest and that my work proved it. It was not that I did anything to them because that was not possible for me. Arterial surgery in 1980 was followed by several complications, operations the second of which I was not expected to survive. I have not been able to drive safely out of Frederick since 1977 and I have not done that.

The only times I am away are when I am driven to hospitals for operations or for consultations. It was the realization that my time was limited that decided me to use the time that remains for me to make as complete and accurate a record for our history as is possible for me. While I will never be able to do as much of this as I would like I have done quite a bit of it. By this I mean putting the official evidence together to have it tell the truth. Almost all of my work comes from and is with the official evidence, not what someone thinks he remembers, not what someone who thinks he is a genius makes up. And of these some knew from the very beginning that they were lying. Depending on how much, and how carefully you read you will see some of this.

It was not your accent that interfered with my understanding of what you said. Mostly it was my impaired hearing, still impaired despite hearing aids. Some came from the connection. I use a speakerphone because I can hear better with it and my wife, who has excellent hearing, could not make some of what you said out. But that was from distortion in the connection and perhaps some from the phone.

If you decide to come you will always be welcome and if I can answer any questions you may have I'll try. If you would like to see the unusual arrangements the college has made for the preservation of the quarter or a million pages of official records I have and for my own work I am sure they will welcome you. They were building a new library and in it they built a special large room with arrangements for the best possible preservation of the records. It would not surprise me if the sociologists on the faculty would want to learn what they can from you about what you were subjected to and how you lived and coped with it. One of my dearest friends is a history professor there and he and the librarian, also a fine man, will be in charge of these records. I'll ask him what he thinks about this and then will let you know. If it does not interest you if they should get in touch with you, if they think this kind of study would be worthwhile, just tell them that then. It is my own idea that that also would make a valuable record for our history. But this is just my own idea and I have not discussed it with anyone.

Whether or not you recognized it, and I know that early on you did, you were under pressures from both sides and I think you have an awareness of a different kind you are under now. But under the circumstances, from the little I know, I think you did as well under those pressures as you could have.

It is true as I told you that despite what you may hear and your daughters may, by the polls nine out of ten do not believe the official story and quite a large percentage of them do not believe that Lee was the assassin. Many people do write me and this is what their letters reflect. So do their calls.

There is great resentment over Posner's dishonesties. He has not been able to say a word about what I said in Case Open, and what was published is but a small part of the documented case I put together against him from the official evidence. That means that with his lies a prosecution case, what I did was a defense. The full texts is

being retyped and will be a record for the future. Some of the reactions to Case Open are quite emotional and most of them come from people who are from a few years younger than you to those who were children or had not yet been born at the time of the assassination. They tell me these things. A woman who was in the third grade at the time was so taken with Case Open a friend of hers made her a painting of its cover! Two feet by three feet, and she prizes it and asked my permission to make T-shirts from it. In the same mail with her letter was one from a retired FBI agent who told me I had convinced him that Lee had killed nobody.

People may still not feel like saying in public that they do not agree with the government by most by far do not. And that last poll was after Posner got all his attention in the papers and on TV.

In any event, whatever you may hear, the official evidence itself leaves it without question, Lee was not the assassin and could not have been. If you read the first of the "Whitewash" books with care you will see that this was clear from the very first. I had that book finished in February, 1965 and published it first that August, and to this day nobody has found any errors in it of any kind. To this day not one of those in the government then about whom I wrote has either phoned or called to complain of any error I have ever made or have been unfair to him in any way. Within human possibilities, my work is accurate. I hope you can find some comfort in it.

With best wishes,

Harold Weisberg

The two books that are xeroxes are that way because of my physical limitations. I cannot handle cartons of printed books, I have been limited to lifting not more than 15 pounds since late 1989. This is the only way I can keep them available.