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Interview with Gerald Posner

And now, (in fact ?) everything else is sort of a retrenchment. I guess you read the Washington Post review recently. I have it here. (laugh)

MR. POSNER: As a matter of fact I just sent in today to the Washington Post. And Harry Evans (sp) the publisher of Random House, has sent in a three-page letter of six major factual errors in that review. To say that the (frank?) review doesn't have me angry -- I don't care if somebody gives me bad reviews and is (able ?) to look at the same evidence and come to different conclusions. You can look at the evidence in the case and conclude the mob killed Kennedy. That's fine. You can have a discussion about it all the time. But when a review or an article or a profile materially distorts what I say in the book or the record, then I am upset. So, I am hoping they will publish that letter because it will be a correction of the record. That's different.

Q What struck me. I know we also interviewed Robert Blakey (sp), who was the head of the House Assassinations Committee. And he strongly feels that there was a conspiracy run by the mob, Trapaconi (ph) and Marcella (ph) especially. And he talked about the ties between Oswald and Ruby in those

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organizations. You brought up that -- You quoted this laboratory in San Francisco. What's the name of it?

MR. POSNER: Frazier (ph) Analysis Associates.

Q So there was a big stink, sort of, about that. That at least the Washington Post says --

MR. POSNER: Right. That's one of the things I'm correcting the Post on, as a matter of fact. I just talked to Bob Pisceolli (ph), who is the vice-president of Frazier (ph) Analysis, yesterday complaining about the quote from Dr. McCarthy (sp). I used the Frazier (ph) Analysis work absolutely correctly? People don't know, by the way, that Frazier (ph) Analysis reviewed my chapter on the single bullet before it was published, commented on it, and made changes according with their work. In addition, they don't know that they also cooperated with the graphic artist hired by Random House to do the graphic illustrations at the end of the book. Within that book is an absolutely accurate representation of their work. What they don't know is the bit of the in-fighting that's taking place inside of Frazier (ph) Analysis. McCarthy (sp), who is the CEO of the company, was

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the expert witness at the trial on the defense side of Oswald.


I've been relenting in my statement that the defense presentation for Oswald's case by Frazier (ph) Analysis stunk. And it did stink. It came down to two arguments. Why didn't Oswald take the close shot from Houston Street? They did an animation and they left Connolly out. It wasn't what Oswald saw at all. The second part of their defense work was a glycerine bullet could have gone in the front of Kennedy's head and down the wound and not exited on the left side. The problem is the autopsy doctors and the doctors who took the brain out found no evidence of glycerine and they forget to say that glycerine does not fire past 50 feet. So, their defense work was miserable. I -- (inaudible) -- in the book McCarthy's (ph) upset about the fact that the only part of Frazier (ph) Analysis work that is getting any play is their work with Dr. -- (inaudible) --.


Q Oh. Because. Yeah. It's interesting that you say it. Because the way it was expressed to us is that Frazier (ph) Analysis did the two sides for the American Bar Association and came up to be that there was no decision in --

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And, and --

 MR. POSNER: Yeah. That's the other thing. I'm told all the time, my God there was a hung jury in San Francisco. I'm not surprised at that. There was a lot more in the trial than the Frazier (ph) Analysis work. Plus, would the Frazier (ph) Analysis work show Dr. Pisceolli (ph), who led the team, was very honest about this. It showed that one shooter, shooting from behind, had the time to do the shots - (three ?) shots - and that the single bullet happened. But he says, I don't know if the shooter was Oswald, I don't know who it is. I'm just doing that question. Could the shooter have shot from behind in the necessary time and the single bullet happen. That's what Frazier Analysis says. Beyond that, they don't know if the shooter was Oswald or the top marksman in the Soviet Union or whoever else, much less if there was a conspiracy in the case.


Q But Frazier (ph) Analysis also concluded that the fatal shot came from the grassy knoll.

