



an & Harold Weisberg

Coq d'Or Press HYAT TSTOWN, MD. 20734

Code 301 / WA 6-2034; TR 4-4246

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wick
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

July 10, 1967

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

On November 25, 1966, you issued a press release attached to which was a four-page letter to an unidentified newsmen, dated November 24, 1966.

About a month ago I phoned your agencies and spoke to several people in an effort to get a copy. The last person to whom I spoke is one of your assistants.

To date I have not received a copy. I would appreciate it very much if you could send me one.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg

RECEIVED
JUL 11 1967

Marvell to Wick
JRP/aep
7/13/67
55 JUL 31 1967

REC 54

25 JUL 11 1967

CORRESPONDENCE

Memorandum

REC 54

Tolson	
DeLoach	
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TO: Mr. Wick *Wick*

FROM: D. C. Morrell *Morrell*

DATE: July 13, 1967

SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM
HAROLD WEISBERG OF
HYATTSTOWN, MARYLAND
 DATED 7/10/67

BACKGROUND:

A letter dated 7/10/67 has been received from the above-captioned individual. Weisberg stated he called the Bureau about a month ago requesting a copy of a press release issued on 11/25/66 to which was attached a letter sent to an unidentified newsman. He indicated to date he has not received the material requested. Weisberg apparently has reference to the Director's press release of 11/25/66, copy attached, which emphasized a newsman has expressed concern over the rash of books, articles and statements "creating confusion and doubts about the validity of the findings of the Warren Commission regarding the assassination of President Kennedy."

BUFILES:

Weisberg is the author of the book entitled "Whitewash--The Report on the Warren Report." Weisberg's book is a vitriolic and diabolical criticism of the President's Commission, the FBI, the Secret Service, police agencies and other branches of the Government relating to the assassination investigation. It contains inaccuracies, falsehoods and deliberate slanting of facts to fit his own purpose. He was one of ten employees fired summarily by the State Department during 1947 because of suspicion of being a communist or having communistic sympathies. Later, he was allowed to resign without prejudice, but he was not restored to his former position. In 1961, Weisberg and his wife filed a claim against the Government under the Federal Tort Claims Act in the amount of \$9,950 for damages allegedly sustained in their poultry business as a result of low-flying helicopters. The case was tried, and the court directed judgment in the Weisbergs' favor in the amount of \$750.

ENCLOSURE

Enclosure

- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach

55 JUL 21 1967
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Our files contain no record of the Coq d'Or Press.

REC 54

JUL 20 1967

CONTINUED - OVER

5/10/67

Morrell to Wick memo
RE: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM
HAROLD WEISBERG

OBSERVATIONS:

In view of the above information as well as the tone of his letter, no acknowledgement should be made of the receipt of Weisberg's letter.

RECOMMENDATION:

That no acknowledgement be made of Weisberg's letter dated 7/10/67.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

November 25, 1966

On November 21, 1966, Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, received a letter from a newsman expressing concern over the rash of books, articles and statements which are "creating confusion and doubts about the validity of the findings of the Warren Commission regarding the assassination of President Kennedy." The newsman said that one of the "conflicts" concerned the alleged variance of the results of the medical examination of the President's body, recorded in FBI reports dated December 9, 1963, and January 13, 1964, and the official autopsy report.

The newsman said he would appreciate any comment Mr. Hoover would make concerning these matters.

The newsman requested that Mr. Hoover prepare a statement regarding the alleged conflict between information reported by the FBI and the autopsy report.

By letter dated November 23, 1966, to the newsman, Mr. Hoover said he shared the concern of the newsman regarding the criticisms of the Warren Commission's findings. He pointed out that while the critics had every right to state their views, they "should show more regard for the facts on record. They have ignored certain facts, misinterpreted others, and expressed pure speculation as truth."

ENCLOSURE

Mr. Hoover sent the newsman the attached statement and stated, "I am speaking only for the FBI, not for any other agency or group involved in any phase of the inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy."

Enclosure

November 23, 1966

The Warren Commission and its findings concerning the assassination of President Kennedy currently are being severely criticized. The conclusions of the Commission, especially its conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in the assassination, have been openly challenged.

In support of their speculations, some of the critics allege, among other things, that there is a "conflict" between portions of two FBI reports and the official autopsy report regarding the wounds found in the President's body.

While there is a difference in the information reported by the FBI and the information contained in the autopsy report concerning the wounds, there is no conflict. The FBI reports record oral statements made by autopsy physicians while the examination was being conducted and before all facts were known. The autopsy report records the final findings of the examination.

Briefly, this is what happened. The autopsy was conducted at Bethesda Naval Hospital on the evening of November 22, 1963. Two

ENCLOSURE

FBI Agents were present. They reported that Dr. James J. Humes, chief autopsy surgeon, located what appeared to be a bullet hole in the back below the shoulder and probed it to the end of the opening with a finger. The examining physicians were unable to explain why they could find no bullet or point of exit.

Unknown to the Agents, the physicians eventually were able to trace the path of the bullet through the body. On the morning of November 23, 1963, Dr. Humes contacted doctors who treated the President at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Texas, the previous day and confirmed his assumption that a tracheotomy had been performed using a bullet hole in the front of the neck as the point of incision.

The information reported by the Agents present during the autopsy was summarized on page 18 of the FBI report dated December 9, 1963. Meanwhile, the clothing worn by the President when he was shot was examined in the FBI Laboratory. This examination revealed a small hole in the back of his coat and shirt and a slit characteristic of an exit hole for a projectile in the front of the shirt one inch below the collar button. A nick on the left side of the tie knot, possibly caused by the same projectile which passed through the shirt, also was noted.

These findings clearly indicated the examining physician's early observation that the bullet penetrated only a short distance into the President's back probably was in error. Since this observation had been included in the FBI report of December 9, 1963, another reference was made to it in the report of January 13, 1964, in conjunction with the Laboratory findings to point up this probability.

The FBI and the Warren Commission each received a copy of the official autopsy report on December 23, 1963, from Secret Service following a specific request for this document. Since the FBI knew the Commission had a copy of the official autopsy, its contents were not repeated in an FBI report.

Recently the charge has been made that the FBI altered the film of the assassination taken by Abraham Zapruder. This is totally false. The FBI never had the original Zapruder film in its possession--it was purchased by a national magazine. The FBI obtained a copy of the original uncut film and reproduced this for the Commission which since has turned it over to National Archives.

At the direction of President Johnson, the FBI conducted a prompt, intensive, objective and thorough investigation of the assassination. The results of this investigation were accurately reported to

the Warren Commission. Not one shred of evidence has been developed to link any other person in a conspiracy with Oswald to assassinate President Kennedy. All available evidence and facts point to one conclusion--that Oswald acted alone in his crime.