

Harold Weisberg
Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
4/23/72

Mr. George Cunningham
Administrative Assistant
Senator George McGovern
Senate Office Bldg.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Cunningham,

Please do not take what follows as personal criticism. That is not my intent. However, in order to establish credentials as of the time they had significance, I feel I must invoke the past. And I feel strongly that if the letters I wrote you immediately after the break-in at The Watergate had not been lost in the day to day needs of the campaign, its end might have been different and the country would not now be agonizing as it is and facing an even more discouraging future.

My own opinion of how all that has come to pass could have is favorable to nobody. I believe that all the institutions we expect to protect society failed. Politicians, press - all.

Our life has become so Madison Avenueized that we glorify those who are most responsible for our failure to cleanse ourselves of what I think is hardly encompassed by the designation "corruption." Abdication has been that total.

But it need not have happened. And as I see the immediate question, it is will this and the inevitable further degeneration continue for another two years. Despite the headlines and the excitement periodically on the tube, Nixon is getting away with it, with every prospect that he will continue to.

If anything can now end this, I believe it have it, more than sufficiently documented. You are not the only one to whom I fed leads that were factually correct and totally ignored. When nobody paid the slightest attention, I followed them myself. Despite the serious limitations imposed by the conditions of my life, they have yielded a story that, if truthfully told, will shake the country all over again.

I know of no publisher who will touch it. Nor do I think any politician will. I have written a number.

You may remember that I work in one of the more unwelcome fields, political assassinations. In 1968 I wrote and could not get printed a book titled Coup d'Etat. In it I said the effect of the political assassinations was an Ameriform coup d'etat in which the objective was not to change the head of the state but its policies and directions. The part relating to the King assassination was later printed as Frame-Up. Your secretary told me you were reading the copy I had sent to the Senator. Since then it has been validated by an almost unmentioned decision by the sixth circuit court of appeals.

Because of the totality of unwillingness to consider the facts about these political assassinations I have seen no alternative to plodding along making what will be no more than a record for history. Recently, however, scholarly interest has developed and there is archival interest in this work. As a result it makes possible an evaluation from two different history professors, each on a different aspect, one on the assassinations, the other on what I have done on The Watergate and Nixon. So, there need be no dependence on my opinion if there is anyone who cares enough about the country to look into it, to see if there is an untold story that should be told.

Part of it, by the way, is the untold part of the Hagleton story. It is not an unreasonable interpretation that this part can be traced back to a resolution Senator McGovern offered eight or nine years ago.

If you would like to know more, I am but an hour away. Were you to come here, I could show you proofs. Were I to go there, you would be pretty much restricted to taking my word for things, at least at that time.

I am quite prepared to face any reasonable challenge on any part of this work.

Frankly, I am also prepared for indifference.

One question that might be in your mind is how can this guy think he has done what others have not. One answer is in my experience. I was a Senate investigator in the 1950s. I was an investigative reporter when it meant more than soliciting leaks. I was an intelligence analyst. And I have spent an exceptionally intensive decade in investigations that are essentially of the FBI and the CIA. With both there is unreported criminality in The Watergate.

Should you desire to see me, almost any weekend is free for me and the best days for my going to Washington are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg