Harold Weisberg Route 8 Frederick, Md. 21701 4/20/75

## LOOKING BACKWARD TO LOOK AHEAD

Only cnce before in my life have I written out a speech and read it.

That I have taken this time and that I incur the disadvantages of reading, I hope you will come to understand, is a measure of the importance I attribute to this occasion.

It is a longer speech than I would prefer. But as Ecclesiastes tells us, there is a time and a place for everything. There are some things that long have needed saying. I regard this as the right time and place. That is why I am here.

When the sponsors of this meeting, none of whom had ever met me, wanted to invite me here, they were told by one who grew rich and famous from the JFK assassination that because he would be here I would not be. Typical of much of what is said about the JFK assassination by both sides, he gave a spurious reason a complete fabrication.

Fortunately, these sponsors did not "Rush to Judgment." Instead, they extended an invitation and when I immediately accepted it, they wondered aloud why they were told I would not come.

Perhaps the reason they were misled is because I represent a point of view that could end the personal exploitation by those who have commercialized these greatest tragedies of recent years, the assassination that ended the changes in national policy and direction that John Kennedy had begun and the phony investigation. So there will be no doubt, in refusing to go to Boston I wrote AIB, "You know neither me nor my work if you think I'll be part of deceiving people as all of you do. ... I can't condemn the misinforming of anyone strongly enough.... And when this deliberate misinforming is of the young I condemn it even more." Ripping off peoples' pockets is bad. Ripping off trusting

minds is worse.

He would teach the pope religion ought himself go to church.

Belaboring the government with gross lies and fabrications is worse than self-defeating. It enables further covering up. It has already laid a basis for the CIA and FBI to flood Capitol Hill with bitter tears while they wail, "Look, we are being blamed even for the original sin."

Why should you consider my views? I am a stranger to most of you, so I offer a few credentials.

I have been an investigative reporter, a Senate investigator and an intelligence analyst.

And so you will not be misled by my age, 62, my solitary opposition to compulsory ROTC in the early 1930s cost me my college degree. Your generation did not invent principle, protest or the willingness to pay its cost. I was all alone in my protest. There were neither picket lines nor war then. Neither was there support.

Regardless of whatever else you have heard, I am the only one of us who has been in this from the first, for more than 11 continuous, full-time years. I work 18 to 20 hours a day. For the first eight years I did not average four hours' sleep a night.

My WHITEWASH: The Report on the Warren Report was the first book on the subject. It dates to February 15, 1965. By the time I completed the book, I had also prepared an analysis of the Warren Report and the 26 volumes about a third of a million words in length. This is the way I work.

I deal with fact. I have no "conspiracy theories," the description of those who fatten off you with this frivolous substitute for fact.

If any nut, no matter how paranoid, has a nightmare, these self-styled "conspiracy theorists" repeat it and excite you with it. They have to excite you to get your booking and your money.

This is thalidamide "theorizing." Without doubt, thalidamide was good for headaches. But what were its consequences? Do we want such consequences?

We have come together at a time of promise, seeking an end so many say we seek in common.

The only benefit of the agonies of the Nixon horrors is what they did to national thinking. Today almost everybody will believe almost anything. Too many are taking advantage of this.

At the beginning of the year, I would have called this a time of great, if not greatest, promise for this common objective. But in recent months there has been an acceleration in the widespread dissemination of what we have always suffered: stupidities, misinformation and outright lies that too often have been the vehicla for self-promotion rather than establishing and seeking the acceptance of the simple truth that the assassination of John Kennedy was not solved and must be if we are to have a viable and free society.

-3-

While these Department of Disinformation operations have enriched a few, they have served government's disinformation purposes. I'll be specific.

Because we have come together looking and hoping for success in common interest, I address these factors and this past that have prevented success. Unless we change our ways, they will continue to prevent it. We have not gathered merely to seek sensational headlines. We do have serious purposes. We do want to accomplish them. I address the minimum conditions required for genuine accomplishment.

This is a new era. Congress is conducting investigations. The President who was part of the original whitewash has one of his fellow whitewashers covering up all over again.

Congress <u>can</u> do something. Some members have a disposition to do something. But heaping garbage on them and calling it fact merely because some nut had a nightmare and commercializers popularized it is not going to persuade Congress. It has always had the opposite effect. Congresspeople and their staffs are not fools. Investigations do not deal with fantasies. When these fantasies are investigated, we all appear to be nuts and all we say appears to be fiction.

