

15 February 1965

Mr Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Md. 20734

Dear Mr Weisberg,

Thank you for writing to Mr Callier and authorizing me to see the manuscript. I went by yesterday at noon and had a very pleasant conversation with Mr Callier, after which I spent the remainder of the day and part of the night reading your book from cover to cover.

I believe that you have written an outstanding and brilliant attack on the Warren Report, and I marvel that you completed the job as well as you did. The scholarship is extremely sound and the analysis of evidence you have taken much farther into the past than any other work in this field. Your manuscript has been outstanding in every respect. It is appalling that your manuscript has been sitting for so long without the deserved results. Your book should have been published as a major and definitive work. To compare it with Sir John Fow's book is almost an insult, and that had a reasonable commercial success. Consequently, I am at a loss to understand why no publisher has grabbed the opportunity, if not from a sense of history and obligation, than at least out of intelligent self-interest.

My manuscript coincides with yours to a large extent. As I mentioned on the telephone, parallel "discoveries" and interpretations are inevitable when people of fairly similar perceptiveness attack the same body of information. Certainly I would have no difficulty whatever in accepting your conclusions and your evaluation, speaking very generally. As to the particular, in a number of instances you have made a stronger case than I have; in other instances, I have made a fuller (though not necessarily stronger) presentation of the case material, having had the advantage of an additional year of time. My manuscript includes some aspects of the ones that you have not treated—for example, a long chapter on "Hidell"—but that material supplements the charges against the Warren Report which are simply stated in your manuscript and are not essential in that they introduce new elements of negligence, deception, etc.

I have no hesitation in saying that in some ways your book is tighter, better written, and more cohesive than mine, and that I would be happy to see yours in print, if it was "authentic". Therefore, I am enclosing a copy of the letter I received from Mr Walsh. I believe that you should write to him, indicating that I have sent you a copy of his letter to me, and offer him your manuscript. Provided, of course, that you are willing to consider pre-publication or serialized publication. If you prefer, I would be glad to write to Mr Walsh and urge him to contact you and request your aid. Let me know.

I am also enclosing (1) a copy of my chapter "The Proof of the Plot" in which you will see that our reasoning was quite similar in evaluating the O'Leary testimony and its implications; (2) a copy of the "Unanswered Letters" which constitute an essential part of my case.

Again, I can only repeat my congratulations on your achievement, and my genuine admiration of a beautiful job done with remarkable swiftness. I shall certainly rejoice to see your book published and if I can be of any help I will gladly do so.

I very much appreciate your willingness to let me see the manuscript. Please let me hear from you again, and certainly do let me hear if you are coming to New York. I shall return the aid to Mr Callier without delay.

Yours sincerely,

WALTER WALKER