

May 31, 1966

Mr. John Appleton
The Saturday Evening Post
641 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Appleton,

One of the things I expected to happen did. The Washington Post had about a full page Sunday, beginning with an 8-column head across the top of page one with the beginning of the text. They did spell the name right, print a picture of the book and Epstein's, got imposed upon by a former executive of the Commission staff, who gave them exclusively inaccurate information allegedly from the record, and now they have the letter I delivered this a.m. in which each and every one of the misquotations is documented by quotes from the record. I'm hopeful this may be good fortune smiling through adversity's mask, for now the paper is massively on record with undeviating inaccuracy, 100% of which is from one of the authors of the Report who has, unwittingly, laid open the entire mechanism. Besides this, I have at least one network promise, a local program Saturday night scheduled for a half hour on a popular yackfest and a good probability of a series of radio interviews on prime a.m. radio time (driving to work time).

The Post was the big reason I didn't hold the press conference, plus the fear I'd lay an egg without a better background than the book. I gave a thousand dollars worth of them away to the press, with the only major stories in France and the London Times. At least one wire service killed the story on the desk. The working press is kind. Period. I feared that if an unassailable, documented book could not break through without an assist, I'd better have that assist ready. Perhaps the Commission staff has given it to me. What they did is incredible, for some of the xix things they said they quoted were diametrically opposite to the real quotes.

Also for an assist, I've been working on fresh material. I hope you will find the enclosed far enough removed from the Department of Justice to not arouse fears among the Bobby Kennedy Watchers. There's more missing, including the frames of the Zapruder movies the Commission itself says are crucial. Their removal was very amateurish, the splice still showing. But it was complete - in every version beginning with the doctored exhibit in Volume 18 and including the slides and the file copy of the prints! I've examined all, in the presence of a lawyer from a very prominent DC law firm, who also made notes. The movies have been edited and shortened, and if the Post gets interested, I can arrange to show them to you. In fact, the depository has agreed to show me the original on my own 8 mm projector which can be slowed to 5 frames per minute. I have every document quoted in the enclosed piece and am including some for samples. As you can see, they are authenticated. I also have the 185-page inventory of the archive, the source of the enclosed.

Probably the necessities of the present "break" and the effort to get the Post to make the kind of amends that will break the whole thing at the seams will ^{with} prevent

my doing anything about the movies until the end of the week, and then a few days will be required for arrangements. If I can take you and show you that this is all as I represent and that it has the significance I say it has, do you think the Post can overcome its reluctance? There is no doubt you can be accredited, and the time required will be about a half hour. I'll enclose a form in case you think you might want to. I will then meet you at either the airport or the railroad station and take you right there. Examining this file will take less than an hour and the pictures as much or as little as you want, from an hour or two up. I am also trying to make arrangements to see other pictures covered by copyright and hope to get that at least started tomorrow or the next day.

None of this is in any way connected with the Department of Justice. Here I also assure you my information that Bobby Kennedy was completely dissociated is right. But the FBI was, and that's another story. I have written Mr. Hoover specifying the suppressed basic documentation which cannot possibly have any national-security connection, and the same with the Secret Service. I have also sent these people and the doctors copies of the book, calling the appropriate sections to their attention. The most important thing the FBI has suppressed is its explanation of its report to the Commission, which accounts for all three shots without accounting for two of which it knew, the one that missed and the one in the front of the throat. Perhaps equal in importance, perhaps greater, is the spectrographic analysis of the bullet and the fragments. With the Secret Service, it is the photos and X-rays. Since drafting this piece, I have traced their transportation from the Naval Hospital to the White House by more than receipt - by carrier and time. Secret Service Agent Kellerman, 3:56 a.m. November 23, 1963, when he was escorting Mrs. Kennedy to the White House from the Naval Hospital. I have it over his signature in a report to his chief.

I sincerely hope you will understand this is not an effort to abuse your kindness but an effort to persuade the Post I have something of real significance, that is is for them and that it is solid and of both national and reader interest.

Appreciatively,

Harold Weisberg

Enc: Bowke 11/26/63

CO-2-34030

94 Murray 11/25/63

Old autopsy (7 pp only)

Articles from NAR 324 7/65

Letter up re Dubois Kennedy Inquest