

New Address: Rt. 7, Frederick, Md. 21701 301/473-8186

11/24/67

Dear Herb Green,

Be kind of you to write and commiserate I also take time from the three-week accumulation and the fifth, already-written book, for thanks and comment.

As you suggest, Thompson's "new" theory is neither new nor his. What he has added is skilled flackery, deliberate error (which is obviously acceptable because the publisher can apologize privately to the proper people without trouble with his author), and literary kleptomania. From the SEPost piece there is nothing new save what he calls his "discoveries" that are not even that, although he is the first to publish, if out of context. This is true of the finding of the pieces of fragment of the head, which I've known about for well over a year, having had copies of the suppressed FBI reports longer than that. I waited to fit it all together. As soon as I can risk the additional debt I'll publish POST MORTEM, and you'll then see what the scholar didn't find or understand, in the files he had and used.

We have a formula here that is as acceptable as any criticism can be: three assassins who are or have accomplices and are not conspirators! We have the fatal shot from the sixth-floor window when (PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH, under "Hughes", + have already proved no shots could have come from there. LIFE, carefully understated, repeats my conclusion and proof on this in the current issue. They quote Itak. Thompson says he engaged in careful, scientific studies. Alvarez (for which CBS took credit although they saw exactly the same thing in WHITEWASH almost two years ago) also used the most arcane "science". All of this to replace what should be the normal functioning of the human mind when it is attached to a careful eye and is fortified with simple common sense. Even that "double shot" at the point of fatality is not Thompson's discovery nor is he the first to print it. I did, a year ago. See Whitewash II, 221, second paragraph from bottom. Ray Marcus, of Los Angeles, separately and by different means, also reached the same conclusions. It is from uncredited Marcus that Thompson got his idea that Connally was hit at frame 237-8. Some scholarship!

And some press! It is the press that is responsible for the world you quite properly lament.

Thompson is not all. UPI asked me to write an "other side" piece for the anniversary. I did. They liked it, put it on the wire, and if a single paper used it + haven't heard of it. It is not a think piece but does have hard news in it. Free press?

I had a successful press conference in SE, well attended by the electronic media. I printed-press man there. He alone did no story. Again, my formula was to give fresh, hard news. Only irresponsible conjecture can be published when we have an American President gunned down in broad daylight on an American street and kissed off with the very dubious epithet of a fake inquest. I wish other writers could burn at this as I do and feel that if they care enough for the integrity and future of their society, they'd worry a bit about the goodies they have that they might lose—and their freedom(s).

Any time you want to do something, let me know. I've thousands of pages of the once-secret documents and I'll send you whatever you can use. Again, thanks for the kind words and please excuse the sermon and the haste.

Sincerely,

**San Francisco Chronicle**  
THE VOICE OF THE WEST

Dear Harold Weisberg:

I felt for you when that new type comes out with his "new" theory and gets all the space. What a world! And also let me thank you for the books. They're making fascinating bedtime reading for me.

It was nice of you to keep me in mind.

Best,

  
Herb Caen