We owe Congress and the people fact, not nightmares.

If the record of the media cannot be excused, what would your reaction be if all this nonsense, all this irrationality, was constantly dumped on your desk?

Thus we find a famous one who would and did say anything years ago when it was worth \$1,500 an appearance, one who was as

-4-

irresponsible as it was profitable to be, today clamors for responsibility. When in 1967 and 1968 he was getting rich saying the CIA did it - and he said it as recently as a year ago - in the changed national state of mind, he is today saying he does not know who did it.

Perfection is not a state of man. We all make mistakes. I include myself. So there is no need to personalize this by naming names. In most cases I will not. This is not a vendetta. Rather do I seek to set us on the only responsible course, the only way in which we can persuade the people and the Congress, the only way there can be what is not new but is the conclusion of the first of my six printed books on this subject:

There must be a <u>new</u> and <u>real</u> investigation, <u>entirely in</u> public, and by a Congress ready and willing to punish perjurers.

Whether simple mistakes to which all are prone, whether from inventions rather than the long and very hard work required to understand fact and truth and end the suppressions, or whether from a desire merely to embarrass the government, we must ask ourselves the lawyer's question about these unfactual claims, "Cui bono?"

"Who benefits?"

On March 27, ABC-TV's Geraldo Rivera aired a so-called "special" on the JFK assassination. Supposedly, they gathered the foremost experts to air <u>all</u> responsible views, the requirement of the Fairness Doctrine.

On that show - and it was a "show" in the traditional Madison Avenue sense, not a vehicle for informing the people - three participants lied. All three blamed the Kennedy family for the

-5-

suppression of vital evidence. True to form, Jim Bishop added other and the most basic factual error. He has as much contact with fact as the garlic wafted over the stew. Thus he is rich and famous.

All those who uttered this ultimate obscenity represent themselves as authentic experts. Whether they knew the truth and lied despite it or whether they were ignorant is immaterial except as a means of measuring them.

Cui bono?

The plain and simple truth is, first, that beginning with Bobby the Kennedys never did suppress this evidence and, second, that even if they had wanted to they could not have. The suppression was by the investigators, so-called, whose phony investigation cannot survive the availability of the suppressed evidence of which this is only a part and for years has been only an insignificant part.

The popular fiction exploited by these non-expert "experts" is that of the Warren Commission's apologists. One of the many reasons you find so few references to my work while reading and hearing much of it from others is that it disproves these commercially popular inventions. It does represent a long struggle for fact. In five cases I had to go to court for this fact. In other cases it was given to me when the government opted not to go to court.

Of these fictions the most enduring is that Bobby Kennedy whose apologist I never was - denied the Commission that had the power to subpoena it all the autopsy material, including the film. This is false.

5% -6The Commission held executive sessions from which it excluded even the members of its staff. All but the man who ran the Commission, former Solicitor General of the United States J. Lee Rankin, Commission general counsel.

In the Executive session of January 21, 1964, which was the month before the Commission's first so-called "hearing," Commissioner McCloy asked Rankin about the evidence the Commission already had. I read from the only really new book on the subject, the one never mentioned by most of the so-called underground press, those vultures of your minds who cannot survive the holding of the cross of truth and fact before them. This is from page 133 of WHITEWASH IV: TOP SECRET JFK Assassination Transcript:

Mr. McCloy. ... They talk about the colored photographs of the President's body -- do we have those?

Mr. Rankin. Yes, it is a part of it, a small part.

Mr. McCloy. Are they here?

Mr. Rankin. Yes.

And then Rankin led the Commissioners by their noses off into a digression.

Thus we have the anti-official experts - I avoid saying "ours" because they are not mine - doing the job of those who did the original whitewashing and covering up. Doing what Department of Disinformation operators, lacking these supposed credentials, cannot do for themselves. They lied in blaming Bobby. Is this why ABC, which had this book, would not have me on that or any program?

Cui bono?

-7-

Then there is the eminent barrister who <u>now</u> demands that everything the Warren Commission had be released by the Archives. Sound like a worthwhile objective? Sure it does.

This is the same legal authority who raked it in from every campus that would pay him, proclaiming that Lyndon Johnson had promulgated a secret executive order suppressing everything for 75 years. He is not the only lawyer "expert" to tell this lie.

A little fact may help. And for those of you who will become lawyers, a little understanding.

