

Mark Zaid
47 South Lake Ave., #4
Albany, NY 12203

9/17/92

Dear Mark,

Your project with Walt Brown seems worthwhile for the historical record whether or not C & G welcome it. When you are finished I'd appreciate a copy for archival purposes. I do wonder whether C & G will welcome it because they have published some really terrible stuff they knew was terrible but believed would sell, as it did, and I believe their only concern was a libel suit or more.

Lesar is too busy for letters, alas. There are a number of mine he has not answered. He is into more than he can handle and has been for years.

A book on that Iowa explosion and what the Navy did sounds good to me. Good luck with it! You did not tell me anything about this before. I hope they make honest disclosure and not make excessive deletions. I think they may do that because so much can be embarrassing to them. And on this an idea to keep in mind: beginning with keeping detailed records of all you spend on this. You need that for tax purposes. If you do get to publish a book on it and the time comes you do not need those records and you make a gift of them to a college, you can then claim the cash value as the value of your deposit. And if a book is published you need a record of your expenses to legitimately reduce the money on which you have to pay taxes.

I did not know you had ~~xxx~~ requested the FBI's records on you. What were you doing other than being interested in the JFK assassination that could interest the FBI? If nothing then you know. Did their letter tell you ^{why} they were denying you the records? Did you ask if there is anything "reasonable segregable" in them? Did you ask Albany, HQ or both? Or any other field office? HQ does not have all there is. And even if a field office has an informer's report they can eliminate what can identify the informer and disclose the rest. And if as you say you appealed to the FBI, that was a mistake. You file your appeals with the DJ appeals office. Which stinks. If you have not done that you have not exhausted your administrative remedies and the case will be tossed out on that basis alone.

Good luck with all your ventures and with the bars.

By the way, I suggest that you keep in mind in writing the book that if you do a good and an honest job, I presume the latter, the book can have wide appeal and good sales in the gay community. As an alert publisher should realize. This is not to suggest that you lean that way in what you write but it is to keep in mind the possible interest of that audience. Playing it straight is all the subject matter needs.

Our best,

Harold

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September 14, 1992

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
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Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I am in receipt of your letter of September 3, 1992.

Thanks very much for your thoughtful compliment with respect to my letter to The Third Decade. I know that some people will react to its content in a very negative manner while others will just laugh it off as if it were a delusion of some fervent Jew. But it was written for people such as those especially for I could have so easily just ignored the implications with no concerns whatsoever. However, after giving some thought to the fact that even problems such as the nazis started off small and were ignored at first, until of course it became too late, I decided it was too important a letter not to write, no matter what the reaction.

Carrol and Graf did not request anything from me, nor I have ever spoke with them. Walt Brown and I have discussed the allegations of Nagell several times and I mentioned that I possessed some information that I was going to use to attack his story and credibility. He is going to diplomatically show the papers to C & G, as I would rather they know what they are getting into now then it being a surprise later. At the very least they can then not say they did not know.

I will certainly be more than happy to send you anything I write on the topic once it is completed. Although Lesar never seems to respond to my letters, perhaps I will attempt to contact him regarding Nagell at a later date. Jim is at least willing to talk on the phone if you can catch him.

Work with the Mayor's Office is going very well. By the way, I might be teaching a course on the assassination this Spring at the local community college. Also, I am writing a book on the 1989 USS IOWA explosion and the Navy's attempt to frame Clayton Hartwig. I do not recall if I told you that. I am awaiting approximately 8,000 pages of information from the Navy.

Finally, the FBI denied my appeal regarding the 9 page file, actually two files, it has on me from 1988-89. It looks like my first litigation experience with FOIA will have a very personal nature to it. I intend to file suit before the end of the year. My best always to yourself and Lil.

