

Mr. Stephen S. Rosenfeld, Editorial  
The Washington Post  
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Washington, DC 20071

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Dear Mr. Rosenfeld,

Thank you for your note of the 3rd.

If you read what I sent after last Sunday's Outlook on Ray you realize that I did not ask the Post to publish a word. I asked that it inform itself. I did not and I do not expect it to accept my invitation. I regret that but not for any personal reasons. One of the reasons is illustrated by last Sunday's propaganda presented as news, real Orwell stuff. I'd like for the people to have more confidence in their media and for the media to deserve having that confidence in it.

I've spent as much time as I could in the years it has not been safe for me to use those FOIA files in the basement preparing manuscripts to leave as a record for our history of these events the importance of which will never die. Aside from file copies I have made some distribution to educator friends.

Most people do not stop to think about it this way but in our society the assassination of any president is, regardless of the motive of the assassin or assassins, a coup d'etat.

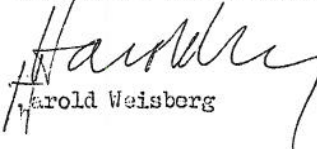
One would not know this from the media. Or would regard the media as please that there was this coup d'etat.

I do not have a clear recollection, recent as it was, of what I sent on the Ray/King case but I do tell you that there was, despite the false pretenses the Post published, quite literally no case against Ray at all. Aside from what I learned in writing my book, which remains basic on the subject, I was his investigator and I did get all those records under BOIA.

And when he was the country's most famous criminal lawyer Percy Foreman fled a TV studio while his makeup was being put on when he learned he was about to confront me.

I'm sorry so much of this will disappear with me.

Thanks and best wishes,

  
Harold Weisberg

Orwell has taken up permanent residence at the Post!

Even Thomas writes about the mania for secrecy in government but can't do that without misusing the JFK and King assassinations to argue the irrelevant, that they were not the end product of conspiracies.

To Thomas and again to Outlook, whether or not there had been any conspiracy is a matter of "theory" rather than of fact.

But except to the determinedly ignorant, put Thomas at the top of that list, there is no question about the fact in each assassination.

It is public enough and I made enough of the fact in each assassination public years ago.

Without a single letter or call from any of those I exposed complaining that I had been unfair or inaccurate.

Thomas writes that "someone needs to assert the public's right to know." That right is not limited to official secrecy.

And when Thomas writes about the assassinations he has the obligation to serve the people's right to know, as he does not and cannot.

He assumes, along with Oliver Stone, that the government files hold secrets that would identify the assassins, but that is not true and the readily-available official records that, once again, I am responsible for putting in the public domain, leave this without question for more than two decades.

I wrote NEVER AGAIN! in 1992. The publisher sat on it for almost three years, but it did appear and it documents the official intention not to investigate the JFK assassination. That decision, a de facto conspiracy, was reached as soon as Oswald was killed and it was known there would be no trial.

(And on that strong opposition by the press to official secrecy, what element complained that the Warren Commission proceeded in secrecy with what, had Oswald not been killed, would have been entirely in public? What paper, the Post included, protested at being <sup>demed</sup> ~~deined~~ the right to cover those hearings?)

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As James Earl Ray's investigator in his effort to get the trial he has never had through his lawsuit, Ray v. Rose, I ~~was~~ developed and the lawyers presented the case that led the judge to hold in his decision that guilt or innocence were immaterial to Ray's plea for that trial, the voluntariness of his plea that was without question coerced and the effective assistance of counsel when his counsel never even investigated the case and did not hire a single investigator to do that.

In order to be able to do that I had to disprove the allegations against Ray and I produced the witnesses who did that - under oath and subject to cross examination.

There is no reasonable question about it, King was killed by a conspiracy in which Ray did not fire a shot. Could not have.

Thomas' basis for this writing is his ignorance and it is that ignorance the media has pressed upon the people. He did not have to fantasize about these assassinations to make his point but his and the media mind works that way.

But to Thomas with his ignorance of the readily-available fact all of this is "conspiracy theories."

He says that are "far-fetched and difficult to rebut." They are fact and the truth cannot be rebutted.

There are assassination secrets but they are secret to protect errant officialdom and failed officials.

Again, I've taken this time in an effort to inform you and the Post. (When the doctor tells me I should be keeping my heels higher than my heart.) I add this to my previous offer to be questioned on tape about the King stories, anti-Ray propaganda, and I add editors to reporters.

If anyone at the Post wants to be informed.

May I suggest that you read my NEVER AGAIN! and then ask yourself why the Post would not review it or any of my books. Its reviewer did review the first but that review was killed. In 1966.

H