

Mr. Charles Peters, editor  
The Washington Monthly  
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Washington, DC

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Dear Mr. Peters,

In one of my dozen or so FOIA lawsuits to obtain withheld information about our political assassinations and their investigations, the Department of Justice told one of those judges that I know more about the JFK assassination and its investigations than anyone in the FBI.

That was in the first lawsuit filed under the 1974 amendments to the Act. FBI mendacity in one of my earlier FOIA suits led to that amending of the investigatory files exemption, to make FBI, CIA and similar files accessible under the Act. ~~Unreported~~ other <sup>in</sup> the Congressional Record and by the judge in a suit I filed two years later is the fact that it <sup>is</sup> as the sole surviving brother, Teddy, who saw to it that the legislative history is clear on this. Correction: the judge stated that the amending of the Act was due to me, not that Teddy ~~made~~ made the legislative history clear.

Please excuse my typing. I'm 81, in seriously impaired health, limited in what I am able to do, and my typing cannot be any better.

The DJ unexpected praise I use as credentials in the event you know nothing about me and my work. It was not only exceptional <sup>a</sup>praise, it was perhaps the most unique defense of repetitious perjury by the FBI ever made. And it was successful! Not atypically the judge did nothing about it other than threaten my lawyer and ~~me~~ *in telling the truth.*

It is because I do have this extensive knowledge of the assassinations and their investigations that several years ago, having been on borrowed time for 19 years, I decided to spend what time remains for me perfecting the record for our history to the degree possible for me. In this short time I have put on paper about a million words relating to the assassinations and their investigations, mostly in the form of rough drafts of books and in a few long articles.

The first of these books, which was accepted and could easily have appeared by the middle of last year, is still stalled. <sup>I</sup> have not be able to get any rational reason for it. But lacking an agent there is nothing I can now do about it. I had and <sup>lost</sup> an agent when <sup>I</sup> began writing about the JFK assassination. Immediately thereafter six or more refused to represent the subject and after I completed the first book on it, Whitewash: The Report on the Warren Report, I got more than 100 rejections internationally (before I decided to publish it myself) <sup>advice</sup> Without a single editorial comment and with quite a few editors predicting it would be a best-seller. It did in commercial reprint, which was entirely unedited. It remains the only basic book available, with no theorizing. Not of Conspiracies, although without question based on the official fact only it proves that there was a conspiracy; and not of the official mythology and its sycophantic books,

both theorizing there was no conspiracy. And in all these years, I have not gotten a single letter or phone call from any of those of whom my writing is critical, hundreds including Members of the Commission, their counsel and witnesses and innumerable FBI agents. In fact, one of the Members, the most conservative of them, Senator Richard B. Russell, had a high opinion of my work and encouraged me and it until his dying day.

The second of the articles I enclose is titled, "Senator Russell Dissents." I go into this in that ~~piece~~ piece, as I hope you will take the time to see.

The second of the books I completed when I was trying to perfect the record for history is Case Open: The Omissions, Distortions and Falsifications of Case Closed. You may recall that Case Closed was the most heavily advertised and promoted of the JFK assassination exploitations and commercializations. It was written by <sup>Genald Posner</sup> a man I described as a Judenrat in referring to him as a shyster, a plagiarizer and a man who cannot tell the truth even by accident. To this day, seven months after Case Open appeared, I have not had even a whisper of complaint or denial from him.

The publishers of Case Open decided, without asking my approval, to do it on the cheap. They eliminated 78-80% without asking my approval, did no editing at all, did not correct the errors I found and told them about, and did not place a single ad. When I complained about no promotional efforts they did arrange for two radio talk shows by phone.

Before being aware of the literary butchery of my manuscript, I wrote the enclosed article and sent it to them thinking they might seek to place it. I later did the same with "Senator Russell Dissents." I did not even get an acknowledgement of the receipt of either and I know of no effort to place either. For that matter I know of no copies sent out for review except by me. There has not been any review of which I know in any paper. And, representing the traditional major media attitude toward the subject, the copies of the book I sent to reporters I know and have worked with, some friends of long standing for whom for years I have been a source, did not even get <sup>me</sup> a phone call, leave alone a story.

I was able to get a student to retype my Posner piece before she graduated from local Hood College. She was not able to retype it and post the corrections I made in it. Thus the copy I enclose is the xerox of the copy I sent the publishers, Carroll & Graf. I was able to get "Senator Russell Dissents" retyped. It is the retyped rough draft. I did no editing so I could get more on paper, as I have and hope to be able to continue to do for a while longer.

I realize how unusual this is for a writer but since finishing that piece I have written an entire book and added to one mostly completed, the latter of about 200,000 words. The shorter one is about 50,000 words. The content of each is entirely new.

I intended telling you in mentioning Hood College above that with no quid pro quo

I have added it the third of a million pages I got by those FOIA lawsuits, all my work and even my property, which is debt-free. So all my work of all kinds will be a permanent free public archive. Their future intention is to make it all available to other institutions by imaging techniques.

Posner's book is out in reprint and as you will see in what I've added to that piece all he could do in ~~non~~response to Case Open is prove what I said, that he cannot tell the truth even by ~~accient~~ accident. He said not a word about a single criticism I made of him as indeed he cannot.

Although if I had known he was writing a book kissing official ass it would have made no difference, as he acknowledges in his apotheosis of deliberate dishonesty he had free and unsupervised access to all my records and to our copies. I regard FOIA as making all who use it surrogates for the people and I give that same access to all writing in the field, knowing in advance that I'll probably disagree with what they write.

If you find either or both of these articles of interest, feel free to do any editing that does not change meaning. If you do not, I ~~we~~ enclose a check that will cover their return by priority mail. Using our xerox is uncongenial for me. I am not permitted to stand still and it is a simple, non-automatic machine.

If you want to phone me (301/473-8486) please do it before 5 p.m. Two of my medical ~~problems~~ problems have me awake quite early, wife awake, so I must retire by six. Off-beat as this is, perhaps it may interest you to know that this strange situation enables me to be more productive. Those early morning hours are never interrupted.

Feel free, too, to ask any questions you may have. By way of background I am a former reporter, investigative reporter, Senate investigator and editor and wartime (decorated) intelligence ~~analyst~~ analyst. Never a spook but then also an investigator and troubleshooter. If you know any writers not looking for Washington-angled stories the hearings I edited are rich in what can make fine stories about this country in the 1930s. It was known as the Senate Civil Liberties Committee. What we investigated included Bloody Harlan County, Kentucky (the DJ borrowed me from the Senate for four months for a major lawsuit over that the next year) and the steel strikes of that era, pretty bloody. *I have those hearings*

Sincerely,

*Harold Weisberg*

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