

Mr. Gary Rowell
1529 Elizabeth
Bay City, MI 48708

2/22/91

Dear Mr. Rowell,

Until I got to the last graf of your 2/17 I was not going to respond but when you begin that graf, "I would hope that I never get to the point where I am rude, crude and ignorant to any other researcher (you sure as hell don't know some I know)" that is a bit to much.

I do hope you do get to the point were, like me, you are a few days away from 78 but unlike me, as I think I made clear to you, without for about 15 years having a series of medical problems any one of which could have caused death and about six operations two of which I was not expected to survive,, be of limited mobility with a wife even more limited in her mobility, be limited to lifting not over 15 pounds, and to have such a volume of mail that usually the rural carrier has to use a grocery shopping bag for it.

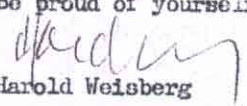
Now why don't you multiply yourself by the number of such letters I get and ask yourself how tolerant you would be when you are as specific as you could be in saying that I'd taken the matter you wrote me about to federal court, the judge refused to compel the government to disclose that record, and then get the kind of inquiry I got from you all over again, the same damned thing I'd told you I did not have and why?

Most of my records are in the basement and I can use the stairs only a few times a day. But when I thought of where the records might have been filed or misfiled I went to look for it for you. I wrote you a letter and delayed mailing it until I was certain I did not have any other ideas about where to find it, and that added to the clutter in which, unfortunately, I live.

In addition to answering all the considerable volume of letters I get, and most are clearly influenced by those you may refer to as researchers but to me are at best nuts (one yesterday argued and asked a reply when I said that Farewell America was a fake book by the French SDECE) for the first time since my first illness I have part-time help to do the searching and other things for me that I am not able to do myself and I do want to write what may never be known unless I do, and then to have people who without your credentials pay not attention at all to what I do say and ask the same damned thing all over again.....There have been about 20,000 like you and they've all had responses.

I have a vague recollection of 'Tom Shales' smart-alecky, wise-guy outdown and if my recollection is correct I made specific reference to those who spread disinformation and misinformation while being light-fingered with the work of others. If you feel that way about me because it came to the point I regarded what you were asking as an imposition because of your carelessness and thoughtlessness, fine.

Be proud of yourself,


Harold Weisberg

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, MD. 21701

2/17/91

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

You are quoted in the Feb. 1976 issue of QUI magazine as saying, "I'm a cantankerous old bastard". After your last letter to me, I would have to agree with your assessment. In fact, that's probably the only thing that you've ever said that even Mark Lane would agree with.

I'm sorry that you were exasperated by my letter. I misunderstood what you were trying to say - I thought that you were saying that you had copies of the Dallas teletypes and were referring to the tape transcript being withheld.

You yourself stated that you could not find the Heitman file and that you thought that it may have gotten filed under the name of the Congressman - but, you couldn't recall his name. Not knowing what the Congressman's name may have been, I took an educated guess that it may have been Eldon Rudd and that possibly you could still find the Heitman file if you looked there.

As far as me being unaware of the information that you have published, I am totally aware of your work - which is unprecedented. I purchased all of your books directly from you - with the exception of Oswald In New Orleans which I had to purchase from a rare book dealer. And throughout the years, I have tried to follow your shining example, and use only research that could be documented. Recently, I sent you copies of letters from David Belin and W. David Slawson documenting that the Warren Commission actually had access to the Mexico City CIA tape allegedly of Lee Harvey Oswald. This was something that even you did not know.

As a former plainclothes police detective, I feel that I'm no slouch when it comes to investigative techniques. And through my contributions to the research effort, although not as grandiose as yours, I feel that I have paid my dues to join that elite circle of responsible researchers.

I would hope that I never get to the point where I am rude, crude and ignorant to any other researcher who is asking for assistance - for the Kennedy assassination researchers are slowly dwindling away - and eventually there may not be anyone left to carry out the fight for the truth!

Regards,

Gary
G. J. Rowell
1529 Elizabeth
Bay City, Michigan 48708