

4/19/68

Dear Greg Pierce,

I hope you will understand how entirely beyond my capacity it is to undertake a complete answer to your letter of 4/17. Most people lead normal lives, enjoy their families and a few relaxations, many a vacation now and then, find the opportunity to indulge cultural interests and find a little time for sports and exercise. For the past four years I have not averaged four hours sleep a night and have given up all the slack from which I might squeeze a few minutes.

I am sorry you do not have sufficient knowledge of the field to spot Thompson, his work, publisher and promotion for what they were and are. The few changes have been brought about by the pressure he is and has been under. He is a prostitute rather than a scholar, a crook rather than an investigator, and it is meaningless to ponder whether he was paid by the government. Baise in his work is deliberate error without which he could not keep Oswald and the sixth-floor window in his scheme of things. He knows better, as he does of Willis 5.

He has been on radio and TV defending the FBI, etc. He even went so far, initially, as to say there was no conspiracy! There is nothing new in his book. He has rearranged what others have done, pretended he has done original work, made original discoveries, etc. His few interviews are entirely or largely meaningless. He cannot account for the shooting he says occurred with the number of shots, viz Tague and Aldredge, neither of which originated with him.

Almost every case where he says "according to a document recently discovered in the Archives," as you should realize from your own reading, he has cribbed from my second book. The shoulder hit is Ray Marcus's. He stole it. The double hit is mine, published before he began his book (WWII, 221)

You are right about Liebel, and that was the agreed format when that show was taped six months ago. Recall the controversy at the end, faded out for a commercial, and the weak apology by Crane? They corrupted the format on me during the show. However, I had objectives other than yours, and in them I succeeded. I wanted to make it impossible for Liebel to live in the legal community and to make him face the reality of what he, as a lawyer, had done. It was to force a major confrontation or to shut his lying mouth. This it did, as you may have noticed. He has declined further confrontations, cancelled those agreed to.

WWII was published before any of these things Thompson mentions. It is that and I that forced the Zapruder camera into the Archives. While it is true that the camera has no 24 fps setting, the truth is worse: the error of a third in the re-enactment continues, unanswered, and Thompson, despite his pretense of inquiry, entirely misrepresents the camera. I spent a long time getting a duplicate of it. That camera can be made to run in any combination of speeds from 18fps to 48. This is not to say that it did, but it could have, at any point in use.

My quotation of the FBI reports remains accurate. There is no criticism of them, please note, in Thompson.

Most of the rest is in my published work.

It is not an accurate description to say of me or anyone else that we agree with Thompson. The timing eliminates that. His is the last work, and on those points where his black heart couldn't avoid it, he agrees with us. I do regret you haven't the background in the literature to understand this, as I am sorry that you didn't read his work carefully enough to understand this. Just plot out on a chart what he says of the Tague shot and the Aldredge hit and it will be obvious.

I have no immediate plans for any other than local appearances right now. Generally, the syndicated shows and networks boycott me. None has invited me to Philadelphia, ever, except Jack, whose departure I regret but expected, knowing what CBS did elsewhere. They fixed the others!

To the best of my knowledge, there were no transcripts of any of my shows, and on the west coast they were numerous. I know where the transcripts are, but the CIA won't give them to you or me.

Hurriedly,

Greg Pierce
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West Chester, 19380

4/17/68

Mr, Harold Weisberg,

As a friend may I suggest a new direction in your debates with the likes of Liebeler and company (ex. Les Crane Show). Make as many broad basic points as possible in that very short hour. Such as 1. Willis picture 5 and its implications 2. Altgens film-Lovelady-Oswald discussion 3. why bullet 399 inflicting seven wounds a fraud 4. Oswalds general background-security rating no lockout cards, talkd to right wing in New Orleans, etc. 5. brief case of false Oswald 6. essence of Hughes, Moorman films, 7. Shortcomings of timing Oswalds movements to 2nd floor of TBDB. Don't get caught in minute detail of what Liebeler says because the general, not well read, public will turn you off. My friends are not convinced that its a farce; you must convince them on broad basic points, then possibly they will read and listen to the detail. Five or ten broad areas of dispute will have more impact than one or two in depth discussions. Liebeler did say five or six straight errors in his opening discussion, however you'll never correct them in that hour; so run the debate, let him be on defensive, by making him discuss your broad points of the case. One upmanship!

