

PREFACE

Before it becomes obvious I want it understood that this book is a direct, frontal assault on the personal and professional integrity of Gerald Posner <sup>of</sup> Random House, the publisher of his mistitled Case Closed, and on their collaborator, the Central intelligence Agency, <sup>throughly and intentionally</sup> in the most <sup>intendedly</sup> dishonest of all books on all sides of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and its official investigations.

That is a subject on which I can claim expertise. My first book on the subject was the first on the Warren Commission and its Report. Since then I <sup>have</sup> published five additional books on that assassination. One <sup>more is</sup> in the process of being published now. I published a book on the King assassination. I filed a dozen lawsuits against <sup>in</sup> the government, mostly against the FBI, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and <sup>a</sup> as a result obtained about a third of a million pages of once-withheld records. Some of these lawsuits were precedental and one was cited in the legislative history of the 1974 amending of that Act as requiring the amending <sup>of the investigatory files exemption</sup> to open FBI, CIA and <sup>the</sup> files of similar agencies to FOIA access. I believe that from all of this and from other work I have a unique subject-matter knowledge that enables me to claim expertise.

My criticism of Posner is not related to his deceiving me about the book he planned when for three days he had free and entirely unsupervised access to all the information I obtained at such great cost and effort. In fact, he lied in describing his book. But one cannot reach his eightieth year and still have deception and lying outside his experience. Not is my criticism because he wrote what I do not agree with. <sup>here</sup> Almost all of the many writing in the field who have had similar free and unsupervised access are those I know will write what I do not agree with.

Because I believe American writers must be free to write whatever they want to write and because I believe that the records I obtain <sup>ed</sup> under FOIA are not mine as a property right I have always made them available to all writing in the field.

My criticism of Posner is not related to his wretchedly bad behavior or to disagreement with his views.

My criticism of Random House is not in any way related to its rejection of my and the first book on the Warren Commission and its Report, unacceptable as ~~that~~ the reason given me <sup>was</sup> is, that "We do not publish <sup>of</sup> a first first-book authors." There was only one after twenty-eight years, of the more than a hundred international rejections of that first book which remains the time-tested and only basic book on the subject. Random House's rejection was but one of many and others gave even less credible reasons.

My criticism of the CIA is not related to its bad and anti-American behavior with me and with others. There are obvious indications that it prevented publication of my first book in three countries. I have copies of its prohibited spying on me and on what I <sup>say</sup> said and believe. It lied as though its life depended on mendacity in my FOIA lawsuits and by these lies withheld many pages improperly and in open violation of the law. There can be no question about this because I now have those records and they did not qualify for suppression <sup>under</sup> the law, the law the CIA and other agencies have always violated systematically <sup>and with impunity.</sup>

My criticism comes entirely from their combining <sup>what is</sup> in the most <sup>purposefully</sup> intended, determined, <sup>and</sup> professional <sup>in</sup> dishonest book <sup>in</sup> a commercialism and exploitation of a subject that gets to the integrity of our society.

Whatever the intent of those responsible, the assassination of any president has the effect of a coup d'etat. It nullifies our entire system. It is, I believe, the most subversive crime in a society like ours. This, I believe, requires the greatest effort by writers to be certain they do not deceive or mislead the people in any way; and that they bend every effort not to protect from justified criticism those <sup>C</sup>miscreants with official responsibilities who in that time of <sup>'d'</sup>great crisis and since then failed their responsibilities, themselves and their nation.

The little-perceived thrust of my work is a study of how in that time of such great crisis and ever since ~~then~~ all our basic institutions failed and continue to fail.

In a society like ours in particular, the major media is one of our basic institutions. Major book publishers are part of this major media. They have the means of involving other major components of the other major-media elements, and Random House did

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misuse these means to perpetrate an even greater fraud upon the people than was possible for it from the publication of the book alone. Many more people had their understanding corrupted by the attention to this bad book through TV and radio, newspapers and magazines, than was possible from the book alone. It is not often that any book receives such extraordinary attention from all the media. It is not very often that by these means any book, any author, any publisher, can reach so many people and so many minds, influence understanding on any major issue as much, and with such permeating dishonesty.

Much as I regret that once again all these essential institutions of our society failed us all so greatly I must also acknowledge that in this to me disgusting commercialization and exploitation Posner and Random House, which also abdicated its responsibilities in avoiding and legitimate peer review, the tradition in non-fiction publishing, have given an opportunity as unwelcome as it is unequalled in documenting the tragically unending failures of all these institutions on a level never before reached.

That is why, at 80 and in impaired health, I have written this book and that is what I prove in this book.

It is only by exposure of failings that there is any hope at all that they can be ended. In this sense, and it is the correct sense, all legitimate criticism is constructive and is essential to the preservation of freedom and to honesty in the government that, for good or ill, is the teacher of us all.

When these failings involve corruption, exposure is more vital and the danger from their not being exposed is even greater.

The arrogantly mistitled Case Closed is, as this book shows, such a knowing corruption of our history.

The title of my book being prepared for publication as I write this is NEVER AGAIN! I hope as I write this that the title henceforth henceforth because the actuality in writing and publishing about this terrible crime that turned the country and the world around. If this does not become the reality then even more trouble lies ahead for our already deeply troubled nation.