

Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
3/7/75

Dear Douglas Williamson,

Letters like yours of the fifth are always welcome, always from people too distant to be of real help and from people without the funding some of the work I can't pay for requires.

However, at some point I am hopeful of wanting another cover for a book I'll describe briefly. It is, I believe, the most definitive by far and one with real potential for accomplishment.

It is titled Post Mortem: Secrets of the JFK Autopsy. It would be in the "underground" whitewash format, something over 600 pp.

You appear to be a commercial artist so you'd know better than I what printing cost would be. Except for the appendix and typing the index it is camera-ready. ~~xxxx~~ The last estimate I got, about three years ago, was about \$15,000. I am and remain broke. But I do hope that printing may become possible and that I will need a cover.

(I don't know which of the books you have so I'll include a list.)

You are correct on the limited circulation of these books, but the first Dell reprint of the first was for a quarter of a million copies.

You'd be welcome here but it would depend on the time. I am always trying to do too much, never get caught up, have several started books I'd like to complete, and this time of the year my productivity is cut by the time it takes to deliver my ~~xxxxxx~~ wife to her seasonal work and bring her back day's ends. If I am writing no interruption is wanted. I'm Ray's investigator, counsel with counsel, and if it coincides with the coming work on that it would be impossible. So, all I can do is express general willingness.

As a one-man publisher I also do all the packaging and mailing, which bites hunks out of every day. The original books are outselling the entirely new one for which I've not been able to make appearances and engage in any promotions. The fact that we have moved and that the new book is not as well known mean some letter-writing daily, too.

Back to the cover: while I'm inclined to favor continuity in design but with different colors (my idea not my artist friend's) and while Post Mortem would be part of the same series, I would be interested in a JFK picture on the cover, particularly if there could be an overlay of one particular document I have in mind, an autopsy form, federal.

As well as your offer your kind words are a meaningful reward. I receive enough of them to find encouragement and gratification from the appreciation in them. That so many think to express themselves is a particular satisfaction.

Painting JFK: During the campaign ~~xxxxxx~~-press photog got a great shot as the JBJ's were talking and JFK left the plane with them. His expression, his incredulousness, his embarrassment at their loudness, are captured. I have a poster made of it. I like your preserving the cast and adding a tear.

Again, sincere thanks,

R.R.2 Box A68E
Foster, R.I. 02825

March 5, 1975

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Md.

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

I have finally, at this late date, read your series of books on the assassination. It has been a subject of intense interest to me over the years; however, until I found a dusty old copy of your first book (yellowed pages and all) my layman's attempts to come by good information had been terribly frustrated. Now I face two frustrations: 1. Knowing that the circulation of your books can't be one percent of what it should be. 2. What can I as an individual do to help the cause that we both feel so deeply about?

Aside from my avid desire to understand what happened, what is happening now, and how they are connected, I am from day to day an artist and craftsman. Thus the enclosed photograph of a cover I have designed using a painting of mine. I'm afraid the quality of the photo is about equal to most of the documents you have been able to publish; but washed out as it is, (as in the documents) it gets the idea across. Should you ever wish to utilize something like this, it will be here at your pleasure. For now, this is the only way I can think of to help.

If you could ever spare a few minutes of your time to talk briefly on the subject with me, I would be most grateful. It would only take a day or so for me to drive down and I would cherish the opportunity. There are a few areas that I need cleared up and several other questions that frankly, I don't know who else to ask.

I hope to hear from you. Meanwhile, thank you for taking the time --- going to the expense --- and having the guts to say what you have said.

Sincerely,



Douglas M. Williamson

P.S. Incidentally, it is not my desire to be in contention with your friend who designed the current covers. Its just that this idea came to me - it seemed to work out well and its there if you can use it.

WHITEWASH

by
Harold
Weisberg