Enclosed are copies of letters and some answers I received concerning assassination. Sent Ralph Yarborough two letters, silence is my answer. A letter I sent to Fred J. Cook was never answered. Do you have any idea why he might not answer? PLB answered but evaded letter. My letter to Chief Justice Earl Warren was answered in a non answer form. I don't even know if he read it, let alone give me a meaningful answer.

I have read Thompson's book and your books several times. The following questions arise from these readings.

1. Thompson says Willis took picture 5 simultaneously with ~~Rines~~ first shot. Wouldn't that mean bullet had already hit, bullet there before sound? Have you ever discussed with Thompson how he arrived at z215 or later as the time he considered bullet hit? How did he reject your analysis of Willis 5 in relation to Zapruder frame numbers? Did he bother? Life Magazine of Nov. 26, 1967 says Willis 5 before first shot.
2. How do you answer the criticism by Thompson concerning the speed of filming the assassination by A. Zapruder? He claims that a Mr. Jones says his camera couldn't be set at 24 frames per second, Are they talking about the same camera that Zapruder used that day?
3. In a letter to the editor of New York Times Book Review. J. Thompson claims again very emphatically that it was a conspiracy. Although he differs from you concerning many points, could you give me an example or two how he gives the Commission a cop out theory?
4. Concerning the above points and others, have you debated Thompson and, if so, is there available a text of the discussion?
5. I don't recall what you said the Bullet 399 did accomplish. Do you agree with Thompson it probably made back wound? Or do you feel all this is speculation until complete analysis of bullet is exposed or completed?

Other questions that concern me relating to this topic.

1. (a) Has the Moorman picture ever been analyzed by a company such as Itek Corporation to determine whether the object(s) behind the picket fence is a person(s). Both you and Thompson discuss the film but I don't think ever mentioned whether photographic analysis has been used on it?
2. (a) Were curtain rods found in TBDB since the assassination?
3. (a) What is the month and day of the first edition publications of Whitewash I, Whitewash II, Photographic Whitewash and Oswald in New Orleans.
4. (a) Did you state in either Whitewash I or II that Pres. Kennedy's head wounds were from two simultaneous bullets?

(2)

5. Why do you reject Thompson's neck wound analysis? Fred J. Cook in a detailed analysis of Thompson's book (The Nation, February 20, 1968) disputes this analysis. He seems to infer the first shot was obviously not from the sixth floor window but from a lower position behind him, passing through Pres. Kennedy's back, than neck and over the car.
6. Concerning the film analysis work of Richard Sprague, has he published anything that I can obtain? It has been quite some time since you gave him several leads. The Nov. 26, 1968 issue of Life Mag. had several of the photographers' works displayed. They had Betzner's picture of President's car but not the one you mentioned showed the front of TBDB. Also showed Willis 5 and Hughes frame. Did Sprague work with Time-Life and/or Thompson? Have you or other critics been able to obtain another frame of film or photograph of front of TBDB at time of assassination to through more light on Lovelady-Oswald debate?
7. Since you have been on the West Coast quite often recently, can you give me any addresses I might write to for transcripts of your radio, tv discussions, debates.

Jack McKinny "Night Talk" no more! He is on from 3-6:30 pm now, only local transmission coverage, no more coverage from Canada, Mississippi River, Florida etc.

Will you be giving any national tv presentations in near future? How about radio discussions in Phila. area? How about public debates or discussions in area in near future? If so, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Greg Pierce

Greg Pierce

P.S. Why not use Maudin's grieving Lincoln, or Herblock's cartoon of a grieving nation with sentence of Kennedy's Inaugural Address below it, as cover for your next book?

Lots of Luck