

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
10/30/75

Ms. Susan Bolotin
Random House
201 E. 50 St.,
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Ms. Bolotin,

This is in response to Russell Stetler's letter of 10/28 asking that I do some checking on what I wrote about J.A. Milteer in Frame-Up.

I can't do it. My activity and mobility are limited by phlebitis and I can't keep up with what my own work requires of me.

Frankly, I hope your lawyers urge you to eliminate this selection from my work. I never checked what was asked of me. I agreed only because of basic principle. I did not agree without some misgivings based on some of the writing of some of the anthologists and the number of those whose work was being included. There just are not that many responsible writers in this field.

My understanding is that this anthology is supposedly on the politics of assassinations. If out of all my published work this is considered the only part worthy of inclusion or is considered a fair representation of what I have written about the politics of assassination or even of the subject itself I would much prefer to have no association of any kind with the project. Frankly, I regard it as at best irresponsible.

I did agree to its use, even if I were not to be paid. I cannot honorably back out on this now. But I would, with your agreement, prefer to.

I regard the selection itself as prejudicial, deceptive and misrepresentative. Now that I know what is involved, I regard this single selection of all I have written defamatory of me. And I fear it is being used out of context to conform with or to support paranoical preconceptions.

In fact, it makes me shudder about the anthology. If as has happened before it is used out of context or given meaning I did not intend I will not be content. Or silent.

I would appreciate it if Random House would consider this my request to have this selection from my work eliminated from your book. I have received nothing from the anthologists by way of compensation so there is nothing to return.

It may be difficult for you or others at Random House to understand part of what I've said because you cannot be expected to know the literature. However, I have published something close to 2,000,000 words on this subject, beginning with the first book on the Warren Commission. That book opens with a political introduction not to the best of my knowledge duplicated anywhere. The second book closes with an overtly personal and political statement also not duplicated anywhere. The third open with still another kind of political statement, the first of its kind anywhere. The fourth with one sui generis. There is more but this should illustrate that while I have done much more writing than anyone else on the JFK assassination. Yet not a word of it is represented? This fills me with doubt. And I do not want my work used as the vehicle for accrediting the political preconceptions of others.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

424 North Street
Oakland, California 94609
October 28, 1975

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 12
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I am writing in regard to your notes introducing and annotating the Milteer documents as published in your book Frame-Up. These documents and notes are to appear in the anthology edited by Peter Scott, Paul Hoch and myself. Libel lawyers for Random House, the publisher of the anthology, raised questions about many statements which, if false, could be libelous. Among the many questions on their long list was the statement that Joseph A. Milteer was a Georgia functionary of the National States Rights Party. If false, this statement could libel the NSRP by associating it with Milteer's plots. (We are not concerned with any of the allegations about Milteer's activities, since these are all reported in privileged sources.) CE 762, of course, links "a militant group of the National States Rights Party" to plans to assassinate the president, but not specifically to the Milteer plot. We need a similar document, or even a report from a usually reliable newspaper, to establish Milteer's NSRP connection. We would be grateful if you could write to our editor at Random House, Ms. Susan Bolotin, explaining in a few sentences what evidence led you to state that Milteer was an NSRP functionary. I feel sure that your explanation will satisfy the concern of the lawyers, and I thank you in advance for your continuing cooperation. A stamped envelope addressed to Ms. Bolotin is provided for your convenience.

Yours sincerely,



Russell Stetler

Stetler
421 North St.
Oakland 94609



**RETURN RECEIPT
REQUESTED**

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 12
Frederick, Maryland 21701

REGISTERED
NO. 25434