MR. POSNER: No. Not the - (inaudible) - did not. Absolutely no. As a matter of fact, Pisceolli's (ph) work is

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clear on this. They conclude 100 percent, Pisceolli (ph) is clear on this, the head shot comes only from the rear. That's based, not only on looking at the autopsy x-rays and photos, but based upon Kennedy's reaction. We have an advantage today that we didn't have when the Toputo (ph) film was first shown in the 70s on television, on the Geraldo Rivera (sp) show - which was the autopsy x-rays and photos. They show that the bullet that comes in the back, the skull is beveled inward, the exit and the skull is beveled outward only on the right side. Now. To deal with that, what do conspiracy theorists do? They say. Well, the x-rays and the photographs are fakes.

Okay, let's discuss that. They're either fakes or they're real. There is no gray area here, so let's look at the evidence. Twenty-two of the nation's top forensic experts, photographic experts got together for the House Select Committee. Blakey would certainly talk about this. They subjected those x-rays and photographs to every known test in 1977 to determine fakery by 1963 standards. We even know what intelligence agencies could do in the early 60s. They took six separate base x-rays from Jack Kennedy over different spaces of his life, like a fingerprint, and compared

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them to the x-rays. They're absolutely real. They looked for any evidence of fakery and tampering or composite work in the photographs. One-hundred percent real. So, you then say to a conspiracy theorist they're rear-shots. Kennedy was shot from the rear.

What's the next stage of the answer? Well, they're real, but the body has been altered. They are real pictures and real x-rays but they've fooled around with the body. They've changed the wound and then walked to (David Lipton's ?) theory -- (inaudible).

Q So, what you're saying now on the issue on Frazier Analysis that you only use part of the evidence on -- What's wrong?

(Break for direction.)

Q Let me ask you the question. So, what you are saying is the criticism about it stems from the fact that there is a political (side ?) within this organization?

MR. POSNER: I challenge anyone. Go ahead, go back to

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the open record. Look at the Frazier (ph) Analysis work presented as not helping on court TV - 1992, August of '92. That's where I first saw them. Look at the defense work for Oswald and the prosecution work for Oswald. The only breakthrough made was on the prosecution work for Oswald and anybody can look at that record. There is nothing on the defense side to even talk about. They didn't do any good work.

Q And another criticism that came up with the fact that you didn't really tie Ruby to organized crime. You dismissed it and you used as a witness in doing that some guy who lied to the Congress.

MR. POSNER: Yes. Tony Zoppi (ph). He is, what I hear from the criticism. Two things on Zoppi (ph). First, Zoppi knew Ruby very well. He was one of his closest friends. And what Zoppi (ph) is saying in the book, is he's a real low-level loser. He's got a big mouth. He shoots it off all the time. I can't believe that any organized crime family would use Jack Ruby. And I happen to think that Zoppi's (ph) opinion on Ruby is absolutely valid as somebody who knew Ruby. The throw Zoppi's (ph) comments out, his opinion out of the

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book, doesn't mean anything. Because what Zoppi (ph) is doing is giving an opinion about what I base on fact.

Yet, I think that a lot of Jack Ruby's organized crime connections were overplayed FBI reports that include (raw?) intelligence, including a whole host of material about his narcotics trafficking. There is no doubt what's happened in other books - David Scheim's (ph) "Contract on America". He takes FBI reports as though they're gospel, forgetting that you're gonna have to go out and verify whether the sources have given good information or not. Scheim (ph) doesn't do a single interview for his book. I'm flabbergasted by that. He takes the report as via word.

I know what most investigators know. You can never trust raw intelligence documents as being valid. Does Jack Ruby have organized crime contacts? No question about it. He knows a whole host of criminals. He grew up with people who became otherwise leading mobsters. Jack Ruby is *dirty*? Yes. Does he know whole hosts of policemen? Hundreds of them in Dallas. What I'm saying is that those organized crime connections has nothing to do with why he killed Oswald. That's the difference.

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Q So, can you say that in doing a thorough job. I guess you've spent several years on this, right? How many years?

MR. POSNER: Three years.

Q And using your skills as an attorney and an investigator, you can tell they're very honed. It's your opinion that there was no conspiracy.

MR. POSNER: Well, not that there was no conspiracy involving Oswald, no conspiracy involving Ruby. I'll give you one of the key things on Oswald. Let's assume there was a conspiracy in the case. That the mob was the force was behind it, since this tends to be opposite theory that I can treat with the most respect because I think it is the most credible of the theories - the mob acted.

Q Let me say then. If there -- (inaudible) -- important, your feeling is there was not a conspiracy, but the most logical one if you are not correct ...

MR. POSNER: There is no question that the most -- The

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theory I deal with, with the most respect in the book is that the Mafia did it. Part of the reason for that is, I was a political science major at Berkeley. I view the government as primarily inefficient and bungling - not capable of pulling off something like the Kennedy assassination and keeping it a secret for 30 days much less for 30 years. The numbers of people involved in the government conspiracy make it unwieldy. And we have the CIA experts, supposedly the best experts on assassination, in a partnership with the Mafia to kill a president. Just like when Jack Kennedy was after Castro. They couldn't even get the poison pen to him or the exploding cigar or the --(inaudible)-- on the inside of his suit that he was supposed to go diving with. It was a bungle. The gang that couldn't shoot straight. And somehow they turned it around and pulled it off with efficiency in the U.S. - no chance.

Q Look at Watergate.

MR. POSNER: Right. The tape on the door is an easy thing to forget about when you're breaking and entering.

Q But its interesting. You think the government,

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that issue -- That some people feel that the government was involved. You think they were too dumb to do it successfully?

MR. POSNER: Well, and the work it took to cover it up efficiently. I mean as to the numbers involved. The larger the conspiracy, the less likely it has of holding together. The smaller, there is a chance that it could succeed. Let's look at the Mafia for a moment.

Q Yes, please.

MR. POSNER: September 26, '63, the White House announces that Jack Kennedy going to visit Dallas. Before that, nobody knows it publicly. Very interesting. So that everything that happened in Oswald's life before September 26 takes place without a sense of time and place for what that would happen. He got on a bus on the way down to Mexico City at the time. Why didn't he get a visa to go to Cuba? If the Cubans grant him the visa instead of telling him to get lost because he was such a loser, he'd be down in Cuba when Jack Kennedy visited Dallas in November and would never would have crossed paths. But he comes back to Dallas in early October.

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So the key question for me then, is where is the evidence of the conspiratorial contact between the plotters and Oswald in these critical two months leading up to the assassination. We now know Kennedy is coming. --(inaudible). He hadn't even landed the job yet at the depository which he will get through Ruth Paine (sp), a friend of Marina (ph), not through the Mafia, not through intelligence agencies, but through friends of his wife. We'll go on to the questions of Oswald's conspiratorial contact.

It happens to be one of the loneliest periods in his life. He is not living alone. He is living at a rooming house where other people are living with him. And what do they say? He never received a single visitor, not one. He came home every night at 5 to 6 o'clock and never went out a single evening except for Fridays when he would disappear and come back Monday. Now it's interesting if you check that he is out with Marina in Irving, his wife staying at Ruth Paine's house. He made one telephone call a day in a foreign language. Sounds good until you check the phone records to -- (inaudible) -- Marina and he's talking to her in Russian. He never received a single telephone call in the entire time except for one. It comes in a week before the assassination,

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and you look at the phone records its from Ruth Paine.

Then you go a step further. What about the phones at the depository. Look at the phone records at the depository, the public phone at the depository. Are there calls from any of those phones to individuals in New Orleans, or in Tampa, or in Chicago with crime connections to Hoffa's people to Marcella's people, to Trapocani. Are there calls from the outside in the depository or any other source? And there isn't a single call like that that exists. So my challenge, that I trust conspiracy theorists to take the Mafia, is to convince me to make me say this book is wrong and is (at fault ?) here. Show me the contact to Oswald. It's not enough to say his uncle was a gambler in New Orleans. I'd go over the contacts he had with his uncle. They didn't even get along and they fought all the time. His uncle didn't even know he had (a shot of walker ?) and never introduced him to anybody. So you can go through the contacts. His aunt was alive and talks about that in detail on the record. And that's all Blakey and others can point out. His uncle.