First, however, has this "expert" the remotest notion of what is still suppressed? How much time did he spend dredging that documentary quicksand of 300 cubic feet? Does he know what is still withheld - and whether or not it should be? Does he want details of the private lives of citizens that have nothing to do with assassinations, titillating the prurient-minded? Whose business is it if Joe Blow was homosexual and what does it have to do with anything?

There are some things that should have been there to begin with and ought not be given out indiscriminately now. This may be a small percentage of those documents, but I'm addressing the ripping-off of your minds as well as your pockets and the seriousness of those who, lacking any other immediate means, are using this tragic subject for self-promotion.

Without propaganda, without self-promotion, there has been a small band of us who have been ending suppressions. Without any help from the self-promoters who keep their names in the headlines. In self-promoting, they have denied the information to the people because they have monopolized the campuses and the lecture circuit

-8-

and kept those who really were working from telling others what they had learned.

So, cui bono?

The truth is more frightening than the lie. Johnson needed no secret executive order. Existing law and regulations misused by the bureaucracy made possible all the suppression officials desired.

It is past time to ask about fatted calves.

What you should be asking is where were all those who would now lead you when all the hard work was being done without them or without any help from them and with their hindrance.

Why does a lawyer wait <u>ll years</u> to even begin to talk about filing suits under the Freedom of Information law? Why were lawyers not filing them for those few of us who were really engaged in ending suppressions?

Jim Lesar, who is just starting practice and has without pay done most of the legal work in the King/Ray case, filed the suit that yielded the 90 top-secret pages in WHITEWWASH IV.

Jim has yet to appear before a jury but he knows more about the Freedom of Information law and has done more to make it work than all the lawyers whose names you know so well know or have done.

. WHITEWASH, the first book on the Warren Commission, finished mid-February 1965, said that Lee Harvey Oswald was innocent.

Now all of a sudden, with no new evidence at all and religious avoidance of the book that first made this claim, we have extensive promotion of a book that has nothing new in it and says, startling as it is made to seem, that Oswald is proven by "science" to be innocent. Fact is no good when there is this "science," the "science" of the police state.

Sure Oswald is innocent. The evidence, not machines, proves that.

But today, is the most important thing really Oswald's innocence?

Of all the things that can be said after more than 11 years, what does this book say?

The Dallas cops and the FBI did the dirty work.

Not the CIA, for example.

But then there are these officially recognized reports that Oswald had had a CIA connection.

So, with all the things that can and should be said today, who is it that has most interest in having Oswald believed to be innocent - not the assassin?

Anyone more than those agencies for which he reportedly worked?

Cui bono?

Let me tell you a bit more about this author and his associates and publisher.

His police-state device for the Orwellian establishing of "fact" and "truth" is called the Psychological Stress Evaluator, the PSE of an outfit called Dektor Counterintelligence and Secur\_ity, Inc. All this author's big TV appearances and promotions were with a Dektor official and were a <u>Dektor</u> promotion. Without Dektor this former CIA computer expert had no book. Remember those 18-and-a-half missing minutes of Nixon's tapes, those deliberate and repeated erasures established by court experts as deliberate and repeated erasures?

Well, first, this former CIA computer expert assured us that the missing words could be restored by modern computer technology. Then lo and behold, Nixon had another defender. Allan D. Bell, Jr., head of Dektor, became Nixon's expert. What an expert!

He blamed it all <u>not</u> on deliberate erasure, <u>not</u> on short Rose Mary Woods' famous "stretch". In Dick Nolan's ridicule in the San Francisco Examiner of March 3, 1974, "science" proved it was all Rose Mary's "defective diode!"

This phony defense of the indefensible Nixon by this Strange crew of police-staters was major news in newspapers of February 19, 1974.

Cui bono?

What kind of people are these?

Who do they serve?

What are we doing having <u>anything</u> to do with <u>anything</u> tainted with either the devices and practices of the police state or Nixon's defenders?

How good is their "science?"

This cabal plus Guccioni and his Penthouse - you know, those exploiters of female publc hair and women in general - with the wealth that comes from this kind of exploitation staged a supercolossal introduction of this new book in the National Press Club auditorium on March 18.

This former CIA expert then said that this PSE proves that Dr. James J. Humes, who was in charge of JFK's autopsy, is a truthful man. The marvelous machine tested his words and proved Humes truthful.

Well, Dr. Humes is a perjurer. Not just a liar - a <u>perjurer</u>. Without his perjury we would not be here today. Not just incompetent, what other "experts" you'll hear and have heard say. Humes lied under oath about the very most material.

