

4/6/71

Dear Mr. S,

Hurried thanks for your 4/1, which would have reached here faster if you'd included my route number on the envelope. And for your comment on FRAMESUP. There is a review by Fred Cook in the current Sat. Rev.

On the offer of xeroxing: thanks, but there remain other problems. First, my reluctance to send one of the very few clear masters through the mails. I have a friend who has one, and when possible he has the xeraxing and collating done. By the time was add the costs of mailing and packaging, and extra work and handling, there is really nothing remaining to contribute toward the enormous work behind the books. Too often the magis are, shall I say, hassch with my things (one of the reasons I insist upon insurance of all xerox copies. I once had seven sets ruined at one time, plus a master. Even well packaged.

You correctly understand why the pictures are not in PW. I turned this aspect over to another, who did a fine job of gathering them and the, although in every other respect a fine, quiet and precise man, became a madman in interpretations.

My own opinion of Thompson is very low. He is a crook with a copout formula. Aside from what he stole from LIFE (and much from me--every place you see a reference to "according to a document recently discovered in the Archives" it swans WWII and published before he began his work) and others, like Ray Marcus, he has added but irresponsible conjecture and serious error to what was already known. The one thing he did was print pictures--gathered by others. Not exactly scholarship. Then he tried to seal his book by attacking and falsely criticizing and ridiculing all older "critics", including those who helped him consciously.

I have an enormous amount of JFK material researched and can, if I can get the time, do three or more additional books with no further research. But among the intrusions into my time are suits against the government to get suppressed data. They take much time. And I think I must do it. Even if alone.

Sincerely,

April 1, 1971

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

This is just a quick note to acknowledge your kind letter of March 29. I am most pleased to see that you are kept busy with your new book. I am only about half way through it but I believe it to be truly a "giant".

I really do wish that you had the opportunity to get back to work on the Kennedy assassination. You have done unquestionably the best work in the field. In fact, Mark Lane and others of his ilk look like pikers next to your fine research. I am, with one important exception, pleased with Photographic Whitewash. If only your funds were such that you could have published many of the photos you refer to! I have a set of the Hearings so things you refer to in there I can dig up. In my estimation the only other really comprehensive source for photographs is Six Seconds in Dallas by Josiah Thompson. If you have the time I would be greatly interested in hearing about your conclusions with regard to Thompson's book. To me some of his points make very good sense while in others he doesn't go far enough in analysis.

I appreciate your doing everything you can to get Xeroxed copies of the Post-Mortem books to me. Naturally I am anxious to get them so anything else you can do to speed up the process would be greatly appreciated. As just kind of an afterthought on our phone conversation, you said that the price of Xeroxing was so expensive in the Washington area. I can get it done around here for 5¢ for a legal-sized page. If there is anything that you want Xeroxed that I can do for you at this fairly low price just let me know and I'd be happy to take care of it for you.

Once again, wishing you the best of luck in your ventures with your new book and praying to god that you get back to work on the JFK thing soon, I leave you for now.

Most appreciative of your efforts for me and the Nation, I remain,

*Alan Stauffacher*

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P.S. I appreciated, too, hearing about your trials and tribulations with Foreman, Huie and the other "honest men" of the Ray case.

*AS*