

Mr. Leonard Downie, Jr., editor
The Washington Post
1150 15 St., NW
Washington, DC 20071

Harold Weisberg
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Dear Mr. Downie,

3/14/87

You referred my letter to you to Brian Kelly. He either did not pay much attention to what I said or he paid more attention to what has been the Post's policy on our political assassinations.

Mr. Kelly says he is interested in any evidence of who might have killed King other than Ray but has seen little or no such evidence.

Naturally not. He did not look for it, did not ask for it, not even when he had an offer of it before him, and over the years he'd not have seen a word of it in the Post despite the ready availability of it for decades.

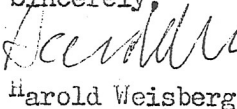
There is no likelihood, from what I learned, of ever identifying the actual assassin(s), but the record does exist that Ray was not the assassin. It is evidence produced in a court of law, subject to cross-examination, and the Post was there and has some knowledge of it.

The King assassination is one of the most terrible of our recent crimes. Another is the JFK assassination. The latter, whatever the intent, had the effect of a coup d'etat in a society like ours. That has not been worthy of mention in the Post or any other paper I've seen.

Instead the Post has, with both crimes, fallen into line behind failed officialdom, and over the years has not only supported the official assassination mythology, it has suppressed what disproved it. I do mean suppressed and by normal standards that is what it has been.

I'm sorry this imposition of a policy determination on what is or can be news continues. You do not think in those terms, I'm sure, but this is what we found so wrong under Hitler and Stalin, different as it is in degree.

I'm sorry, too, that the Post does not take its obligations more seriously. In the future some of you may come to regret this and in the present you alienate many who are turned off by this policy.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg