

Mr. Donald E. Wilkes, Jr.  
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Athens, Georgia 30602

12/20/83

Dear Mr. Wilkes,

In response to your letter of the 16th I enclose our price list.

With regard to the first book, we have a tentative price on a xerox reprint not yet made. I should know within two weeks. It is used as a text and if the price is not prohibitive for that school, I'll have a few extra copies. It will be bound and finish up at 6x9 inches, the same size as the others I published myself.

I am not the publisher of Frame-Up, which is a hardback, but I finally got the unsold copies.

I also did not publish Oswald in New Orleans and was not able to obtain the unsold copies. I have a few and generally do not let this be known because I try to save them for those of scholarly interest. Although this was originally a 95¢ paperback, we have to get \$25 for these few copies. (Which also is less than I've turned down to hold them for those of more serious interests.)

If you have any special interests I can serve, please feel free to ask. My successes under the Freedom of Information Act (perhaps a half-million previously-withheld pages) have placed me in pretty much a public role and to the degree I can at past 70 and in imperfect health I try to meet this obligation. If you have such interest and want to phone (301/473-8186) I am usually home from morning therapy by 10:30 and usually remain home the rest of the day.

By coincidence I have an interest in a former member of the English faculty at your university. Mrs. Jean (John) Davison is the author of a current book, Oswald's Games, that I find remarkable for its original and unhidden bias, inadequate scholarship (for example, no reference to any of the vast amount of information disclosed as a result of FOIA litigation) and glaring dishonesties. This made me wonder if there might be any relationship to Dr. Alexis Davison of Atlanta, who was an air attache at the Moscow embassy when Oswald returned to the U.S. Dr. Alexis was a "drop" who was caught in the Penkovsky spy case. His mother's name and address are in Oswald's addressbook. His explanation is hard to credit, given the official representation of Oswald's politics: that he thought his mother would like to meet and speak to Oswald. His Russian-born mother was as anti-Soviet as one could be. Alexis' brother Peter also was an attache, entered Columbia's school of Russian studies a captain and left a major. Their father, Dr. Hal, was prestigious in Georgia medical circles. John, a zoologist, is not a brother. But Dr. Hal had a brother, also a doctor, T.H. Davison, and after reading this book I found myself wondering if John, who is now at the University of Vermont, could be related, as through Dr. T.H. If it is not too much trouble and you can find the time to check such things as might be available in Athens it would be good to know, one way or the other.

I read your enclosed newspaper articles with interest. You reflect standard sources with scrupulous accuracy but some sources, like Manchester, are not at all dependable. His criticisms of the Secret Service, while superficially reasonable, in fact are baseless. Also, while the Commission did not know that shots had been recorded with the police broadcasts, it did know of the existence of these recordings and that the FBI had obtained and transcribed them. If it had not begun with pre-conceptions it would have had the recordings checked for the sound of gunshots.

The Commission did know about the open mike on the second police channel. It made no investigation and it asked for none by the FBI or any other agency.

While it is widely believed, based on plagiarism of my own work which does not state it, that assassination threats led to the cancellation of JFK's visit to Chicago, the real reason was Vietnam developments.

There is so much to mislead the most scrupulous and diligent scholars! It is not an easy field in which to be completely accurate.

Jean Davison's book provides an illustration that may interest you. She states that Oswald had only a "low" security clearance in the Marines. Yet the very testimony she cites is explicit in saying the exact opposite. All the testimony that the Commission elected to ignore is that even after return to the U.S., where security was not as tight and essential as in the theater of operations, Oswald had to have had at least secret clearance. In fact he held crypto clearance and that required top secret clearance. And in all his writings that I have and have read and in all the many accounts of conversations with him he is not once quoted as having mentioned this, or what he did, which really was, in the words of a Marine companion, "black box stuff." He also never mentioned being part of at least one CIA effort to overthrow the leftist Indonesian dictator Sukarno, Operation Strongback.

This, too, is in the very testimony Davison cites - and ignores. I find all aspects provocative.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

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Mr. Harold Weisberg  
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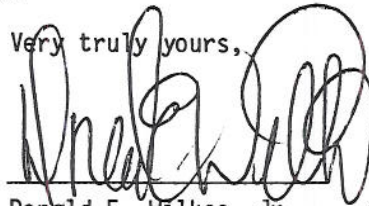
Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I wish to order and purchase a copy (hardbound when possible) of each book you have authored or edited about the Kennedy assassination or related matters.

Please send me the bill or order forms.

For your interest, I enclose two local newspaper articles I wrote for the 20th anniversary of JFK's assassination.

Very truly yours,



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enclosures