I have accused him of this in published writing and in private letters and there is no denial. No denial is possible. So we have this new science to make him truthful!

If my POST-MORTEM can ever be printed, you'll get the full story. And in published writing, in private letters and in public speeches, I have proven that Arlen Specter, the lawyer who suborned Humes' perjury, knew what he was doing.

Neither Humes nor Specter denied what they cannot deny. If they change their minds, this is a fine forum. But of our newest"expert," I ask you, cui bono?

Who benefits from this combination of police-staters, their magical Orwellian machine and their protection of the man who made the whole awful covering-up and whitewash possible? From their aborted assist to Nixon and the federal spooks?

This author is touted by the publisher-purveyor of female body as the greatest of all investigators. A word about that publisher and this subject is not inappropriate here.

Read the dust jacket of this book. There you will find that this police-state job is, quotes, "supported by the known evidence and some startling official documents kept secret for ten years in the National Archives and recently released by the government." With overflowing good heart, beneficent government just "released" this "startling" evidence, the long-suppressed transcript of the Commission's January 27, 1964, "TOP SECRET" meeting.

Look in the index. You'll find no reference to the book that brought it out. Or the eight years of effort that did it. Or the law suit. Or the government's criminality in an effort to prevent exposure. Or a single reference to daring lawyer Jim Lesar who tangled with the Department of Justice. Or to my risking a perjury charge and jail if I erred in fighting the same government that also prosecutes. The government lawyers who defended this case are prosecutors.

Cui bono?

Why should those supposedly on our side deny you knowledge of the <u>one</u> published source of all this information, all in facsimile? Cui bono? Not you!

It is not because the author or the publisher didn't know.

When I finally obtained this transcript and wrote WHITEWASH IV, without my being consulted, another "expert," having first breached confidence by telling this former CIA author, spoke of the book to Penthouse and Guccioni. I had other plans this preempted because this gave them the transcript and they could use or misuse it.

Jim and I, having no alternative, accepted Penthouse's invitation to go to New York. We were first given an offer so offensive nobody could accept it. We were then told that there would have to be editing, in a sense that made "censored" the obvious meaning. And, of course, all this would take time and they were really excited about this monumental work based on that magical machine. That would be their first book. WHITEWASH IV and that TOP SECRET transcript would also have to wait. This was last summer. But this police-state job did not appear until this March. Obviously, this meant that in addition to other risks, the content of WHITEWASH IV would be denied the people for an indefinite period. All that stuff about how the CIA, as Allen Dulles himself put it, considers perjury the highest dedication of the CIA patriot.

So, not only did Penthouse know all about the complete work, they suppress all mention of it. And not only did they attempt to at least delay it while trying to steal it. They wouldn't even give members of Congress this transcript and other documents. But they would charge Jim and me a high price for the copies if <u>we</u> would give them to Congress.

In fact, knowing that they had my only spare copy of this book, one I could not afford to Xerox for them but did, they refused to return it. To this day they have it. When they didn't return it, Jim Lesar wrote last August 23 asking for it. Refusing to return my property kept me from showing it to others who might have been interested. We did want to try to interest magazines and others in the media in the ancillary rights, in taking the information to the people.

With this cabal's record, cui bono?

This becomes a magazine's rip-off. Another recent one is in another publication popular among you and also engaged in ripping off your minds. If you want, I'll go into Rolling Stone of April 24.

More serious, if it reaches a smaller number of you, is a real paper, as it calls itself.

It is run by a guru who organized the so-called Assassination Informaticn Bureau. They are the people who have been titilatting you - for fat fees - with all the nonsense they could gather and

-14-

retail with all the visuals that could excite you. Before they admitted they were ripping off your pockets and your minds, remember, I had for this very reason refused to be at their meeting. The man of religion among them told Rolling Stone, in this same issue, page 37, that "it was just a gig. Just something to do. Maybe make a little money."

After this Boston meeting, there was one at Madison, complete with all the same self-promotions and all the same exclusions. Almost nobody who had done any real work and none who could make a reasonable claim to having done any work in years.

There this guru, as quoted in the Madison Capitol Times of March 20, this guru who cannot have done any real work and whose "theories" eliminate it as a requirement, assured that the JFK assassination was not "perpetrated by the CIA or the FBI or Secret Service as some theorists allege."

