

Dear Bill,

9/3/95

I appreciate your letter of the 27th and your taking the time for it.

Carroll & Graf is not as you say "my publisher." My experiences with them are such that although I finished the sequel to NEVER AGAIN! last year I've not offered it to them. Richard Gallen, their counsel, had been a dear and cherished friend and he copublished with C&G, as he ~~has~~ had done earlier. But if so much ^{of} a single effort to get a single review was made with anything of mine they published I've no indication of it or any reason to believe any such effort was made. In fact, I've made at least six written requests for copies of NEVER AGAIN! to send to those who helped or those who could promote it without even a response. And I offered to pay for those copies, too.

On the other hand, their distributor, Publishers West, does distribute well and extensively. And with the assassination stuff that would disgrace a self-respecting publisher they do make efforts and do spend money. They do publish what is clearly libel if they believe there will be no suit. They have, repeatedly.

They made changes in NEVER AGAIN! after I went over and returned the proofs and as with Case Open, they ignored the corrections I made. I spotted at least 50 of these in NEVER AGAIN! and as you probably noticed, ^{they} forgot the index they had made and never even read after it was set in type. They also ^{eliminated} the descriptive subtitle without consultation with me causing an enormous reduction in potential sales.

There is more but this is enough for you to look out for your own interests and not to assume anything from them.

I hope you will ask them to send me a copy when the book is out - you did not indicate when that will be - because they will not do that automatically - because it may not be easily available to me now either at the nearby store, which may not even stock it, or at other stores because I can not suppose to stand still and do no browsing. My nearby Walden has not stocked NEVER AGAIN! not even after getting orders for it they filled.

My experience is that there is not nearly the interest in the King assassination there is in JFK's so [^] think promotions will be required. If they do not do this you may want to keep it in mind.

I hope that what you've come up with works. I cannot even guess what it is but I do look forward to reading it.

Best wishes,

Harold

Dr. William F. Pepper
Barrister
and
Attorney and Counsellor at Law

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27 August 1995

Dear Harold,

Thank you for your kind response.
I agree with you that we should not expect the media to change its perspective on these cases. I believe that you are correct, as well, in your view that a different legal strategy at the time of your fine work on behalf of the defendant might have made a difference.

I honestly believe that the nation and all who have followed you owe you a debt for the work you did in those early days. It was you alone who provided a dissenting view to the official line and who asked significant questions which went to the heart of the state's case. As I move around discussing my own work I do not intend to allow people to forget your contributions.

My book was initially to be published by a large conglomerate publisher. We had completed all of the extensive libel reads and agreed the text with the lawyers and the editor. Then a corporate decision was taken at the last minute by senior management and I was asked to withdraw an entire chapter. I refused - much to their surprise - and moved the book to Laurel at Gray, your publisher.

Harold, I regard my own work as

being built on the investigative
foundation you established. What I have
learned is more than anything I
imagined. My success has, at least
in part, resulted from the fact that I
was on the case at a point in time
when certain witnesses later in their
lives tended to open up, or in the case
of Towers feared indictment on the basis
of evidence he knew I had obtained.

The break through was not possible
at an earlier time, though without the
work you accomplished in Frame Up
and the foundation it laid a place
my own effort would have been
quite possibly irreparably poorer.

Harold, when I consider all of the
rogues and cowboy investigators I have
encountered in my efforts to secure a trial
for James, I have often deeply wished
that I had someone of your caliber
on my defense team. The absence of your
sort of talent has hurt us since I have
had to attempt to fulfill both roles - legal
and investigative - and you have demonstrated such
competence. In a word, you've been missed.

Be well

as always Bill