

12/12/71

Mr. Dilman
United Press International
National Press Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Dilman,

I have just returned from a trip that included New Orleans and Dallas. From an official source I do not feel at liberty to disclose, I obtained the enclosures, a Dallas Police "General Offense Report" and a retyped copy of what appears to be the part of a UPI story the jump of which was not included.

Were it not for this UPI story, I'd be inclined to discount the police report as a hoax, prepared by someone with access to Dallas Police forms. However, I was able to do some checking, not inside the police, where I have no sources, but with the Dallas Sheriff's Department. All the legible numbers are legitimate. They accurately reflect the designations the police would have used.

I spoke to your Dallas bureau. They say that for the years 1968, the more probable, or 1967, which is possible, their records are stored in boxes in the basement of their building. They suggested that you would be able to ascertain whether or not there was such a story and provide the missing end. I would like to know.

What I enclose, the return of which I'd appreciate, is a xerox of a xerox of a carbon of unknown generation. It was sent, anonymously, by one signing himself a former Dallas policeman. I also enclose a retyped copy of the typed material.

Among the things that inspire doubt are the use of the name "Rubenstein" for Ruby, something he never did, and the names of policemen involved in the assassination story. With all the cops in Dallas, this seems to stretch it a bit.

What seems to lend credibility is your story, or what is represented as that.

Oswald was said to have used the alias Hidel(1). He did live at that address, with Mrs. Bledsoe. But he also left immediately after this date, without using up all the rent he had paid in advance. The address given for Rubenstein is that of his "club". When Mrs. Bledsoe testified before the Warren Commission, she was not asked about any such incident, nor did she volunteer it.

Thanks for anything you may be able to do to help.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

original sent to Chicago 4/0 WBBM

UPI Washington
November 8, 1967

Dear Mr. Weisburg:

Enclosed is the copy the way we propose to use it.

I would appreciate a note from you giving your OK to reach me Monday Nov. 13.

I can't help asking a couple of questions.

On page 6 you say Oswald wasn't at the scene of either crime. Could you insert a line saying where you think he was. And how do you explain away his ownership of the rifle found in the building? Could you put in a couple of lines about that?

On the same page re the photo, could you ^{add} a line or so ~~saying~~ explaining why you so feel so positive the picture was taken at the moment of the assassination. I think readers will wonder. I gather you rely on the FBI listing of the picture ~~was~~ having been taken when the presidential motorcade got directly in front of the building. The thought occurs to me that a motorcade is a longish thing, not just one car, and anyway wasn't the President's car 150 feet or so beyond the building when the shots were fired?

Sincerely,

Julius Frandsen
Julius Frandsen

(Editor's note: Harold Weisberg, a former investigator and intelligence analyst, is convinced that the Warren Commission conducted a "whitewash" of the Kennedy assassination. He has written five books in a ~~series~~^{planned} series of seven explaining how he reached his conclusions, the most recent being "Oswald in New Orleans: Case for ~~the~~ Conspiracy with the ~~the~~ CIA." The following article, written for UPI, describes what he considers gap in the Warren Commission's investigation.)

(Harold Weisberg is a former investigator, intelligence analyst and newspaper and magazine writer. His WHITEWASH: THE REPORT ON THE WARREN REPORT, completed in February 1965, is the first and to date the only book to analyze the Warren Report exclusively in terms of the official evidence. He published it, WHITEWASH II: THE FBI-SECRET SERVICE COVER-UP and PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH: SUPPRESSED KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PICTURES himself. OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS: CASE FOR CONSPIRACY WITH THE CIA was published November 1 by Canyon Books, 231 East 51 Street, New York City. He has written the fifth book of a series of seven on the Kennedy assassination and its investigation. It is entitled POST-MORTEM: THE SUPPRESSED KENNEDY AUTOPSY. Publication date has not been set.)

] By Harold Weisberg [

(Distributed by United Press International)

[Can a President be killed and consigned to history with the dubious epitaph of a fake inquest? If this happens, is the country safe, is the institution of the presidency ~~secure?~~ ~~secure?~~ secure? Can any President thereafter be without apprehension that the same thing can happen to him?

(The answer of the government is "Yes" to all these and the many more questions left when President John F. Kennedy was so coldly murdered four years ago. ^{The} ~~official~~ official investigation ~~which~~ left more questions unanswered than it began with and answered none with finality.

