

37 Harvard Drive
Hartsdale, N. Y.
February 4, 1969

Mr. Richard Bernabei
Queens University, Dept. of Classics
Kingston, Ontario
Canada

Dear Dick:

Your January 25 letter and the enclosed letter to Harold Weisberg raised several points which prompt me to send copies of this reply both to Harold and to Bud Fensterwald at CTIA headquarters. I had thought that C.I.A. would be distinguishable from CIA, but I will use CTIA from now on.

First and foremost, your suggestion about a method whereby all data settles under the eyes and understanding mind of a man or group who can be trusted to treat it fairly, is a very good one, and one which many researchers have pondered in the past.

By copy of this letter to Bud, I propose that CTIA act as a central repository for information collection, sorting, filing and dissemination. The organization offers the first hope of a funded way of doing this. The Citizens' Committees have never really had the financing or people to do it.

Here's the way it could work. Every time any CTIA member writes a letter, report, or article or collects a photo or clips a news item to be mailed; send a copy to CTIA headquarters. Code the item, indicating whether it could or should receive wide distribution or be restricted. CTIA could then disseminate to members upon request or on a regular newsletter basis, unrestricted information. In some cases a partial restriction might be desirable. For example, from your Jan. 25 letter, the name of the reporter in Dallas, or the two bombshells he came up with, might be restricted while the rest would not be.

Given funding and people, CTIA could act as the clearinghouse we've all been talking about for so long. I'm contributing some slides this month and when funds are forthcoming, will make my entire photo and movie collection available for reproduction.

The second item is the "Ramsey Clark Report." I label it that way because that's exactly what it is. By now you will have received my letter which crossed yours, dated Jan. 27, describing the mistakes in the report. Your letter to the Kingston Whig editor was excellent and should be sent to CTIA for distribution. Now that you know what's actually in the report, you can see how right you were. Four doctors reached the same wrong conclusion from the evidence, as Humes et al. But that's because it was examined out of context. As I said, for me, the important contribution of the Clark Report was the fact that there was only one hole in JFK's back and not two, and that it was down where the shirt and coat holes were.

No amount of fudging with dimensions or distorting the angular position of his head at the time of the first shot, Z186-189, can alter the now inescapable conclusion that the first shot came from the front at Z186-189, and the second shot from the back at Z226. (From Ray Marcus' analysis of Zapruder film.) There remains to be explained what happened to the first bullet. It is probably still in his body somewhere. The second bullet undoubtedly fell out, or was massaged out of the hole in his back since it didn't penetrate very far. Whether it was bullet 399 is conjectured at this point.

The four doctors were deceived on the fatal wound by being forced to assume there was only one bullet striking at Z312-313. If they had read "Six Seconds" they would have realized the laws of physics backing up the Zapruder, Nix and Muchmore films of JFK's head motions, call for two bullets striking nearly simultaneously. When two hit the top of the head from opposite directions, such a collision and explosion must have occurred as to render the medical analysis of the wounds meaningless. One is then forced to rely on physics and acceleration analysis as Tink Thompson did.

Bud can send you a copy of the Clark Report if you do not already have one.

Next, Eric Lincoln, Bevel, Abernathy, Lomax, Hule, et al. It seems to me that we should all encourage all of them to join the CTIA and by the methods I described earlier, let any one of us induce each of them to learn what all of the others know, and what we (Sprague, Bernabei, Dawnay, Paley, Harold, Turner, Murr, Gough) know about the MLK killing.

Again, CTIA could be the analysis and dissemination center for this. Perhaps more trust could be engendered if Bevel, Lincoln, Abernathy, Lomax and Hule were all invited to a conference in Washington, D.C., with the rest of us who have information. The formation conference of

CTIA involving Turner, Fensterwald, Sprague, Garrison and two of Garrison's staff turned out to be extremely productive and trust also developed from it.

