

Hal Verb
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4/27/93

Dear Hal,

Thanks for your letter on the Chicago confab. There are other things of which I've heard that I'm sorry you were not aware of or did not report. Like what Lundberg said. But maybe I'll yet get that. That interests me more than the retreads.

What you say about Willis' photos I believe is correct from what he told me in 1967. I then arranged for them to go to NYC and show his pic to Billings, then at LIFE. I do not recall how many more than those he published he had but neither he nor Billings considered them to have any special value. My recollection is that all were taken later.

My experiences with Tony Summers lead me to have little faith in what he says and not to have a high opinion of him as a person. I suppose his wife was looking for a copy of my Oswald in New Orleans because Summers is working on a Frontline commemoration show with Scott Malone and Gus Russo to be a profile of Oswald.

It is typical of Mark Zaid that he has started an organization he will dominate and will promote him with great exaggeration. It is to be of "Professional and Analytical Researchers." What is a "professional" researcher? The only profession he has in mind is lawyer, which he just became. How analytical they can be is reflected in his literature you sent. Like a subcommittee on "JFK body alteration," that fakery of Liftons. An organization of no members with more than 20 subcommittees on the first page alone? And serious inquiry has one of the six "examples of committee" on the first page on "theories & speculation" while on that same page, under "scientific/investigative techniques" he has "eyewitness evaluation" but nothing on ballistics, spectrographic or neutron activation analysis. Mark's interest is in making Mark famous. I'm not taking the time to read the rest.

The five doctors on the 12/92 letter to JAMA are ignorant of the subject matter and were unfortunately influenced by Livingstone's High "rash 1 and 2. While their purposes are good when they go into the alleged forgery of the autopsy film and are ignorant of Post Mortem, using a bit of it as Livingstones, and although he has it in his biblio. making no effort to get it, they are at least too hasty, uninformed and misinformed to accomplish anything of meaning. Too bad. They intend well.

I'm glad to have the stuff on the motorcade for archival purposes. Thanks. But do not spend any money for me on the photographic work you mention and the flyer describes. I would like it for archival purposes but would not take time for it now.

I am pleased, of course, that so many spoke so well of me there. This has always been reflected in my mail but for a couple of years, much more than before. At my age I am glad to have this reflection of appreciation for what I've done.

Thanks and best wishes,

Hal

copy to: HAL WEISBERG

DISTRIBUTED AT CHICAGO 1993 CONFERENCE

The Association of Professional and Analytical Researchers

Conference for Researchers • Fri., August 27- Sun., 29, 1993 • The Ramada Inn, Western Avenue • Albany, NY

EXAMPLES OF AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

(PLEASE BE SPECIFIC)

Attorney (specific area)
Audio/sound
Ballistics
Computer applications
Criminal Investigation
Engineering
Forensic Science
History
Image analysis
Intelligence

Languages
Media
Military
Physician (specific area)
Physics
Photography/film
Political science
Private Investigation
Research
Video
Writing

EXAMPLES OF COMMITTEES

SUBCOMMITTEES

Lee Harvey Oswald

Intelligence connections
Cuban connections
Mexico City
Military career
USSR
New Orleans
Family/friends

Jack Ruby

Organized crime connections
Conspiracy connections
Connection to Oswald

Medical/forensic

Autopsy photos and Xrays
JFK body alteration
Single bullet theory - CE399
Head shot
Other shots

Means, Motives & Opportunities

CIA
Military
FBI
Cubans
Organized crime
Oswald
Right wing
Left wing

Scientific/investigative techniques

Acoustic
Photographic/video
Physics
Computers
Eyewitness evaluation

Theories & speculation

Umbrella man
Badge man
Conspirators in Dealey Plaza
Unexplained deaths

Association of Professional and Analytical Researchers

Membership Application

(Part 1)

Personal:

Name _____ Home () _____ FAX _____
Address _____ Business () _____
Occupation _____
Employer _____

Areas of expertise (see accompanying list for examples):

1) _____ 6) _____
2) _____ 7) _____
3) _____ 8) _____
4) _____ 9) _____
5) _____ 10) _____

Subcommittee interests in order of preference (see accompanying list):

1) _____ 6) _____
2) _____ 7) _____
3) _____ 8) _____
4) _____ 9) _____
5) _____ 10) _____

Suggestions for committees/subcommittees:

Are you interested in serving as a:

Committee chairperson?	Yes	No
Committee board member?	Yes	No
Subcommittee chairperson?	Yes	No
Subcommittee draftsman?	Yes	No
Subcommittee editor?	Yes	No

Return completed application to:

Mark S. Zaid, Esq., Executive Director & Counsel
Association of Professional & Analytical Researchers
PO Box 6058
Albany, NY 12206

Please include \$1.21 in stamps for part 2 of the membership application.

COPY
to file WESSER

DISTRIBUTED AT CHICAGO 1993 CONFERENCE

SOME QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is the name of the new organization?

The newest organization that will maintain a specific focus on the assassination of President Kennedy has been named the Association of Professional & Analytical Researchers.

Does the name hold any significance?

The name is designed to stress to the outside community that the members of this organization are completely devoted to maintaining a high level of professionalism with respect to any aspect of the assassination of President Kennedy. Professional indicates, in part, that some of our members are involved with research as their livelihood, whether perhaps as authors, investigators or professors. Analytical is used because our members will make every effort to seriously evaluate and scrutinize the available evidence.

Is the APAR a conspiratorialist organization?

No. Our members will hold a wide range of theories and everyone is welcome to participate. One main reason behind the formation of this Association is to bring the research community together and explore the known facts from all vantage points. No one theory will be held by the association, rather the members will review each and every theory and attempt to distinguish fact from fiction. Only evidence that can be substantiated in some way, whether it might actually be true or not, will become the focus of the Association.

But is the Association then going to determine whose theories are right or wrong?

Not exactly. Our founders maintain the viewpoint that the research community needs to refocus their efforts and redefine their goals. To do so will require placing aside some researcher's ideas because a particular theory might not be able to be supported by any evidence whatsoever. While perhaps this theory might be correct, if we can not demonstrate any evidence of that fact we are distracting ourselves from contributing to the community, at least at this time. If new evidence develops the Association will gladly reconsider any theory.

What exactly are the organization's purposes?

There are several. Foremost, we hope to bring together researchers from all over the world who are dedicated to applying a strict standard to the evaluation of evidence. This will be accomplished by our annual conference and our research publications. Second, we will strive to ensure that documents released through "The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act" will be thoroughly examined by qualified experts in the field. Our newsletter will keep track of all releases. Finally, we intend to serve as a clearinghouse for Freedom of Information/Privacy Act requests pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy.

How will members contribute?

Each member will be required to fill out an initial application form to determine their expertise or significant interest in an area. Based upon this information and additional requirements that will develop later, each person will then be assigned to a specific subcommittee that will be investigating a particular aspect of the assassination. Upon completing their research the subcommittee will prepare a written report on their findings. This draft will then be incorporated into larger reports until one final publication will be released, approximately one year to eighteen months later, to the research community.

When and where is this conference to be held?

The research conference is scheduled to be held in Albany, New York on August 27-29, 1993. Albany was chosen because of its accessibility and low costs.

What will occur at the conference?

We are planning to hold a debate between conspiracists and non-conspiracists the first night of the conference which will feature a questioning panel of media personalities. The rest of the weekend will be devoted to planning the goals and strategies of the organization. Members will have preregistered and been given their assigned areas beforehand. Unlike other conferences, there will be no formal panels at this one. The objective is for researchers, authors, historians, etc., to interact among each other and work together to understand what occurred November 22, 1963. There is a strong possibility that workshops on research techniques and specific topics of the assassination will be held if the demand exists.

Will I have to attend the conference to be a part of the organization?

Not at all. Although it would certainly help if you were able to attend the conference we recognize that researchers span the globe and both time and finances restrict many from attending these events. However, in this age of technology which includes fax machines, overnight mail and countless computer networks, we feel that no matter where you are located you can become a working contributor to the organization.

What will some of the costs be?

Very reasonable. Another important consideration in the formation of this organization was the cost factor. Although nothing has been finalized we project that membership in the Association will cost approximately \$25-\$30 per year. This will primarily be used to cover the costs of mailings and other incidentals necessary to continue the work of the organization. A conference registration fee of about \$60 will be charged to defray the costs of the conference (this payment will also be applied to your membership dues). Finally, hotel room rates will run approximately \$60 each night and USAIR has agreed to provide a 5% discount on airfare for our attendees. Albany is also readily accessible by Amtrak and Greyhound.

There are already several assassination-related organizations, will APAR be in competition with them?

Not in the slightest. In fact, many of our Board members are involved with the AARC, AIC or COA as well. APAR was formed to fill certain voids that have existed throughout the years within the research community. It will not attempt to take the place of any other group but will instead work alongside of each in order to achieve our common goals. APAR's members will become active participants in furthering the investigation into President Kennedy's assassination, not just recipients of a newsletter.

How can I find out more information or offer my suggestions?

We invite everyone to become involved with this new organization but be warned work will be involved with your membership. Since we are still in the planning stages, we welcome any and all suggestions from the research community. If you wish to indicate your interest please fill out part one of our membership application form. Include \$1.21 in stamps so that part two can be sent to you at a later date. Part two will discuss the rules and procedures of APAR. Certain commitments will need to be adhered to by applicants in order to formally become a member of the Association. Address any inquiries or comments to our Executive Director and Counsel, Mark S. Zaid, by writing to the Association of Professional & Analytical Researchers, P.O. Box 6058, Albany, New York 12206.