

Dear Dick,

6/12/91

Absent the predicted storm I'll drive into town and get this in the mail probably without the samples of specifics mentioned at the end unless Lil does have time to begin retyping them. I've begun to draft them. It is shorter and I hope perhaps better.

There is so much more than is ^{not} necessary or can⁴ be used what I really mean by publisher input is to be able to omit what might make the publisher uneasy or uncomfortable.

Lil has retyped, corrections by hand. (New machine, old arthritis.)

I did have time to include a couple of the attachments to be provided referred to, those I could do more easily, without searching. No sequence, no special selections.

Tomorrow I'll get more proposed ^{DOCUMENTS} copy and explanations done.

There have been so many interruptions, including a new boy to do the mowing and be instructed and guided and even getting the car air conditioner taken care ^{of} and returned, I'm not really in a position to judge what I've done.

I hope it is adequate.

I'll also need an agent? Can you be?

If you can and would that would eliminate one worry.

If not I'd appreciate it if you would find one for me.

If you get a chance to use this, one thing I intended and did not do is copy the parts of my first letter to Stone in which I ~~to~~ inform him correctly with the Boxley/Perrin/Bradley story and the false version in Garrison ~~book~~ and the business of his sending Boxley back to New Orleans when they went to L.A. to live it up for a week, when Boxley ~~i~~ soaked a package of books in water fearing it was a bomb.

Thanks and best to all,

Harold

HOAX: OLIVER STONE'S JFK ASSASSINATION MARDI GRAS

Charismatic, twice-Oscared Oliver Stone, seeking another of the national controversies that made him famous and he has made into successful movies, for what the trade press referred to as "The Oliver Stone Project for 1991," chose "On the Trail of the Assassins." That 1988 book⁴⁵ by also charismatic and controversial former New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison. His real-life claim to fame was making up and espousing an endless series of conspiracy theories that got sensational international attention beginning in 1967, in addition to the case he took to court in 1969. That resulted in one of the most spectacular fiascos, the jury slapping him and his case down within an hour.

As soon as coauthor Harold Weisberg learned that Stone was making Garrison's book into a movie Stone described as recording the actual "history" of that great tragedy, he wrote Stone that Garrison's book was about the one trail he had never taken, that it was a sham and a travesty, an overtly dishonest rewriting of his own and the nation's history to make himself the heroic victim of a nonexistent CIA plot against him of his own invention and to hide the fact that he was about to commemorate the first anniversary of that assassination by charging a man who had killed himself 15 months earlier with being one of the Grassy Knoll assassins.

Weisberg had prevented this by his investigation of it that several of Garrison's staff asked him to make and then forced Garrison to confront.

Stone ignored Weisberg's warning that included other proofs that Garrison lied deliberately in his self-justifying book, even when the lies were childish, ludicrous and unnecessary. Two months later Stone began shooting his movie to which he added other zany conspiracy theories to Garrison's.

When Stone did not respond, Weisberg arranged factual, documented public exposure of the phoniness of the Stone movie that made a hero of the failed and dishonest Garrison.

In self-defense Stone added to the statements he had already made to puff his movie whatever at any moment seemed expedient to him. On the one hand he deprecated the criticism by describing his movie as nonfiction, merely "entertainment," while simultaneously, including in an interview published after first exposure, insisting that he was indeed recording our "history" and that in it he would tell the people "who" killed their President, "how" and "why" - A CIA/Vietnam plot. He reiterated that the Garrison book remained the basis of his movie.

He has made so many statements about his movie they render use of the script, which Weisberg had before first exposure, unnecessary. The script has been revised, is subject to further revision and its use could lead to litigation under the decision against The Nation for using a portion of a Gerald Ford book prior to its publication.

With Stone and his movie inextricably attached to Garrison's book as basic in it and with his repeated claims to be recording history when in fact he is filming crude and often zany, irrational and impossible unproven and unprovable

theories most of which had already been proven false, comparing Garrison's book and his disastrous case in court with fact, the actualities about which he lied, and with what he made up and presented as fact versus documents from his own files and relevant official records in 250,000 pages of previously withheld government documents Weisberg obtained through a series of Freedom of Information Act lawsuits (some precedental) provides a structure for doing what neither Garrison nor Stone do, bringing to light new and important information about the JFK assassination and its official investigations.

This new evidence will be limited to what Garrison knew about and disdained, all documentary proofs from his own and government records. Stone, offered free access to them, declined even a peek.

In the course of this, the proposed book will contain documented proof of what Garrison/Stone allege without a scintilla of evidence, that there was and the government knew there was a conspiracy to kill JFK. (The book will include no theories of the assassination at all. There is not a single such theory in any of Weisberg's seven books, six on the JFK assassination.)

There is so much new evidence that Weisberg would prefer publisher input on what to include and not include - all thoroughly documented with records, mostly ther FBI's.

It will include what Garrison knew and ignored although he had charged Oswald was one of his imagined conspirators, an entirely new portrait of Oswald beginning with the suppressed fact that, as a Marine, he had no active duty assignment not connected with the CIA and that he had exceptionally high security clearances, "TOP SECRET" and "CRYPTO."

When Oswald went through the motions without defecting to the USSR, he was suspected of being an American "sleeper" agent by the KGB. He was overtly anti-Soviet while in the USSR. In his private writings, of which Weisberg has a large collection from FBI files, Oswald described the Russians as "fat stinking Politicians" and U.S. Communists as "betrayers of the working class."

When Yuri Nosenko, a KGB official with personal knowledge of its Oswald files, sought to defect to the CIA in February 1964, some in the CIA made up a series of obviously fallacious excuses to prevent his defection. When he was able to defect and as soon as the FBI gave the CIA copies of its reports containing this new information about Oswald, the CIA's treatment of Nosenko changed from princely to three years of subhuman abuse while he was confined to a small windowless cell and the CIA considered whether to drive him crazy or drop him into the ocean.

With these and innumerable other similar and thoroughly documented illustrations of what was available to Garrison and Stone and they eschewed in favor of inventing a fictional CIA/Vietnam whodunit in which the CIA also allegedly led Garrison astray, the only way, alone and unassisted, he ever went, the proposed book also becomes an important work giving a new and entirely factual insight into the JFK assassination and its investigations completely and thoroughly proven with previously withheld official records while simultaneously exposing Garrison's and Stone's fraudulent exploitations and commercialization of this great national tragedy and calling it the real and true history.

(To be followed by samples of specific items and documentation.)