

As Cliff (right) Marks, of San Pablo, California noted in a letter to the ~~news-~~^{assassination publication} letter The Third Decade, Posner's "definitive" account of Oswald's life has him at home in Fort Worth, on leave rather than on a trip ^{from} for his regular/station at Atsugi, Japan, to the Philippines and adjacent waters. MACS-1

In a letter to U.S. News and World Report, which devoted much of an issue to Posner's book, Mark/ noted other Posner flauntings of ignorance about the details of Oswald's life in the book he referred to endlessly as the only definitive biography of his and the official mythology's lone assassin:

"1 He refers repeatedly to John Pic^(right) as Oswald's step-brother when they were in fact half - brothers, with their mother Marguerite, in common.

"2. He refers to the Atsugi base (at which Oswald was stationed) as being located twenty miles west of Tokyo, when it ^{is} in fact closer to twenty five miles southwest of Tokyo and about fifteen miles west of ^Yokahama.

"3. He refers to the death of Marine Martin Schrand as ^{Subic} Bay' [Naval Base] in the Philippines when in fact it ~~is~~ occurred at the separate ~~of~~ Cubi Point Naval Air Station, some miles away.

" 4. He repeatedly refers to Oswald's duty station in California after his return from Japan as El Toro, when ~~in fact~~ it was in fact Santa Ana (right), a distinct and separate facility about six miles away.

"5. He also has mixed quotes from Marines stationed in ~~in~~ either Japan or Santa Ana together

"

Marks also expressed ~~his~~ "wonder about Mr. Posner's real knowledge of the case."

Numerous such illustrations of what Historian Stephen Ambrose refers to as Posner's "meticulous" research.

2 November 1993

Dear Dave -

Just a note to acknowledge your letter of 25 October, and to forward a tid-bit of mine on Posner.

Glad if anything I have done/provided has helped you in your endeavors. You certainly deserve a lot of credit for all you're doing!

Glad, also, to hear that Mr. Weisberg is "rejuvenated." He must be quite a fellow at his age.

Look forward to seeing more of your work in print

All the best,
Clif Marks

P.S. In the picture of LHO - there's the bull neck brother Robert remembered from his earlier days, and is never apparent again as clearly except in un-retouched back yard photos - of who??

CLIF MARKS
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1 November 1993

To the Editor TTD,

Those who appear to rely on assistance/information from the CIA in the preparation of their JFK assassination books ^{ribs coming} ~~come~~ up with ~~the~~ some new and indeed startling "facts." We have already seen in my letter to TTD of September 1993 how Mr. Epstein shortened LHO's hitch in the Marines to only two years in ~~the~~ ^{his} preface to Assassination Chronicles.

Now we have Gerald Posner stating in a caption under a picture of LHO in hunting togs in Case Closed that LHO was really home on leave in Fort Worth in February 1958, rather than sharing the hardship of a trip to the Phillipines and adjacent waters with his buddies in MACS-1 from Japan.

Apparently, Mr. Posner has not read Bob Cutler's alias OSWALD, else he would have taken the next logical step of having LHO stop in Santa Ana, California for the mysterious dental exam on 26 March 1958 - the exam that Cutler says was performed on Hidell since Oswald was overseas on that date, and that the U.S. Navy has not been able to explain/perplex away!

Copy to: Cutler; Keck.

Clif Marks

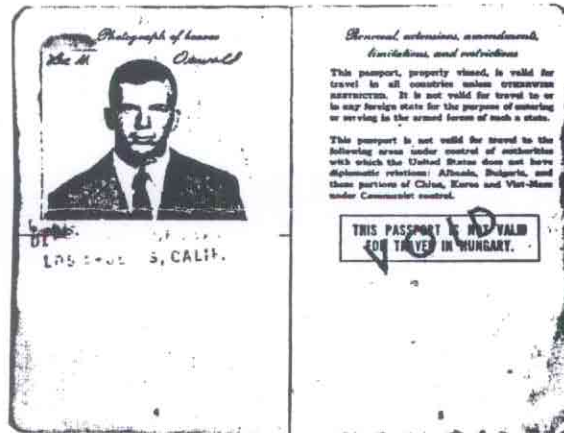
The Marines



A week after his seventeenth birthday, Lee followed his brother Robert into the Marine Corps, where he was court-martialed twice. (National Archives)



A rare photo of Lee hunting while on his first leave from the Marines in February 1958, when he visited his family in Fort Worth, Texas. (Courtesy of Robert L. Oswald)



