

Adam J. Froulx
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2/20/01

Dear Mr. Froulx,

I'm 87 now, can't use a computer, and day before yesterday, for the first time in 33 years, this typewriter fell and my poor typing is worse than its usual bad,

I showed your letter to my friend Dr. Gerald McKnight and he will probably write you. He will give your letter to the Hood College book store, from whom you will hear about the books. I gave them all to Hood when it became impossible for me to continue as the publisher and send the copies and keep the books, etc.

I agree with you and believe your profs have been captured by the extensive propaganda. Including about the assassination and the Warren Commission. But I also disagree on some things. For example, going to Dallas would be a waste of time. And unless you know what you are doing at the Archives, that also be a waste of time. On the JFK assassination for sure, but on the Cold War I am inclined to think that you'd spin your wheels pretty often.

All my records are at Hood, except for a few, and while the archive is just being moved into its permanent home, I think that McKnight could make some arrangement for you there. Including with some of the books I have written and am still writing for history's record.

One thing that might interest you is that I interviewed one of JFK's intellectual generals, Gavin, in 1968, he told me that JFK was talking to the generals he had to reach and said, "What can I do to convince you that Vietnam is a political problem and that political problems are not susceptible of military solutions?" Gavin told me what, pretty much, you can find printed about JFK's plan to get us entirely out of VN after the election because if he said that before elections he's not win. There is some of this on record too, and I think McKnight can be helpful to you on that also. Remember also how he settled the Cuba missile crisis and how after that he began detente with the limited test ban agreement. He and Khrushchev exchanged about 40 letters, some tough, as they groped toward detente. The USSR agreed for them to be made public, according to my last knowledge but we did not agree.

I can help you with the JFK assassination and, the extent now possible for me, I will. If you cannot get here, perhaps we can use the phone on some. If so I suggest that you tape it because you'll not be able to get it all in notes unless you are a stenographer. If you do that, remember that my hearing is bad and that unless talk is slow I miss some or all of it. Also,

I lead convoluted hours. I retired about 6 p.m.^{am} and I'm up working sometimes as early as midnight when I can't sleep and then try to nap and get enough rest. So, you have to call me in time for the conversation to be over by 5-5:30 p.m. Also, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays I'm in kidney dialysis and that pretty much knocks me out for any work and sometimes for any talking.

As often happens with old folks, my memory of the recent past and the current is lousy but my memory of the ^{far} past remains good and dependable. I've not ^{taken} the time to outline any of my books. Nor to edit. But they stack.

I think you should have in mind much more than you have in your letter and I think that on the JFK assassination you should avoid the b.s. that is signified by calling it "theories." Oliver Stone took a perfectly correct idea and made his film valueless except as propaganda by embellishing on the Jim Garrison fiction. I was there. The one trial Garrison, a brilliant man, never took is that of the assassins. He did no original investigating and he would have had an even greater fiasco than his Shaw invention if I had not, at the request of the staff, made that impossible for him.

However, the assassination was the end product of a conspiracy, from the actual evidence, not from any fiction.

Forget about compensation. I refused money for my files years ago and gave them to Hood with no quid pro quo for me. My one condition was that they be maintained as a public archive so that the records would exist outside the Archives. Investigating the assassination there now would be, I think, an enormous frustration because so many millions of pages have been added to the large quantity they had to begin with. Depends on what details you want to research how much my files can help you if, as I assume, McKnight can make some arrangement for access before it is all done and the official announcement is made. But to begin with we can talk about that if you can get here or by phone.

Your adviser is so wrong. I wonder where she got what you report about there being no connection. What does she think led to the Cuba missile crisis? And when did the world face a crisis of such extreme possibility of damage and death to the entire world? If she is a historian she was educated in a school that was dominated by prejudice, if ^{not} ~~not~~ (and please do not tell her this) ignorance.

On the assassination, we do not and cannot know who the assassins were. Do not believe any theory without documentation and that documentation does not exist. Eschew all theories of the assassination or you can ruin your thesis. I suggest that you include an appendix of documents you can get from the Hood archive or to a degree from me personally. I had to ask Hood to take them because I was in a nursing home and we were robbed, of documents almost entirely. In all, I can account for five different times. So all I now have at home

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is what can fit in a small office.

Don't feel awkward in asking anything of me. I believe that the people ought have access to all information and I have made all I have freely available to all. And most were those with whom I disagreed. Our founding fathers, truly great men, ~~did~~ believed that the people should have access to all and to the degree possible for them they ~~did~~ tried to assure that.

I think that all Americans in a position to inform the people have that obligation. This includes you and your profs. Who may never have given that a thought. You will, in your thesis, be making information available as you see ^{it} understood that.

Good luck, feel free, and depend on a tape recorder, not your memory.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

Harold Weisberg