

Mr. Joseph Traphagen  
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4/22/93

Dear Mr. Traphagen,

At 80 and in impaired health I cannot really take time for extensive correspondence and your letter of the 19 can be taken as evidence that the time ~~it~~ I take to try and let people see that they have had their mind and their capability to think captured by the ~~the~~ attractive and exciting assassination conspiracy theories is sometimes entirely wasted.

You begin by telling me how moved you were by what I said on a TV show and then after I explained, to use what you quote "that <sup>(you)</sup> my thinking had been 'corrupted' by" these theories you deny that and say that rather these nutty and very corrupting theories are only "a common sense...method of investigation (to) explore all possibilities...."

**BULLSHIT! YOU REFUSE TO THINK, MAM!**

You ask me to respond to five questions that ~~as~~ you say are "intriguing" and come from recent developments."

Of these five you say are "recent" one <sup>question</sup>, what Hoffman and Arnold said are not at all new and while I have some questions about some of them are not nutty. The ~~the~~ others are entirely the bullshit I was cautioning you again and you repeat ~~to~~ to me all over again, showing that what I wrote you made no difference at all.

Which is to say that I wasted my time.

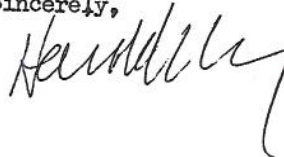
You refer to complete fabrications in books of exploitation and commercialization as unquestioned truth when with all of these matters you should have been asking yourself questions. This means you want to accept them and believe them.

My books hold and come from no theories. If you want to know the fact about the JFK assassination to the degree we have learned it and that of what we have learned I have been able to publish it is available, it is in those books.

I am sorry I cannot take more time for such correspondence. You are, I assure you, deceiving yourself because your mind has been captured by those who invent these theories as a substitute for fact and for other purposes I do deplore.

All of my work will be a permanent free archive at local Hood College.

Sincerely,



April 19, 1993

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

I received your reply to my recent letter and it is very much appreciated. I have recently played back my tapes of the 5-part "Investigative Reports" series aired last year on the Arts and Entertainment Network in which you were interviewed. I was deeply moved by your mention of being the first generation of your family born in freedom and that it is one thing for a government to lose the faith of its people, but quite another to earn that loss of faith which is what has happened. Like many of my generation, I believe that nothing has been the same since that November day.

I, like your wife's family, am a member of a family that had ancestors' fight in the Revolution and the Civil War (actually my father's ancestors left Europe in 1619) and have not considered ourselves to be just Americans, but also "citizens", a very rare term used by anyone anymore. A "citizen" is much more than just a resident.

I understand and respect your concern in not misleading people by conjecturing. I would



"prefer not to think that my thinking had been corrupted" by many theories that have been brought out. I would rather be open-minded and then through common sense and the "means, motive and opportunity" method of investigation explore all possibilities and eliminate the absurd and impossible. I have tried not to fall into the money-grab trap of some of these authors by borrowing their books at the library and reading them rather than buying them.

I agree wholeheartedly that the government and the Warren Commission never intended to investigate the crime and sought to convict Oswald first and tailor the evidence to fit the conclusion.

The media are also guilty in perpetuating the cover-up either through being threatened by, or in league with the government either wittingly or unwittingly.

After nearly 30 years, I want to think that the search for the truth will continue and although we may never prove "beyond a reasonable doubt" who was responsible, to give up because "it's history" will mean the conspirators and their heirs have prevailed to be stopped by their own greed and lust for power only when it is too late for all of us. I wonder now about the "end of the Cold War" we are

supposed to be experiencing now and how the ③  
"military-industrial-intelligence" community will react to  
its supposed dismantling which is causing so much  
economic dismantling and dislocation. Our economy has  
been so oriented toward war production in many  
sectors that if the heirs to the same cabal  
that surfaced before will lash out again somehow.  
It seems that "winning the peace" was something nobody  
ever counted on or planned for.

The trail is terribly cold and so many  
witnesses and alleged participants in the crime have died  
that the odds at solving the crime or even bringing  
an indictment are remote due to the continuing cover-up.

To me, however the more recent developments  
that are intriguing are

- 1) The information uncovered or allegedly uncovered by  
Steve Revell about the "Corsican connection."
- 2) The eyewitness accounts of Ed Hoffman  
and Gordon Arnold
- 3) J. Edgar Hoover's knowledge of a plot in  
September of 1962.
- 4) The information from Zerbe's book "The Texas  
Connection" stating that Lyndon Johnson helped  
plan the entire Texas trip and motorcade



route and that despite the fact that the killing of a President was not a federal crime at that time, federal authorities kidnapped the President's body. The November 1963 timing of the trip and the killing also benefitted the CIA, the "War Party" and LBJ's election at the same time with reversing JFK's Viet Nam withdrawal plans.

④ the Oswald exhumation in 1981 and its videotaping and the interview with Paul Brodsky on "Investigative Reports" about the missing craniotomy.

I would like to have you address just one question that I asked in my previous letter about whether the exhumation of John Kennedy's body (assuming the emotional and legal obstacles could be overcome) would resolve anything?

It has been an honor to correspond with you and I hope to order more of your books in the future. I hope that all of your files will remain intact and accessible for future researchers.

Best Regards,  
Joseph Maphogen

P.S. I recently viewed William Cooper's tape of "Government Secrets" regarding UFO's, AIDS, Council on Foreign Relations, etc as well as JFK murder and his claim that CIA and ONI were responsible for assassination. His copy of Zapruder film allegedly shows driver William Green turn and fire fatal head shot with special "assassination pistol" designed to fire "exploding pellet" filled with "shellfish toxin" and that rifleman caused only throat and back wounds.

I did see the film and prefer to reserve judgment and take Cooper with "grain of salt". I agree that his film seems to show Green fire at Kennedy but would prefer to defer to photographic analysis experts or conclude that his Zapruder film has been doctored or that the "pistol" is an optical illusion. Cooper after all, does charge people money to see his presentations. I believe if Green did indeed do this, Groden or someone else would have brought it out in their analysis of the film. Also Green is now deceased.