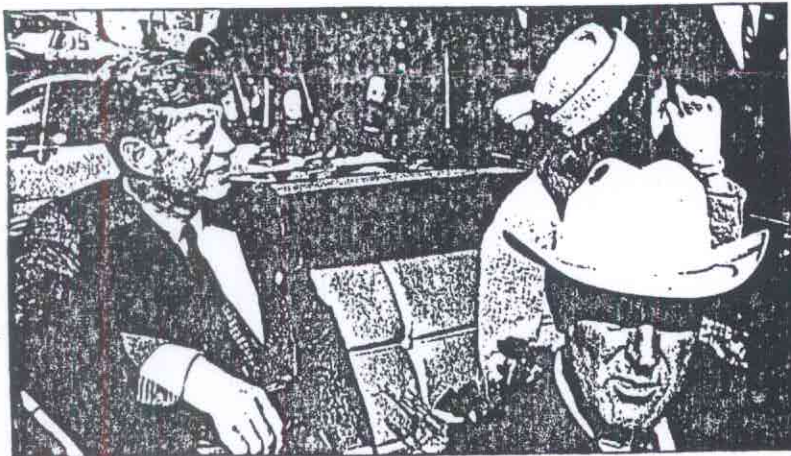
Oswald's passport, issued on September 10, 1959, one day before his release from the Marines. Devoted to Marxism from the age of fifteen, he planned for nearly two years to defect to the Soviet Union. (National Archives)

CASE CLOSED (1993)

A fresh and spellbinding look at the evidence that says Oswald acted alone

Lee Harvey Oswald and the Assassination of JFK

"I cannot believe that any rational reader will finish Gerald Posner's book and still be persuaded that there was a conspiracy"—William Styron



THERE ARE, GERALD POSNER writes, more than 2000 books on the Kennedy assassination, most of them devoted to disproving the "lone gunman" hypothesis and promoting one conspiracy theory or another. In his meticulously researched *Case Closed*, Posner, a journalist, lawyer and author of *Hitler's Children*, shows how the Warren Commission inadvertently opened up opportunities for conspiracy advocates—and puts to rest each of their theories one by one.

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5 November 1993

U.S. News & World Report
2400 N Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20037-1196

Attn: Mr. Peter W. Bernstein, Executive Editor

Dear Mr. Bernstein:

"A funny thing happened on the way to the forum," or in my case between the time I agreed to become a subscriber once again to USN&WR and the time that my first issue arrived with its accompanying invoice. I was told about and then read about an apparently adulatory review in your pages of a book by a Mr. Gerald Posner entitled for some reason Case Closed and touted as revealing the real facts about John Kennedy's assassination. I fear that your staff reviewer(s) have been had, and, as a result have done the readers who depend on USN&WR for accuracy and objectivity a dis-service.

It would appear, first off, that Mr. Posner had few or no credentials for undertaking a work of this size and on this subject. He appears at most to have spent only two and perhaps as little as one year on this effort which is essentially a re-iteration of information in the Warren Commission volumes - much like Jim Bishop's work in 1968 -

interspersed with the results of some interviews that he (?) conducted in 1992/93, plus attacks on witnesses interviewed by other ~~others~~ authors as mostly drunkards or mental cases. He appears to have quite a fixation in that regard.

Here, I will only ~~note~~ ^{record} some of the errors/problems I have noted in the first 29 pages of this 607 page work of art/artifice (?). A careful reading of the Warren Commission volumes would have eliminated all of these.

1. He refers repeatedly to John Pic as Oswald's step-brother when they were in fact half-brothers with their mother, Marguerite, in common.
2. He refers to the Atsugi base as being located twenty miles west of Tokyo, when it is in fact closer to twenty-five miles southwest of Tokyo, and about fifteen miles west of Yokohama.
3. He refers to the death of Marine Martin Schward at "Subic Bay" [Naval Base] in the Philippines when it in fact occurred at the separate Cubi Point Naval Air Station, some miles away.
4. He repeatedly refers to Oswald's duty station in southern California after his return from Japan as El Toro, when it was in fact Santa Ana, a distinct and separate facility about six miles away.
5. He also has mixed quotes from Marines stationed in either Japan or Santa Ana together lead-

Now, it could be argued that these are relatively minor errors in what was intended to be a major work. (I will leave it to more knowledgeable students of the subject to critique the book's more important faults/shortcomings.) However, your reviewer(s) would have picked up on some of these mistakes if they had any knowledge of the topic themselves.

Since, unless we are directly acquainted with them, we can only know authors through their writings, we have to wonder about Mr. Posner's real knowledge, care, and truthfulness as these characteristics are displayed in Case Closed. To his chagrin, he may find that his approach to this vast subject area and his errors scattered throughout may lead to the opening of a case to enquire just who he is and where he is coming from. No real student of JFK's assassination would make such careless errors as the few I have listed above. Enough said.

Since I have no desire to be associated, even as a subscriber, ~~to~~ with a magazine that has handled this book review so ineptly, I am enclosing your invoice annotated "PLEASE CANCEL."

Yours truly

Charles C. Marks, Jr.