[I am one of a small band who insist that the kindest description of the ^{Warren} ~~Report of the President's~~ Commission ^{report} ~~on the assassination~~ of President Kennedy is that it is erroneous. The fourth of my own seven-part "report on the Warren Report" is OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS: CASE FOR CONSPIRACY WITH THE CIA. (New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison, who is conducting his own investigation of local aspects of the assassination, and who made a little-remembered arrest in connection with it three days after that tragedy, has written a foreword to this

1st add Weisberg xxx the assassination.

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book. In ~~it he~~ describes the murder as an "execution" / Daily, as I continue my own investigation, I am increasingly in accord with this description.

The more one studies the official printed evidence-- the word is entirely inappropriate as lawyers use it --the more it is apparent to the unfettered mind that there was, indeed, a "cover-up", ~~the word~~ Garrison ^{puts it.} ~~now uses from the subtitle of my second book, THE FBI-SECRET SERVICE COVER UP,~~ and the more one pries loose ~~the~~ evidence ignored by the Commission) and in its files, ~~as I alone have persistently done,~~ the more unavoidable is the conclusion that one reason for this coverup is to protect the CIA.

~~In a newspaper story, there is never space for the exhaustion of detailed evidence on complicated subjects. This is not the function of newspapers but it is of books, as it is the responsibility of the authors of books in a democratic society. I will, therefore, be limited to a few specific illustrations.~~

First, however, (I would like) to thank FBI ~~for this opportunity,~~ the first extended by any news service, for one of ~~us~~ described as "critics" to give a few samples of the kind of evidence ^{which} ~~that leads~~ ~~make us feel that the Warren Report is unacceptable and wrong and~~ makes an entirely public investigation (the Warren proceedings were entirely in secret) a minimum condition for the survival of democratic society.

~~I particularly welcome the opportunity to speak with my own voice, and not to be heard in the misrepresentations of others.~~ (Contrary to what some say, to ~~conclude that the Warren Report is wrong does not~~) ~~the~~ "commemoration" of the third assassination anniversary would lead ~~one to believe,~~ (require belief that ^{the} ~~the~~ Commissioners and every Department of Justice employe down to the charwomen) ~~with least~~

Ind Jdd Weisberg ~~xxx~~ the charwomen

seniority were part of a grand conspiracy. I believe the members of the Commission, men already overly committed to the public service, did not have the time to really run the investigation. Fewer than a sixth of what were euphemistically called "hearings" had even a single Commissioner in attendance.

Most were conducted in what amount to back rooms in Dallas and New Orleans, with a staff lawyer empowered to administer oaths, a stenographer and a witness happy at the exclusion of the press, alone present. This is a mechanism guaranteed to present temptations that American lawyers, trained in the adversary system of justice, are ill prepared to cope with. Our judicial system presupposes the active opposition of another side, the control of a judge who interprets the rules called laws and procedures, and cross-examination, truly described as the greatest machine for the discovery of truth.

All of these were missing when the government investigated the murder of President Kennedy. Here is a sample of the consequences, from a document for which the Commission found no space, ~~in its massive volume of printed evidence, in the estimated 20,000,000 words of the 300 cubic feet of its files. It is from the 1964 chapter of its annual book, which is the first time the intelligence expressed in the form of a folder of the Commission's file 67, 101 to the~~

^MAnna Meller is one of the women in the Dallas-Fort Worth Russian-exile community who sought to help Marina Oswald. Noting the writings of Karl Marx in the Oswald apartment, she expressed her concern to her husband. He phoned the FBI.

Assistant Counsel Wesley J. Liebeler (now a professor of law at the University of California at Los Angeles) questioned Mrs. Meller in Dallas "back room" beginning 9 a.m. March 25, 1964. From his

3rd add Weisberg XXX From his

(greeting, "Come in, Mr. and Mrs. Meller, and sit down," we know that Teofil Meller was present. Liebeler asked not a single question of him.

(Instead, he redundantly inquired about the number of loaves of bread Marina had been given, as though this was the essence of the ~~fact of~~ assassination. He also ignored a document in his possession, the official report of Dallas Detectives F. A. Hellinghausen and P. M. Parks, dated February 17, 1964.

~~This document~~ says that when Teofil Meller "checked with the FBI ... they told him that Oswald was all right".

