

Mr. Stephen Rosenfeld, editorial  
The Washington Post  
1150 15 St., NW  
Washington, DC 20071

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Dear Mr. Rosenfeld,

The Post shames itself in publishing the Bernard Sussman letter in support of the official JFK assassination mythology, which is what without any question at all it is. To write an adequate, factual response—which the Post would not publish in any event, — takes too much space and at this stage of my life and health, too much time. I've survived two congestive heart failures since I last wrote you, among other things over which my doctors marvel, and I'm 84 now.

As you may remember, all I've published on the JFK assassination, and I am alone on this, is and is from the official evidence. No theories, as you may also remember. I remain the lone and lonely man in the middle.

Sussman does not know what he talks about and doesn't want to or he'd not lie, as he does, for example, in saying that "The description of the entry wound as at the neck is corroborated by the autopsy photos." I have them, and they are among the endless official proofs that the Commission reached a predetermined conclusion that it could not help disproving in its own work. Those autopsy pictures, taken with the body in the wrong position for autopsy purposes, show the bullet hole well down on the back and consistent with the body chart about which Sussman has nothing correct at all.

It is not "Exhibit 397" but is only a part of it. It is not "a standard hospital form" but is a form of the Navy, similar to what is used elsewhere. (It may interest you to know that before publication of the Report much of Exhibit 397 disappeared, as also did the Commission Document that was to be identical, if I remember correctly CD371. I published this without a peep from anyone on the Commission or its staff in 1975.)

No forensic expert would locate a wound by an object that moves, as the mastoid does, because it would depend on where the head is or how it is moved or positioned.

Sussman is also wrong about the body chart. In fact the Boswell need for autopsy purposes was for precision in placing that dot to represent the place the bullet hole was. Also hidden and I found and published in facsimile in 1975 was the official copy of this body chart. The location of that bullethole on it is "verified" by the President's own physician, who was in the autopsy room as he was also in the Dallas emergency room. Not only is this the fact but the also hidden (and also rescued) death certificate that with more than 10 million words it published the Commission did not include in its evidence

places it at the third thoracic vertebra, and that is well down on the back.

Your subject-matter ignoramus Sussman, like the Post, is silent about a President being assassinated and the official investigation of it hides the most basic evidence, including of the autopsy, evidence that <sup>disproves</sup> ~~substantiates~~ the official "solution," thus my invocation of Orwell.

Sussman says that the measurements <sup>on</sup> ~~by~~ <sup>Dr.</sup> ~~Dr.~~ <sup>Sw</sup> ~~Sw~~ <sup>ell</sup> ~~ell~~ wrote on that chart -and he does not say that most of the raw material for that autopsy also has disappeared - "out the entry (sic) wound in the fleshy part of the neck above the shoulder bone."

With the FBI as my authority I tell you that rather than this being the case the bullet holes (which Sussman does not mention) in the jacket and on the shirt are about five and a half inches below the collar. As Sussman puts it, this is "a little above the collar of the shirt."

Boy do you pick 'em!!!!

Now in support of this I cite the FBI's evidence, that the bullet hole in the back of the shirt and in the back of the jacket both had spectrographic traces of bullet.

He says the bullet hole in what he says is the back of the neck is one fourth by one eighth of an inch." Not so. Or has he his own version of the Warren Report?

Sussman says ~~the~~ the bullet did not strike ~~both~~, which the <sup>Commission</sup> ~~Commission~~ did say, Only that was not true according to the <sup>report of the</sup> ~~panel~~ panel of experts appointed by the Justice Department. I published it in facsimile in Post Mortem, in 1975. It is unequivocal in stating on its page 13, 592 in the book, under Neck Region, that "several small metallic fragments are present in this region (sic)," according to the X-rays. When the autopsy pathologists saw this film and wrote their report on it, also in facsimile in Post Mortem their language was a bit tricky. They wrote of these X-rays that they "revealed no evidence of a bullet or of a major portion of a bullet," to which I commented, how many minor parts of a bullet? They saw the fragments, as did the panel, and they are not magic, as that bullet was supposedly in so many ways.

Among what is and from the first has been missing is the notes of the autopsy. What I say a <sup>rescued</sup> ~~rescued~~ above was hidden where ordinarily nobody would look for them, in what was sent to the printing office, which none of that was. All copies of the death certificate were there, as was the remaining original of the autopsy holograph (the first was burned as soon as Oswald was killed) and a number of incredible certifications of ~~destruction~~ <sup>destruction</sup> all approved and verified by the President's own physician.

From my <sup>experience</sup> ~~experience~~ when I was able to travel and speak to collegiate audiences, in some places <sup>dissatisfaction</sup> ~~dissatisfaction~~ with the government was greatest over



the JFK assassination. Mostly it was second to Viet Nam as the cause of dissatisfaction. This is also true with regard to disenchantment with the media.

As it should be apparent to you, under our system the assassination of a president, any president, is a de facto coup d'etat. It is inevitable and it was the fact with the JFK assassination. He and Johnson differed on many major policies, one of the reasons JFK selected him to run as vice president - because he could appeal to ~~the~~ voters where JFK did not.

As it has almost from the moment those shots rang out and it certainly is in printing this flaunting of ignorance and prejudice by Sussman, the Post is in support of a coup d'etat, the greatest subversion in a country like ours.