Hule has doubts about Garrison because he knows Garvich very well. Lomax seems to be unreachable and rather a loner. Abernathy doesn't seem to back up Bevel in his statements about Ray's innocence. Percy Foreman may be a plant. Bevel may know something on his own, or he may have garnered information from Hule and Lomax. And on and on.

One thing seems certain about all of the members of the group listed. All believe the King assassination was the result of a conspiracy and all believe the FBI is trying to cover it up. A conference of all in Washington just might be very productive. Perhaps SCLC and CTIA should jointly sponsor the conference to avoid any white-black mistrust.

Next, the autopsy situation. By now you may have read the news that Garrison is pressing to still get the materials. Actually, Bud is handling it in Washington. The strategy is to use Wecht and Forman (Univ. of Wisconsin professor who proved the first shot would have hit bones if it did what the W.C. said) to prove to Judge Halleck that the Clark Report erred and that another independent analysis of the autopsy materials plus the clothing is in order and that the basic evidence should be subpoenaed for the trial, not the Clark Report. Halleck seems cooperative according to Bud and this may work.

Meanwhile, the trial is going ahead and if Haggerty permits it, the State will introduce the entire Dealey Plaza event, witnesses plus photos and movies. I have provided them with some photos and suggested others which they are getting by subpoena. They will use Zapruder, Nix, Muchmore, Martin, Willis Bond, Moorman, Altgens, Hughes, Betsner, Bell, and possibly several others. Many Plaza witnesses will be called who know some of the shots came from the knoll.

If you saved Ramparts of Jan. 1968, the Turner article gives a pretty good summary of the New Orleans witnesses, the CIA connection witnesses and those who can link Shaw to Oswald, CIA and Ferris. There is also a good summary of what is to come and what has happened in Paris Flammonde's new book, "The Kennedy Conspiracy," by Meredith Press.

Pick up a copy. The last chapter is one I would like to have written on the horrible behavior of the establishment news media. Of course, you can expect some unannounced bombshells as well.

Finally, let me comment on your new friend in Dallas. If he's for real, cultivate the hell out of him. If he's honest and courageous, there are many things he can do for us down there.

If that photo exists, it must, repeat must be gotten to Jim right away, even if it has to be stolen. I don't believe it. Why would any sane person living in Dallas have that photo displayed anywhere to anyone, without capitalizing on it in some way. If they were afraid they would hide it. If not, they would sell it to Life magazine.

I'll press Jones Harris to send you what he has on honest Joe Ruby, but he hardly ever writes anything. Just briefly, Joe ran a gunshop which had in it several police pieces of gear hidden in the back. He drove two station wagons around advertising his guns. One had a big gun sign on top of it. One of the wagons was seen driving it all around Dealey Plaza just before the assassination. It had gun advertising and lettering all over the sides. Commercial vehicles were supposedly barred from the Elm Street extension but Joe's wagon was there.

The other one was seen trailing along behind the motorcade in the downtown area. It did not pass along Houston or Elm, however.

Jones believes the vehicle we have seen in many photos parked behind the western cupola, was Joe's wagon. He thinks he detects the sign on top and one of the letters in the Nix film. That vehicle drove down the Elm Street extension less than a minute after the last shot was fired. This is provable by the Bell and Underwood films.

Jones also believes as you do that Joe was supplying weapons as well as transportation to the conspirators. Joe claimed his wagon was parked north of Elm on Houston at the time of the shots, but it doesn't appear in any of the photos of that area.

The guy in Willis 9 might be Honest Joe but the one going the wrong way in the DCA film (on the right) is Tom Howard. Several Dallas researchers noticed that and have been working on it.

I'll look forward to seeing you during the Feb. 17 week. I'm now located at the office of Wofac Co., Room 1210, 230 Park Avenue, New York. (212-689-7620), so let's have lunch and/or cocktails at least.

I'll be in New Orleans this week.

Regards,

Dick Sprague