(Before the assassination, Oswald, the "defector" to Russia, was "all right" to the FBI? And the Commission had no interest in it, asked no questions - made no reference to this in its report, which implies the opposite? ~~Had anyone in the Commission~~ printed words, for the document?

(The Report speaks repetitiously of Oswald's so-called "dedication to Communism and Marxism". The truth is that the Commission's evidence ^{included} has hundreds of pages of his writing and speaking unvaryingly expressing the greatest hatred and contempt for Russia.

~~Then there~~ ^{is the official misrepresentation of Oswald as} pro-Castro. ^{My latest book,} "OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS," traces his phony non-existent New Orleans chapter of the "Fair Play for Cuba Committee", his own invention, and the return address he stamped on his literature, 544 Camp Street. ~~Expanding the suppressed FBI reports of the fabulous New Orleans "investigation" and telling what the FBI withheld from the Commission, OSWALD'S NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER AND CONNECTIONS WERE WITH THE CIA-CUBANS.~~

(What the Warren Report does not tell us is that the Cuban Revolutionary Council, which, with its successors, ^{2/52} had an office there,)

4th and Weisberg ~~xxx~~ office there
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was formed by the CIA. Oswald's connections were with the CIA-Cubans.

~~Picture of a "pro-Castroite" Oswald enticing Castro supporters to make themselves known to the violence-prone anti-Castro forces!~~

~~Was~~ the FBI and Secret Service ~~also~~ also withheld from the Commission the identity of the late Guy Banister, who likewise had an office in this same building. Banister arranged for the Cubans to get the office space there. The FBI misrepresented this by giving Banister's address as 531 Lafayette Street. This is a corner building. Both addresses are the same. Only the ~~one~~ thickness of a floor separated the Cuban office from Banister's.

The FBI described Banister as of "Guy Banister Associates".
~~It~~ never told the Commission that Banister operated a detective agency, was a violent racist, was in on clandestine U.S.-Latin American operations, and was a former FBI agent.

~~This building is across narrow Lafayette Street from the Post Office, which housed federal agencies.~~ (When munitions stolen by the Cubans were stored in New Orleans, they were stacked in Banister's office in a quantity that could have wrecked much of downtown New Orleans. ^{Nearby} ~~is the~~ is the Reilly Coffee Company, where Oswald worked, and the Crescent City garage, where he hung out. The FBI and Secret Service used this garage.

(None of this is in the Warren Report or its printed "evidence".

~~I doubt the members of the Commission knew it. I am likewise confident that neither Liebler nor Chicago Attorney Albert Jenner, who, with him, conducted the New Orleans inquiry - also in "back rooms" - was aware of it.~~

(Nor is the fact that a witness who tried to tell Liebler of the FBI involvement with these Cuban groups was immediately threatened by the FBI. Liebler would not let him talk when he tried. I

5th add Weisberg xxx he tried.

~~have introduced him and his evidence to Garrison, as I have it in my new book. He is Orest Pena, owner of the French Quarter Habana Bar and Lounge, 117 Decatur Street, where Lee Harvey Oswald as a "False Oswald" threw an unforgettable drunk. Pena is a former FBI informant.~~

~~No sooner had I taken an assistant district attorney to hear Pena's evidence than the radical-right lunatic fringe of the refugee Cubans filed an intimidating but entirely frivolous lawsuit against him.~~

(These are but some of the indications of Oswald's real connections. I believe he was framed. ^{I interpret the} Commission's own ~~misrepresented~~ ^{as indicating} evidence ~~that~~ ^{means to me that} he actually killed no one -- not the President and not Dallas Policeman J. D. Tippit. ~~It is unassailable but distorted evidence~~ ^{The Commission's own} ~~he~~ could not have been at the scene of either crime when it was committed. (There exists -- also suppressed until I made it public -- ~~the following~~ a picture taken at the moment of the assassination, showing the sixth-floor window in which Oswald allegedly was. Neither he nor anyone else nor a rifle is in it. (The FBI doctored this picture in presenting it to the Commission, ~~as Exhibit 29 to its report of December 9, 1963 (Comm. Report #12).~~ ^{90 per cent} It eliminated more than ~~90 per cent~~ of the picture. The Presidential motorcade is not in this cropped version. Yet J. Edgar Hoover knew this suppressed picture, in his words, showed the "Presidential motorcade ... directly in front of the Texas School Book Depository Building". ~~I have and published this picture and Hoover's letter so stating (PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH: (SUPPRESSED KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PICTURES, pp.270-01).~~

(That these facts require private investigation when there was an official investigation and when the official investigation deliberately suppressed them is only part of the proof of the urgent need

6th add Weisberg X/X urgent need
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for a full and entirely public official investigation, by a body with the power and willingness to punish perjury and other illegalities, which this Commission tolerated and covered up.

