

Dear Hal,

2/4/99

No time for much. Lil is, I hope only temporarily, in a nursing home again. After four major operations in less than three months.

I suggest that you tell ^HHolland, who has told you to wait until his book is out, that when it is out his reputation will be ruined. Forever.

He has done no investigation of the official mythology and for his own political reasons he reached the ^Cconclusion with which he began. He has even argued that the Commission was right because it was wrong.

And he shows his ignorance in asking when ^{re}the bullet ~~was~~ went when it left the front of the neck. Which it never did and there is an abundance of evidence he has ignored on that. Even picture, official picture.

You can be sure he did not read any of my books and that, you might tell him, is not because he did not know of them. He or his then partner Kai Bird was here and copied what I had separated out on McCloy. They know the extent of the records I have and that I make them available to all working in the field.

Only when he is so close he never came to consult those files or ask any questions or test what he began believing ^vwithout have made the inquiry that is necessary before forming a belief.

Needle him a bit about his staying away when he is so close. Tell him that the FBI told federal district court in Washington that I know more about the assassination and surrounding circumstances than anyone working for the FBI.

I do not think that anything will change his fixed mind but I think a letter making a record of these things might be good to have.

Thanks and best,

Hal

Needle him also about his political naivete thinking that after the 1962 missile crisis solution, Kennedy's guaranteeing of Cuba against any invasion, there was anyone who wanted Kennedy alive more than Castro.

copy to - H. WELLS

27 December 1998

Mr. Hal Verb
P.O. Box 421815
San Francisco, California 94142-1815

Dear Mr. Verb,

I am in receipt of the letter you sent to *The Nation* regarding my December 7th review.

To some degree, I'm afraid you will have to await my book for the fullest answer to your question(s) about the bullets in Dealey Plaza. The specific facts that you recite are accurate, but they don't add up to the conclusion you reach. The necessary ingredient that is missing is history, and the context which would explain the statements made by the Connallys, LBJ, Richard Russell and even Kellerman.

I will say this, however. If you take another look at the House Select Committee's final report, you will find (putting aside the phony acoustic evidence) that the panel concluded three shots were fired from the TSBD's 6th Floor by Oswald; of these, the first one missed the occupants of the Lincoln; the second hit both Messrs. Kennedy and Connally, and the third tore open the President's head. That conclusion tracks exactly with one of the alternatives put forward by the Commission in the Warren Report, and I submit is the only possible conclusion once all the factors are weighed.

To get down to brass tacks, I would like you to answer this question: if the bullet leaving President Kennedy's throat did not then hit Governor Connally, would you be so kind as to explain to me where it did go, traveling at a speed of approximately 1700 feet per second? A bullet that disappears-- not one that wounds two men, like military ammunition is designed to do--now that would have truly been a magic bullet.

I look forward to hearing your answer to this question.

Cordially,
Max Holland
Max Holland

221 Constitution Avenue NE
Apartment 23
Washington, DC 20002
202 543 1190 (Telephone & Fax)
mxh@juno.com (E-mail)