

Dear Mr. Hemington,

7/25/95

Thanks for the thoughtfulness of the SASE. It saves me a bit of time and with my writing and typing what they are, ~~the~~ with the typewriter wanting not to record letters after a space in particular, it helps with correct addresses!

I do try to be informative and sometimes that is not welcome. It often is better for me by phone. My hearing is impaired so I use a speakerphone. ⁴This day before yesterday I ate supper while responding to a California writer with whom I do not agree. Supper is usually a sandwich. That makes it easier. But it is better not to phone me after 4 p.m. our time because I should be abed by six.

I think you are right in wanting to examine "the flawed methodology of the work of the professional historians" on the Commission, a flaw that has wider application among historians in general. To a degree that can be assessed by the memos they left and those memos can be retrieved by the Archives by their names. I understand that it is all computerized now but I know of this only with regard to the more recent deposits. And under the 1992 Act you are entitled to the first 100 pages without cost. Thus you can ask and if you want them you can get those pages indicating ^{NS} the existence of records they generated or in which they are mentioned.

The diskette is not on the single-bullet theory. It is an article on my relation with Russell, how he and Cooper were conned and on their unended refusal to agree with that theory. If I cannot find the diskette I can lend you the 40 or so pages you can copy of you'd like or use and then return.

There is much bearing on the known impossibility of it in NEVER AGAIN! with ~~sources~~ cited.

What was butchered from Case Open was my treating Posner's dishonesty as a prosecution case as a defense lawyer would have. It was retyped in New York on ^{several} different formats. A Hood student who is familiar with computers is awaiting the return from vacation of someone who doped that all out. She'll then make me a printout and if you'd like I can lend you that. I intend using that in the manuscript of a long book that is really only a record for our history, there being virtually no chance of publication, on Mailer's Oswald's Tale, which is really Oswald's tale, and I've tentatively titled Mailer's Tales, Of the JFK Assassination. I've well over 100,000 words of it on paper and I use the article Senator Russell Dissents in it.

You ask about terms and conditions. There are none. Perhaps I should explain this. First, I believe that use of FOIA makes us all surrogate for the people. That of course does not include my work but generally I do include it, hoping it will not be misused. I am a first-generation American and I believe I am fortunate in being able, ^{my} Frost's words, to keep those promises and to make a partial repayment ⁱⁿ for the freedom that became mine by the accident of my birth here as the first ~~member~~ ^{member} of my family even to have been born free.

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Then I do regard the assassination as a coup d'~~etat~~ etat, that being the inevitable result of the killing of any President. So I think that it is necessary for as many of the people who can to understand this and for as much of the record as possible be available for our history if only in the future.

After getting your letter yesterday I¹ phoned my dear friend Gerald McKnight. He is head of the Hood College history department and one of the two best-informed professional historians on the subject. The other, also a dear friend, is Dave Wrone. Dave has just retired to part-time status at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point. His home address is 1518 Blackberry Lane, Stevens Point, 54481. Both are overly busy but I'm sure both will be willing to help. Dave has just done some interesting new work on Lincoln he wants to get on paper and he is always busy with fine and productive work on the abuse of Native Americans. But Jerry was abed with a back injury so I did not speak to him. I will. He is also busy finishing up a fine work on the last Martin Luther King, Jr., project, a book on the Poor Peoples Campaign. The full ms of Case Open and the diskette are already at Hood, where all my work will be. I'll ask Jerry if the copying can be done there at the special rate they have for other libraries or college. If that is so the article Senator Russell Dissents may interest you to keep and perhaps the new diskette this student is to make of some butchered-out chapters of Case Open also would.

The plan of the ~~interested~~ ^{just-retired} Hood president, Dr. Martha Church, was to make my entire deposit available by the new imagining gismos when that could be done. I do not know whether that will be what the new president wants or will aim for. But Hood has the traditional attitudes on scholarship so I think they'll be willing to do what they can. The librarian, a fine fellow, is Charles Kuhn. He has a fine staff, too.

It is a Hood student who will be making this duplicate diskette for me from the one deposited there. Or to be. Gerald Ginocchio, at Wofford, Spartanburg, SC and Dennis MacDonald, at St. Anselm's, Manchester, ~~etc.~~ ^{etc.}, also have this diskette. Both are also dear friends and sociologists and subject-experts.

I do not know if I mentioend it but the unread and uncorrected index that was omitted from NEVER AGAIN! is available. If you would like it, please send me an SASE, with three stamps for it folded and four if you prefer it flat with a larger envelope. Letter-size paper xerox. I've not looked at it but I'm told that it is in part off by two pages. I believe that somehow two ~~in~~ ^{is} pages of text we omitted in printing! You'll not have to write. I'll understand in getting the envelope.

If you call I'll not regard that as an imposition. And if you'd like, feel free to tape it. Some of this is pretty technical and if I am not clear or misspeak myself you'll then be able to ask. Best time for me ~~are~~ ^{is} after lunch. I begin to tire a bit that long into my convoluted day.

Best,
Harold Weisnerg

July 20, 1995

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21702

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Thank you for your quick July 12 reply to my letter of July 10. I am genuinely grateful for your thorough attention to the relatively unsophisticated notions forwarded you by a neophyte who seeks to become more actively involved in the literature of the Kennedy assassination.

As regards your kind permission to call you by phone, I infer from your vague allusion--time limitations that mandate specific rest requirements--that you have a physical limitation circumstance which gives me pause in burdening you with elementary inquiries. If such be so, then clearly you must be exclusive judge of the prudence of your efforts to educate me along necessary lines. For absent understandable limitations you may wish to establish, there are two grounds on which I tend to justify continuing inquiries: (1) obvious awareness that I am in need of expert advice; and (2) your reputation as the premier high quality researcher of the subject.

Please permit me to clear up an apparent misunderstanding generated by my inadvertently skipping a premise related to the argument I forwarded you on July 10. My mind was then focused on that argument in the context of the earlier June 26 inquiry about Messrs. Goldberg and Marmor. That original inquiry was based upon a belief that there may be merit in analyzing the flawed methodology of the work of the professional historians who worked with the Warren Commission. In turn, that was the context for the argument concerning the minimum number of bullets involved in the shooting. I did not mean to suggest or imply that the argument itself was either new or an original discovery at this late date.

Rephrased, my question is this: In your judgment is the long-established argument for a minimum of four bullets the strongest--because based upon expert testimony--argument available for a critique of the historical methodology utilized by the Commission? I will appreciate very much your advice on this question.

If your diskette on the single bullet theory is available for loan, I will appreciate very much your establishing the terms/conditions of my access to it.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



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