~~For those unwilling to face the awful reality, that a President was murdered and was consigned to history with the very dubious epitaph of a fake investigation,~~ I propose a method by which we can establish enough fact to justify such a public, official investigation.

~~The two Commission lawyers identified above have each accepted a number of invitations to confront me on radio and TV. Without exception, they failed to show up for a single one. Let us broaden this confrontation, not restrict it to these two lawyers.~~ Let all those who ~~so sadly served the country when they were~~ the Commission staff lawyers select, say, a half-dozen of their number ~~including Liebeler and Arlen Specter, who used his Commission career to become District Attorney of Philadelphia and then (Republican candidate for mayor) (mayor)~~ to confront me in public, unrehearsed, before newspaper and radio reporters and TV cameras. Let us discuss the Report and the misused, misrepresented, destroyed and suppressed evidence.

There will then be little doubt of the essentiality of a new investigation, of the need for it to be public and in as close approximation of a court proceeding as possible, and above all, that none of it be hidden from the press.

~~To those who say Criticism of the government undermines it, I answer that the opposite is true. We do not expect and have no right to demand infallibility of public servants. But we must be able to expect and, if necessary, demand rectification of error. Our system of justice presupposes that courts will err. It provides for the correction of judicial error. This does not undermine democracy but strengthens it.~~

7th add Weisberg to the press.

The powerful government that acknowledges it did wrong and then pledges, to the degree possible, correction of its wrong, earns the respect of mankind, not its contempt. If the United States government is worried about its tarnished international image, let it earn respect by acknowledging the Kennedy assassination must be really, vigorously, investigated.

I can imagine no more fitting commemoration of this murder.

Nor one that can do our country more good.

JOB

NEW ADDRESS: Rt. 7, Frederick, Md. 21701 473-8186

November 22, 1967

Mr. Julius Frandsen, vice President
United Press International
National Press Bldg.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Frandsen,

Now that I have returned, I want immediately to thank you for your courtesy in sending the corrected copy of my article to me for approval of the changes. It reached me in Chicago, I read it and noted the few additions on the way to San Francisco, and immediately went to your local office to transmit them to you.

When I was in Los Angeles, I was told the story was on the wire. If a single newspaper or radio or TV station used it, I am entirely unaware of it. Offer them another libel of me and you'll get total usage. Such is the state of freedom of the press in our country today. Offer them a lengthy piece on a book dishonestly designed to be commercially acceptable and meet certain preconceptions (like three assassins who are accomplices but are not conspirators) and every paper will carry it, prominently.

However, I am indebted to you for the offer of the space and I do thank you for it, even if it accomplished nothing.

You may recall that I first wrote you about this with regard to what I believe to be the very hurtful and 100% inaccurate writing by Merriman Smith that, I believe, appeared more places and more prominently than anything else. You know that Mr. Smith declined a confrontation on his writing, mine, or any combination of his choosing and any forum of his preference. Nonetheless, knowing what he had said to be false, he thereafter used UPI radio facilities to pursue his campaign against me.

Thereafter I wrote you and asked for a reasonable opportunity under the fairness doctrine (if not UPI's) for adequate response on the same facilities. You have never responded to this. To the best of my knowledge, you are the first to offer any "critic" a chance to be read via wire service. I hope it is not expecting too much to ask that you be the first to honor the fairness doctrine. Not a single station or network has granted me this time, and I fully expect to do something about it as soon as I can, for that, too, is part of what I seek in my work on the assassination and its dubious official investigation.

As you may realize, I have several thousand pages of once-secret documents. These are available for that purpose. There are a number of things I believe you will find newsworthy. On the New Orleans end alone I have perhaps 400 pages. This material is so impressive (if it is only looked at) that even Joe Pyne stopped eating people when he examined it. Every document mentioned in OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS is in my possession.

I do hope to hear from you favorably on this, and I again thank you for your decency in offering me the opportunity in the story no one used.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg