

university of wisconsin / stevens point • stevens point, wisconsin 54481

April 29, 1976

Mr. Richard Gallen  
14 E. 60th Street  
New York, N. Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Gallen:

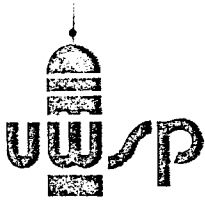
In telephone conversation today with Harold Weisberg I suggested that he take steps to have his Oswald In New Orleans (1967 Canyon) reprinted for a number of reasons. He is however extremely pressed for time and is in the midst of a complicated court case concerning certain federal investigatory agencies and the Kennedy and King cases and simply can not spare the time to address himself to the question.

Would it be possible for you to look into the question of the reprint?

As you recall the book concerns the activity of the secret federal agencies in New Orleans and is based on extended research in primary material and is unique in its field. Also, many of the recent books to come out on the Kennedy murder have made voluminous references to the secret agencies (real and mostly imagined perhaps) and have not made reference to the Oswald in New Orleans book. This is primarily the case I think because the book appeared in paperback with a minor publishing house and is not typically found in the standard reference libraries; and, in most of the writing and discussion on the Kennedy murder the book is little known. Thus sloppy and incompetent writers (e.g. Goton, Model; MacDonald; Meunier et al.) can get away with their poor work while more sophisticated and more curious writers such as R. Ansam can brush it aside knowing most will have little opportunity to use it to check up on them.

A third factor in considering a reprint is the prescience of the author. Here in a ten year old book Weisberg hit the nail on the head time after time and his argument has stood the test of a decade. Fourth, significant new material that will make additions, updating, and connections with the CIA more clear is now available and Harold can easily add the data that will give the book terrific public appeal. Five, the current attention to the question of intelligence activity makes the necessity for this book of sanity to appear. How can CBS and the other media put out their falsehoods so easily with a book like this circulating among the informed?

Finally through various contacts with students and public persons I know how important the book is for a study of the JFK assassination and related subjects. Many a student has asked me how to get copies and in letters from the citizenry I have been regularly asked for copies. I think this is wrong in a constitutional democracy. Recently two citizens each paid \$50.00 apiece for a copy of the book! I have regularly been asked to sell my copy for ten, fifteen dollars.



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If the book would be re-issued I think the introduction would have to be re-worked as well as the conclusion. Some errors apparently exist that would have to be corrected and the new material added.

I strongly urge that the book contain a page or two of bibliographic references to books and material. Thus a note or extended observation on the primary sources used, what city they are located in, what types they are--court dockets, personal interviews, manuscript files of the state, county, federal governments; private sources. Make the two pages look like the work it was. Then, add a brief reading list to the reader on how they/she might look into the investigation of the assassination and obtain insight. This need be but an additional page perhaps with a very quiet statement by Harold talking as though to someone who had never read a book in their life.

My credentials include the publication of a guide to the literature on the assassination published by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and circulated nationally entitled: The Assassination of John Fitzgerald Kennedy--An Annotated Bibliography (1973) which I am currently intending to revise and update perhaps with a different publisher. I published a series on one of the Freedom of Information Cases waged by Harold which appeared in the Madison Capital Times, December 1, 2, 3, 4, 1975 in four one page articles. I speak throughout the Midwest to student groups and to public organizations such as Lions and Labor Unions and Churches and have appeared on television and radio shows. In addition to the revision underway mentioned above I am also working on other aspects of the Kennedy murder toward the end of presenting the information in lectures and other format.

Sincerely

*David R. Wrone*  
David R. Wrone

Associate Professor

cc  
H. Weisberg

Dear Dave,

5/4/76

Thanks for the letter to Gallen and the copy of it. When you phoned it was impossible for me to write him. I was deep into an analysis/commentary on three long records to which we had to respond in C.A.75-1996. When I completed the draft it was book length! And I had to do it in a few days.

However, when I did complete this the first thing I did was write Gallen. Jim has a similar idea, one I also broached independently to Gallen. Gallen is no longer a publisher.

Jim sees immediate usefulness in my completing Agent Oswald. I've long planned to do this but doing it anytime soon requires some help.

I've raised with Howard the possibility of his having some free time after the initial promotion of his book if I can obtain some support, like for paying him. If I were free the completing of the ms would not be too great a job. But there are too many things I do have to do. I now must complete this new thing book, 2/3 drafted. and follow through on the cases. And there are other suits to be filed.

There is possible usefulness in the new dimension to the CIA campaign Jim and I now think we see.

I could add much to O in NO and as you say, much could come out. However, I'd be interested only in what is essentially the original work, with the updating made clear. I think this could have its own usefulness, including as a guide to young people showing what can be done with proper analysis and indicating how to analyze.

Thanks. If there are any developments I'll let you know. Best,