David Ferry (ph)? I don't think he met David Ferry (ph).
And I go through in the book why I don't think the evidence of

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that is solid. The same with Guy Bannister (sp). But I have real problems with is where the Mafia plotters would have tied off with him. What we had in this country -- (inaudible) -- (states ?). We assume Mafia to Kennedy. True. Oswald killed Kennedy. True. Therefore the two are connected. That's the connection that's not so easy to make. And that's why things fundamentally -- The theories have not succeeded in establishing that connection in 30 years.

Q But you said that's that one theory you treat with the most respect. So what do you find respectful about it?

MR. POSNER: Well, respectful in the sense that its legitimate theory. I think that somebody that comes up with it can be well intentioned and be a serious journalist. Look at Jack Anderson (sp) believes that the Mafia was likely behind the murder of Jack Kennedy. There are few investigators I respect more than Jack Anderson (sp). He has broken story after story over the years. So, I mean I can't believe is Blakey - (inaudible) - serious , you know, researcher and investigator. But I don't look at people like this and say, by the way you're just playing with the facts. You know, they believe that in their heart. What I think

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they're picking up is evidence of a mild plot and has therefore assumed that he had to be involved in the assassination. And the additional impetus is Ruby, where the organized crime contacts is too suspicious for them. Blakey will say there is too much there all at once. I say those are the types of coincidences that just happen in history that you can't just relegate it to a conspiracy.

Q But Jack Anderson's theory isn't based on that. Its based on what Johnny Rosselli and someone else - another - Scheim (ph) had told them.

MR. POSNER: I can to tell you this. All those - it's the same as Regano (ph) coming) out today and telling you this story. Those types are what I call mob-bluster (?). You know what's better. You've been accused almost. The story is out by the late 60s, early 70s that the mob may be behind the plot to kill Jack Kennedy, because now the news is breaking in the 70s about the mob's plot on Castro. I am not surprised if somebody sits around and --.

I think Jack Anderson would admit this. He had to assume that Rosselli (ph) is telling him the truth. He can't be 100

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percent sure that Rosselli's (ph) not just sitting there and saying by the way, Jack, the Mafia --(inaudible). We could knock off anybody, including Kennedy. And I wouldn't be surprised if Marcella (sp) sits around 30 years later and starts to tell somebody before it's death. We were powerful enough to have knocked off even the top and we knocked off Kennedy. This is a great thing. You're being blamed for it and you can take credit for it. That whole mob --(inaudible). You go through the -- (inaudible) -- case. At least it's part of the problem at the defense trial is always seeing. What they actually are taking credit for and what their claiming to take credit for to intimidate somebody else's business. That they're really the ones to deal with. Because if you don't deal with them, you're with the wrong people.

So, I take Rosselli's comments with a grain of salt. Possible? Fine, then let's go beyond and find the evidence. If not, I just take it with -- well, that he could be spinning a wonderful tale. I've seen it too many times in the Kennedy case.

Q (Chuck ?) took it that the reasoning under that -- (inaudible) -- out up in those drums in the Key of Biscayne -

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some detective from Miami came up and told Jack its because he talked to him about this.

MR. POSNER: See. I mean. Is that possible? Absolutely possible. If you're in the mob and you're assuming (words?) Rosselli was talking to Jack Anderson about could be the Kennedy assassination, could also (lead ?) to something else you're doing business with the mob. As to why you eventually decide to silence somebody could be a whole host of things. Now, trying to put the motivation into the killer is anybody's guess.

Q We talked before on the phone about the fact that Kennedy's Chief of Staff, Kenny O'Donnell (sp), and one of his closest friends, Dave Powers (sp), was behind him in the motorcade and says that they heard the shots from the grassy knoll. They're not people without credibility.

MR. POSNER: Oh no. Its not that. Look at. You go back to the original contemporaneous witnesses statements. The data. The House Select Committee did this. Twenty percent picked the depository as the source of shots - the witnesses had gave a location. Twelve percent picked the grassy knoll.

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So we'll have to take the two of them with -- (inaudible) -- and put them in the grassy knoll column. It goes to 13 percent. Forty-four percent said they couldn't tell where the shots came from. The thing that I find interesting when -- (inaudible) -- is that they picked the grassy knoll for location because you had more than 10 percent of the witnesses do that. I talk about the acoustics (completely?).

What I find interesting is that the FBI is telling them a) 'Hey, come on fellahs, go along with the official story here.' Because they are feeling the pressure from Hoover. There's no question about that. One of the things that I think is a disgrace in this story is the actions of the FBI over a period of time destroying key evidence, covering their own behind, Hoover pressuring people that gave -- (inaudible) -- from day one. That happened, there's no doubt about it. Now, in my view, it may be that Hoover was right. That he had the right conclusion. But it still doesn't make up for the fact that he tried to pressure a lot of people in the investigation to fall in line. I'm not happy with O'Donnell or Powers who should have had the gumption and the courage to have said, 'buzz off, we're going to tell it the way we heard it.'

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Q How do you feel or react to the criticism which sums up the Washington Post piece that you selectively selected evidence that fit your theses?

MR. POSNER: The - (inaudible) -- of the things in the Post. But one of the things I knew. When I came to the middle of my research to the conclusion that it was - (inaudible) - a lot. And that I was going to be taking conspiracy writers to task, as I do in the book: Anthony Summers (sp), Mark Lane (sp), the whole host of them. Not insignificant people. That this book will be subject to scrutiny, almost page by page by the equivalent of a few of you. The conspiracy theorists who worked on it for 20 or 30 years. I tried to avoid that for the very reason.

A lot of things are condensed in the book, that's clear. I take David Lifton's (ph) 700-page medical theory and talk about it in four pages, so he can jump up and say he's left out a lot. No doubt about it. But the standard that I applied, which is to try avoid somebody's statement if they've changed it after their contemporaneous one - I can give you a list of things that I've also left out witness statements of people that support the conclusion I've reached. That it's

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Oswald and Ruby alone. Because they've change statements that I don't agree with. For instance, I don't have in the book Tony Zoppi (ph) talking about the fact that he had the reason why Jack Ruby went to Cuba and that's the reason Ruby went. Because I am not sure about that. I have looked into that. I am not completely sure.

I had Brech Waal (sp) the Dallas Head of (AGFA?) in '63 say that he talked to Ruby on Saturday night in detail about Oswald and Ruby said, 'that little runt, somebody should do something about him. If somebody doesn't plug him, I'm going to plug him'. That works with what I believe Ruby was going through. But guess what, Waal (ph) didn't say that in 14 pages of Warren Commission testimony and I don't include it. So it is very interesting to see the things in the book that people say, well gee he's only using things that support his position. Knowing that I would be under this scrutiny is exactly why I tried to avoid doing that. Because you might as well just put your head on the chopping block.

Q Well you did do that somewhat, didn't you?

MR. POSNER: Well, look through the Washington Post

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Review. They say that I was frank and I quote (Earling Robert's ?) testimony that Oswald came in around 1:00 and then left with a jacket. But 10 pages later (than that?), I say she was absolutely wrong when she talks about a police car pulling up outside and giving a honk outside the door. That's the difference. She told a story about Oswald coming in at 1:00 and grabbing his jacket from day one. She tells that to the Dallas Sheriff's Office and the police that day. And kept that same story until 1966 at the time of her death. What happened about the police car? A -- (inaudible) -- interviewed her on the 22nd, the day of the assassination. She never told her story. He interviewed her --

Q I know who interviewed her.

MR. POSNER: Right. She never told the story. When she --(inaudible)-- she never talked to the authorities in this case. When she developed the story later, it then changed dramatically. I reject it for that very reason and I hold on to the story that she is consistent with. I am told in the Washington Post that I (type/fight ?) -- (inaudible) -- the psychiatrist's testimony to the Warren Commission in '64 but not his 1953? report. --(inaudible)--. But his '53 is --

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(inaudible) -- in there. I hear Bill Newman is --(inaudible)-- as one of my sources --(inaudible). He is, I count him in the 12 percent and I give the cite for that.

Q (Inaudible) -- Korean veteran. But people felt that it wasn't cited enough because he was in action and he heard the bullet.

MR. POSNER: No. That's the difference. He didn't hear the bullet until maybe nine years later and that made me think go back to his original statement. He had statements to the FBI. He had statements to the Dallas Sheriff. They're in the Warren Commission. Those are the statements that I used, he never mentions bullets. He never mentions hearing a whiz go over. As a matter of fact, he says he hit the ground when he saw police motorcycles come over. He did say that he thought the shot came from the fence and I included him therefore as someone who picked the grassy fence. But according to the Washington Post review, he said to the Warren Commission that he heard a bullet come over his head. Absolutely false. Doesn't say that until nearly a decade later when witnesses stories changed. For the same rule that I use. Not accepting later statements, I'm now taking attack for it by people that

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write a review inaccurately and make it sound as though it's contemporaneous testimony. That is the greatest emphasis. There is not a thing in that review that I don't contest very aggressively.

Q But, you know, if you think about it in terms of failure analysis, it would have been easier for you if you had said, 'okay, they did two sides and one side wasn't good and I'll just use the other side.'

(Cross talk.)

MR. POSNER: Now, that people have come at me with their criticism, it's easy Monday-morning quarterbacking to know where the other 20 pages of your booklet fell out. When you're trying to fight what not to put in. Absolutely. Why should I take criticism on something that's public record? I would put it in without a doubt and probably will for the paperback. So, no question about that. But you never know what people are going to raise as the issues that they're not happy with in your book. Most of them have been things like. So, in final, I'll expand it by another 20 pages for the paperback.

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Q You think a lot of this criticism is just jealousy because you're made a big financial success?

MR. POSNER: Well, I hope to make a financial success. For somebody whose just paid his bills, I mean I hope these books that -- They have a lot of books out there now I hope they sell.

Q Aren't you a best seller?

MR. POSNER: Yes. But that means that they've shipped a lot. They're moving along. This is a business with returns. So I hope they actually continue to move. My fingers are crossed, but -- No, I'll tell you I don't think it's jealousy, maybe I underestimate that in the business. I can tell you I think there are several things at work here. I've had what some people call the arrogance. I call it the confidence of calling a book 'case closed' in a field in which most people believe you can never say case closed because we will never know the real facts. I truly don't believe that.

To people who can spend 20 or 25 or 30 years

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investigating the case, that title is saying you wasted your life. Get a new life. That's immediately fighting words. I understand that. Not only am I saying case closed, but I'm saying there is also not a conspiracy which is enough to send anybody crazy who has now spent time on the case. Moreover, I have spent 3 years on the case, which is not enough to get wet behind the ears according to people, you know, who have spent 20 years on a single issue.

So I'm not surprised that people are greatly agitated by it. In addition, I am not part of what I call the inside circle of journalists who have worked on the case. I haven't worked for the New York Times or the Washington Post. I haven't worked on the case in enough time. So there is a whole host of things that I think can send people crazy far beyond just jealousy of the success in this book.

MR. POSNER: I am moving around, by the way too much?

Q No.

(Cross talk)

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Q Did you expect both the success and the criticism?

MR. POSNER: I expected the criticism. I didn't expect the success in that my fear was knowing that this is what I believed in and this is what I was going to put out. But I was convinced that this was the story. My concern was people would say --(inaudible). Well, that's interesting. God, we heard that 30 years for the Warren Commission. So we're way beyond that. Let's go into those things. That's what I was afraid of. That they would ignore it. They wouldn't spend any time looking at it. Not only has the press spent time looking at it, but the conspiracy theorists who I thought might ignore it, have gone crazy. I mean, they have, you know, responded in the personal attacks and substantive attacks - you name it - across the board. Whatever they can do. They have not let the book just go out of sight. It has hit a nerve with them and so that surprised me to some extent.

Q Was it a hard sell when you proposed it to Random House?

MR. POSNER: No, because what Random House thought and

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what I proposed to them was different. See, what I proposed to them was a book that was going to be a primer on the assassination. I said to them, I know there's a lot of garbage in the assassination record. I read the book, they can't all be right. There's things that are developing between the books that are wrong - certain specifics. Let me go out, put on my hat - both as an attorney and as an investigator - go through all the evidence and say this is garbage, bum...bum...bum.... Here are the five or six issues that need further investigation. Read this book before you read any other on the assassination. So Random House didn't pay a lot for the book, because they didn't have high expectations for it. It was never going 'case closed, here's who did it' - either mob or Oswald or whatever else.

Half-way through the research I was convinced you could put out a book that said 'case closed, here's who did it.' And I went back to them. And there was this wonderful meeting. I remember that I had with my editor. He was aware of how my progress was going - (inaudible) - (not ?) the rest of Random House. And I told them exactly that. You could put out a book that says here's the solution to the murder mystery. And they said yes, and I said it's Oswald. And they went,

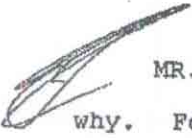
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'yeess.'

And there was this moment in which you could tell their thoughts. He's been out doing this work for a while and he's come back and its Oswald? Then I showed them what I had and what was new. And then they got excited about it. And they said 'fantastic'. But there was this initial feeling and that was my fear of how the public would see it. So, it's Oswald and not give the book a chance.

Q I know that at least three-fourths of the American public think there's a conspiracy. But nobody can believe this.

 MR. POSNER: I'm surprised its not higher. I'll tell you why. For 30 years they've only had one-third of the issues presented to them. The Warren Commission came out in '64 and we later found out that they had plenty of errors in the Warren Commission. We also, as a people, were much more cynical. We've been through Vietnam, Watergate and Iran-Contra, and we know the government lied to us big time on issues. Things were told on conspiracies like Watergate -- (inaudible) -- conspiracies later. Who wouldn't expect for a

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second in this country a blue-ribbon panel of seven middle-aged white men to decide who killed the president if something happened to President Clinton or any other president. So the whole idea of -- (inaudible) -- in panels is -- (inaudible) -- to us. So we'll put our 1993 great skepticism back to the '63 event and we see the government lied to us about other things, they must have lied to us about this.

In addition, there was a cover-up in the Kennedy case. As I drew the cover-up of the FBI and CIA to cover their own behind and that's interpreted constantly as evidence of a cover-up of a murder. Moreover, for the last 30 years essentially, of there's hundreds and hundreds of books published, the \$15 million Oliver Stone film, the documentaries - all say conspiracy. People have only heard that. Then you have the House Select Committee, another government investigation in the late '70s say conspiracy as well. Now it gets an official stamp of approval. So, I'm not surprised that most people don't think it's a conspiracy.

This is the first opportunity they have in maybe this book to see another side of it. I don't expect them to read

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the book and say, okay I'm convinced, I won't look into the case anymore. What I hope this book does is it puts Oswald acting alone back into the discussion. Today people fight, average Americans, around a table and say, 'who killed JFK'. Oswald no longer is even in the equation. It's the mob or the KGB or the CIA or whoever. I think that if this book has an impact, it shows people that -- I think its the historical truth. That I think that people can say, all right. It has as much substance as any other theory that I've heard about. I've got to consider Oswald alone, as well as these theories being a possibility in the next discussion.

Q I have interviewed a lot of people. And you are the

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