I had hoped to live long enough to see some element of the major media confess its error and ask to be forgiven, but it is clear when you publish this kind of wretchedly false information that what I'd hoped to see I'll not see. Not from the Post in any event.

I intend no personal insult but I ask you to ask yourself how this differs, other than in degree, from what we detested so much in other societies. And about what they happened in those other societies.

After more than thirty years it is past time for the Post and for other papers to face the reality and to begin to be honest with itself and with its trusting readers.

How can you, individually and collectively, think and care so little about your country and its system? About your responsibilities to both and to yourselves as journalists?

Or expect other than the widespread contempt for the press by so many people?

As you may remember, my typing can't be any better. Sorry.

Sincerely,



Harold Weisberg



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can certifi-  
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tionably responsible for some part of the flow of illegal drugs. But Mexico is also a country now making an immense effort to undo the political distortions that lie behind much of the corruption. By looking for cooperative ways on drugs, the United States tackles a hemispheric menace and encourages Mexican democracy at the same time.

## ing Clean Needles

Participants to treatment centers, although facilities are few. It is established that drug users who are not under treatment will not or cannot stop their drug use just because clean needles aren't available. They will go to infected needles for that fix.

If administration officials need an example of a program that offers clean needles and also instruction and equipment for cleansing syringes and other paraphernalia, they may look in their own backyard. The D.C. Needle Exchange, run by the Whitman-Walker Clinic with limited city funds, refers users to treatment programs, offers free HIV tests and has become a useful communications link to more than 1,600 addicts. Staffers make no great claims of reducing addiction; they note that treatment services are critical—and in this city, seriously limited.

The National Institutes of Health reports that needle exchange has brought about an estimated 30 percent or greater reduction of HIV in injection users of illegal drugs. In terms of expense, a sterile needle costs about a dime, while officials of AIDS organizations estimate the average lifetime cost of treating an individual with HIV/AIDS is at least \$119,000. Needle exchange programs alone certainly will not stop substance abuse, but they are helping to stop HIV—and that needs to be a priority of the federal government.

## il American Refugees

What must be remembered is that many of these refugees are in the United States because of special asylum and status-review programs set up for victims of civil wars in which U.S. foreign policy interests were intimately bound. That is why the attorney general's action drew applause

From House Speaker

boat that recently was found almost intact at the bottom of Lake Champlain.

The suggestion may lead to a mistaken inference that he led the American fleet from this vessel during the Battle of Valcour Island Oct. 11-13, 1776, when he was commander of the fleet. He actually led the fleet from the Row Galley Congress, which he ran ashore in a small creek and burned as the battle ended to prevent its falling into British hands. If he boarded the gunboat, it would have been to inspect it.

Although forever labeled a traitor, Arnold served the American cause with distinction at the Battle of Saratoga on Sept. 19 and Oct. 7, 1777, a battle that is

the name of the troops in the latter action. His name does not appear on the monument. Some have commented that at least that part of Arnold was patriotic.

CHARLES W. SNELL  
Silver Spring



## What the Warren Commission Said

The report in The Post that Gerald Ford, while on the Warren Commission, suggested the rephrasing of John F. Kennedy's entry wound from "back" to "neck" might leave the impression that there was some attempt to mislead readers of the Warren Report ("Ford's Editing Backed 'Single Bullet' Theory," news story, July 3). Nothing could be more wrong.

The description of the entry wound as at the neck is corroborated by the autopsy photos, although these were not seen outside the Warren Commission until several years later.

Commission Exhibit 397 is a standard hospital form used by Commander J. Thornton Boswell, chief of pathology at Bethesda Naval Hospital, while performing the autopsy on JFK. The form includes outlines of an adult body and on that form Dr. Boswell put a dot representing the entry wound and wrote, "7x4 cm. 14 cm from rt

acromion scap. 14 cm below mastoid process."

This means that the wound was approximately one-fourth by one-eighth of an inch, and it was located using standard body landmarks, about 5 1/2 inches from the point of the right shoulder and 5 1/2 inches below the bony prominence behind the ear. Those written measurements put the entry wound in the fleshy part of the neck above the shoulder bone, a little above the collar of a shirt. The difficulty with the diagram is that most people didn't read or couldn't understand the written measurements and instead focused only on the dot in the drawing by Dr. Boswell. However, Dr. Boswell was no draftsman, and the dot is a bit imprecise, which is why pathologists write in the measurements anyway. Too many conspiracy theorists looked only at the dot, which is sort of odd because the dot for the entry wound is lower on the

diagram than the dot for its exit, which would have meant the assassin was inside the trunk of the presidential limo.

I expect this "revelation" about the phrasing of the Warren Report will reinvigorate some conspiracy theories. The first bullet that struck JFK entered from behind and exited from the front of his neck around the Adam's apple. Because it had not struck any bones and still had considerable thrust, the only place it could possibly have gone was into the person sitting in front of JFK, namely Gov. John B. Connally Jr.. By the same token, Mr. Connally was struck from behind by a bullet with a downward trajectory, and it would have been very improbable for that bullet to have been on that exact path without first going through JFK.

WILLIAM DORICH  
President  
Serbian American Voters Alliance  
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## Keeping Federal Jobs in the District

The Post bemoans congressional efforts to draw the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms' 1,000 jobs

Meanwhile, The Post ignores another opportunity to revitalize Southeast Washington at this site near the

can "consolidate" its 7,000 headquarters workers by shifting them to shiny new buildings in suburban Belts-