The truth is that, theory aside, we do not know who killed JFK or who was behind it. So why say who didn't? In particular, why does this same editor never find space in his "real" paper for any fact or any story that is not consistent with his unique theory that the "cowboys" did the job? His "cowboys" are the nouveau riche of the southwest, in competition with the Wall Streeters.

Is this the real reason this real newspaper didn't give you that TOP SECRET transcript on the CIA and WHITEWASH IV, the one book to publish it and countless other once-suppressed documents? Dulles and the CIA are not "cowboys."

Why do we need to, on the one hand, theorize about "cowboys" and at the same time suppress this kind of evidence? Is it not real evidence the people should have? It is, after all, the top secret deliberations of the Warren Commissioners on how they would get around the reports that Oswald was an agent and Dulles' disclosure of the CIA and the "terribly bad characters" it and the FBI had working for them.

Must we not, as we look to the future, also look back on records like this and ask again, cui bono?

There are all kinds of gurus. One is a lawyer who has just joined another lawyer in the forming of still another committee when none has produced a single scintilla of meaningful fact. He guarantees that if a Congressional committee will immunize witnesses, in a <u>single morning</u> his candidates will blow the whole thing apart. Can't you imagine all those assassins just waiting to be immunized so they can rush forward to confess!

From this kind of silliness, which was repeated on coastto-coast TV, cui bono?

And who is deceived?

Like him, another born rich and thus able to survive this kind of thinking, for years presented himself as a Kennedy man when he in fact was, and after Watergate remained, a Nixon man.

Among his exploits is the theory that there was an elaborate communications system set up in Dealey Plaza. He is the man who spotted in a picture what he called an antenna hanging from the left rear pocket of a man authentically sick in the head. This sick man thus became a celebrity in New Orleans and a whole new line of infantile diversion was launched. Can anyone believe that a conspiracy effective enough to kill the President and get away with it would be careless enough to flaunt itself with a <u>visible</u> aerial when an aerial can be under the clothes?

-16-

And for what purpose was this "communications system" necessary?

Who needed it?

This makes as much sense as the factless invention also in Rolling Stone that the first shot fired at JFK was a blank, a signal. A real bullet that can kill is not a <u>better</u> assassination "signal?" And who needed a signal? For what?

Recently this Nixonian conned the New York Times into believing that Hoover is the guy in the white hat. Hoover wanted the truth out, and the liberal head of the Commission even withheld Hoover's evidence from the "investigators." The first lie here is that the Commission had <u>any</u> investigators. The FBI was most of it, the Secret Service the rest.

But there were indications of an Oswald imposter in Russia when Oswald was there. Long before the assassination the FBI Knew about it. The necessary memos were prepared and distributed.

The Times and its reporter were persuaded that there was this, quotes "apparent withholding of information from the Commission's investigators," who did not exist. There also was no withholding, but this ploy gave all those Commission staff people who really did the dirty work a chance to appear noble and pure in the story that appeared February 23, 1975.

<u>None</u> of these records was withheld from the Commission's files. None was denied any staff lawyer. In fact, only one had <u>any</u> classification, low-grade. The Commission staff had access to all classified materials in its files anyway.

So, with this one ploy, this Nixonian supposedly an accredited

"researcher," a term that has come to have nothing to do with research and much to do with noise, made a hero of Hoover, a villain of Warren, exculpated the dirty-workers of the staff, and with the content of WHITEWASH IV printed and about to appear at the time he approached the Times, he also managed to divert attention from its exposures of Hoover and the FBI. And all the evidences of Oswald imposters <u>in</u> the United States and <u>at the time</u> of the assassination. Abundant proofs appear in my books beginning with the first and not in them alone.

Cui bono?

And why did he not give the Times the whole story? All the available records? Why give them deception that conforms to political preconception? None of these records were <u>ever</u> withheld in the Archives. Why not give the Times all the other records also available of the imposters <u>in</u> the United States <u>when</u> it counted?

Or the existing record of <u>Hoover</u>'s covering-up of all this, his actual withholdings on this aspect from the <u>Commission</u>?

Who benefits from making a saint of Hoover when that he would lie about any Oswald connection was about to be published and had been printed, in the actual words of the chiefest spook of them all, Dulles?

Another of these so-called "researchers" is the most uninhibited of the legion of plagiarizers who care about nothing but promoting themselves. He became a "researcher" by stealing some FBI reports and other records that were being followed up for me in his city. He then filed a ridiculous lawsuit against the government full of the most fraudulent charges. He got himself coast-to-coast attention with this sensational fiction. The media

-18-

can be expected to go for the irrational and the nuts. His "case" was unceremoniously laughed out of court. It was a cruel joke. This "legal researcher" had not even read the law and he had complied with not a single one of the provisions. He had not even <u>asked</u> for what he claimed was <u>suppressed</u>!

But he did say it was in the cellar. Well, it was on the fifth floor.

He did say it was suppressed. The only reason he could not have it, aside from simply not asking the right people the right questions and going to the right files - he went to none and had never written to or been in the Archives - is because it was around for him to steal.

This character became famous all over again in a major service to Nixon, the Watergaters and all those covering up with an enormous diversion that was 100 percent fiction. This was his fabrications about the airplane crash in which Dorothy Hunt died.

Look in the beclouded skies over Chicago's Midway airport. See that thing? Is it a bird? A man? No, it is Superskolnick! All is now safe.

In his account - rather should I say one of his many <u>dif</u> <u>equival</u> <u>ferent</u> accounts - he had a mysterious CIA agent injecting cyanized into the pilot and then opening and <u>closing</u> the plane's door as he escaped by parachute from 500 feet. Of <u>course</u>, the CIA sabotaged the plane and thus closed the mouth of the woman who was about to confess all. To CBS' Michele Clark, who also died in that tragedy.

In his stories the CIA knocked off a whole bunch in this one exploit by one invisible agent. They not only invented the wheel, according to this "researcher" and others like him. They even discovered sex!

Anyone who disagrees with this man of principle who tried to steal Robert Groden's Zapruder film at the Georgetown conference is - you guessed it - CIA!

Here I ask you not only who - besides <u>him</u> - benefits. Obviously, the Watergaters and the Whitewashers. But could anything be more consistent than his serving CIA?

Another example:

Superskélnick's fame spread to the Yipster Times, which went for him and this gross corruption of what he had ripped off from my files in its March 1974 issue. It heads its eulogy, "America Wake UP!"

I would simplify this into you, here, wake up to those who, whether rational or not, are ripping off your minds,

The front page of that issue of Yipster Times launched a new variation on an old theme by a man who actually wrote in that learned assassination journal, Computers, that Garrison had "about" six "confessions." From the "about" 50 conspirators allegedly on the scene of the crime when it was committed? There appears to have been no boy in the underground press to declare that particular emperor was without clothes. Couldn't this "expert" count up to six? And if Garrison had "confessions," why didn't he use them in court?

In an earlier explanation of these pictures that dates to 1967, three men, for no good reason called "tramps," have been identified as everybody from a mysterious agent going by the name of "Skinny Ralph" to Lyndon Johnson's farm manager. There was one "Frenchy."

-20-

And, of course, Edgar Eugene Bradley of the most extreme of the far right.

Thanks to these pictures, Bradley had been charged in public; had defeated extradition from California, and had it not been for the fact that my guts were then tough and I could work around the clock for days on end, he would, in commemoration of the 1968 anniversary of the JFK assassination, have been indicted as a conspirator in the successful conspiracy, along with a man who died the year before the assassination.

This would actually have happened except for my having learned of the secret scheming that began with a former FBI agent. His credentials for leadership and respect you should want.

He introduced an authentic CIA type to Garrison and by that means launched a product of the French CIA, SDECE, in this country. Our CIA could well have been involved. This operation is the book "Farewell America." There are still those who take it seriously. It is a spook "black book." In its most recent form it appeared as a novel made into a supposedly nonfiction movie.

He looked at the FBI's picture of James Earl Ray and proved that Ray was dead. And his eyes had been painted in.

If you think he needs more credentials, ask me. He has them - plenty like these.

Back to the Yipster Times. Their front page had this combination of black headlines:

"Waterbuggers Killed JFK." Black and more than three inches high. Then, "Pix Place Plumbers at Scene." Half the page consists of two of this series of overworked pictures plus pictures of. E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis, born Fiorini.

-21-

Bradley, Skinny Ralph, Frenchy and LBJ's farm manager are consigned to history and the most arcane of CIA science takes over. Hunt has part of his legs taken out for this picture and then reinserted in time for his Watergate pictures. Dektor has no monopoly on "science."

For this newest "solution" of the JFK assassination, we are deeply indebted to Alan J. Weberman, to whom we are also as deeply indebted for his commemoration of the lOth annive rsary of the assassination with that tasteful and delicate campaign around the slogan, "Who Stole JFK's Brain from the National Archives?" (Hold poster up)

This campaign just happened to coincide with the appearance of that movie I mentioned.

And there just happens to be no mystery about what happened to the brain except to those who tell you they have toiled when in fact they have not. It is not a fit matter for discussion here.

Before we move ahead, lest you think Weberman also has joined the ghosts of the past, Publishers Weekly of March 31 announces his book by Third World Press. It is titled "Coup d"Etat in America." By coincidence, my FRAME-UP was abstracted from a longer work that exists in limited edition only titled COUP D'ETAT.

PW's puffery of the book not scheduled to appear until June, says, "It includes an analysis of photographs of the shooting in Dallas, lent by the authors to Dick Gregory, who has been showing them on TV."

And so we have progressed from the well-intended, the paranoids and the who-knows-what-or-who to a nationwide campaign centered around these same "tramp" pictures. They have become

-22-

not merely "tramps," these men. They are now the Waterbuggers who killed JFK. They are not merely Skinny Ralph, Frenchy, Bradley and, yes, James Earl Ray; they are now Hunt and Sturgis.

Once this most recent campaign was launched, without anything that could be called an investigation, this startling new "evidence" - their word - was presented to, of all people, that professional whitewasher for the Presidential whitewasher, David Belin. This and the other irrelevancies delivered to him, none secret or new, were the launching pad for Belin's reiterated campaign carried in the media, that the Warren Report was accurate and true. They will serve the purposes of the chapter of the Warren Report titled "Speculations and Rumors," wherein the Commission and Hoover mincemeated their selections of the ravings of that period.

The theory behind all of this is that it will force an investigation. The identifications of Hunt and Sturgis as these "Tramps" was first made positive by Ralph Schoenman in a February 7 Chicago press conference. Gregory's press statement actually says that Schoenman quotes "has collaborated with me for the past ten years in private research matters which produced the information [sic] we are about to reveal."

I understand Gregory's flack is the same Steve Jaffe who is the man Garrison sent to Europe for the "proof" and came back with ecstacies for "Farewell America." The last time I saw Steve he was with the French spook/ghost Herve Lamarre, also known as James Hepburn. Both were fleeing the Garrison office to which I had driven - and exposed - them.

This so-called positive identification of Hunt and Sturgis has been repeated with equal positiveness by others, with the explanation that Gregory wants to be sued so the facts can come out.

23-

What facts?

Does one not investigate <u>before</u> one makes charges of this magnitude? After his and Schoenman's "ten years?"

What will come out?

I could no longer put off an investigation once that 1968 commemoration was planned in New Orleans.

Speaking in Dallas last month, with Gregory present, according. to Bryan Martin in the Dallas Times Herald of March 22, Schoenman the same man Gregory also introduced on coast-to-coast TR as one who has devoted the last <u>ll</u> years to his diligent investigation when that is plain bullshit - said one of these three, spotted at the scene of the assassination, "fits the description of King's assassin." This is a plagiarism and a corruption of what is in FRAME-UP, page 465. King's assassin is unknown. But he, according to Schoenman, is "Frenchy" again. And all of this is supposed to come from Schoanman's personal ransasking of the Archives. While he was with the Bertrand Russell Foundation, no doubt - from which he was kicked out.

By this time Schoenman even connected these "tramps" with Ruby, the man who assassinated Oswald.

What would the most rudimentary investigation - I mean a <u>real</u> investigation, not the cheapest and most irresponsible propaganda and the ripping off of innocent minds - show?

First, these men are not tramps. They are winos. There is a difference.

Second, they were not arrested. Along with about 50 others, they were picked up and questioned. If they were not in any way connected with the crime, would you have them booked, charged and

-24-

condemned for life, along with their families and descendants?

Next, it was not at the <u>time</u> of the crime. It was more than an hour later. When I produced this evidence for the Computers magazine expert, these men then became paymasters just hanging about to pay off the real assassins! And, no doubt, to see that they earned their money.

-25-

Nor was it at the scene of the crime that the police picked them up. It was four blocks away. They were drunk and in a boxcar behind the Central Annex Post Office at 217 South Houston Street. They were boozing in a boxcar in which there was no rifle.

What were they doing in front of the Texas School Book Depository Building?

That happens to be the <u>only</u> way of walking off the tracks. And that is where the police command post was,

This is all there is to the story, to all this monstrous campaign in all its improvisations and variations.

What about the original stories, the original of Computers' expert, the embellishments of Weberman and Superskolnick, that these men were assassins? Or still another variation, that the assassination was actually committed from a railway car for passengers right behind a Plaza pergola?

Well, the Dallas Times Herald has a picture of the President's car racing to the hospital, taken from the expressway. It shows the broad expanse of the railway track for a great distance. It shows the TSBD building and several blocks to the south.

It is <u>contemporaneous</u>. It shows <u>no</u> train near the pergola or behind that building. It shows <u>no</u> train behind this post office.

So what will Belin and Rockefeller find when they heed these

importunings to "investigate?" They'll have their whitewash mixed for them.

Cui bono?

.

To this long and painful catalogue of our own horrors I could add much more, on those mentioned and a legion not referred to.

But is there any need?

As I said, it is not my purpose to hold up others for your scorn. We are here seeking success at a time when other conditions are favorable to success.

I address what my experience tells me is the minimum requirement of this success so longed for by so many who ache so hard. Aside from that experience with which I began my investigation I am, despite the propaganda to which you have all been subjected, the <u>only</u> writer who has been in this from the first, the <u>only</u> one who has devoted more than 11 continuous years to this work.

Ask yourself who benefits from lies about this alone, whether they be uttered by a lawyer in Madison or on coast-to-coast TV. And ask yourself what is denied you by these lies about who has done what work. And who has been frozen out - always - by those who lie and deceive you.

You have to know who you can trust, what you can believe.

If you want to worship fatted calves, know what you are doing.

John Kennedy's favorite book of the Bible and mine is Ecclesiastes. I recommend some of its words and some of its philosophy to you.

Vanity of vanities, all is vanity, it says.

It tells us that while all the rivers do run into the sea, the sea is not full.

That while each day the sun rises and sets, the earth endures

forever.

And that there is nothing new under the sun.

We need to understand how, with all the rivers of hard evidence that have poured into the sea of knowledge, they did not fill this sea for us.

We need to understand this business of vanity. And how it helps the fake solution to the assassination of our President and all that means to continue to endure.

Do we want to endure forever the rising and the setting of the sun on these vanities that have enabled the perpetuation of the official mythology of how our country was subverted by the ultimate in violence, how the whole world was turned around? How the essence of representative society was stolen from us all?

If we do, there is a message for us in Luke 19, 15: The very stones will cry out. And they should!

We have come together at a critical time in our history. We have a bankrupt, desperate, completely unelected administration led by one of the original whitewashers, a man then a crook who stole and commercialized this Executive Session transcript when that was a crime against national defense. You or I do that and we go to jail. It was part of his credentials to be appointed by the greatest subverter of representative society and of decency in our history, the man he pardoned for all his many crimes, even those as yet unexposed.

Any successful effort to force honest official solutions to the assassinations of JFK and others is today much more than the solving of heinous crimes.

It may be the only way of saving a society that is rushing toward authoritarianism.

-27-

There is, in my opinion, only one way to do this. That is to investigate the investigators. For 11 years I have been doing this. Now the Congress must.

1 1.1

But for the Congress to do this it must have reason. It cannot have all this frightful propaganda heaped on it and be expected to believe or act on it.

As the Congress is our servant, so also do we owe it the obligations of citizenship. We owe it the end of deceptions. We owe it the hard and dependable fact. We owe it the decency not to misuse it in vainglorious pursuit of the cult of the personality.

We owe it and the people the truth as straight and as clean as humans can produce it. Not theories, no matter how dear they are to those who substitute them for fact they are incapable of developing. We owe <u>dependable</u> fact, t<u>ruthful</u> information.

If your workshops and your thoughts center on how many shots were fired from where, you will stay gripped in the quicksand of the past. These questions about the assassinations and their alleged investigations today have their greatest relevance not as Perry Mason thrillers but because they represent the kind of investigation, if the word can be abused again, the dubious epitaph with which our President was consigned to history and those who turned the world around in assassinating him were exculpated.

These workshops and your deliberations and thoughts - our coming together - can and will have meaning only as they address the integrity of society.

Not as a quest for villains. Or heroes.

The time is <u>now</u>. Now is also the time for clean hands and could pure hearts. The place not be more appropriate than a law school. We must add to the right time and the right place the right direction. And then we must march forward together.

1

 $\hat{x}$ 

If we can and do, there is much that can be gained. If we cannot and do not, we may lose all.

The coming few days may have much to do with what kind of future we and our country can have.