

Hal ~~Rich~~ Verb  
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11/20/92

Dear Hal,

Your welcome fat envelope was here when I got back from a trip to Johns Hopkins yesterday. The trip always exhausts me and yesterday it did more because of all the walking I had to do that was really beyond my capability. It was a regular checkup and was OK but that is a vast installation and they moved the place I was to have gone and did not tell me, so I had much walking to do. However, for several weeks I've also had a viral bronchial infection and that has me more tired and weaker. Plus I have all my regular work and am trying to complete the draft of a lengthy book. So, I'll be responding when and as I can. Beginning with these generalities.

All you sent that I've seen is of value for archival purposes and I'm glad to have it but I've seen nothing I consider worth any of my time. It is all of the outdated past and most of it is from those who are grossly ignorant of the subject matter, of the fact. This is the perpetual problem of theorizers limiting themselves to theories and those of others they regard as fact when they are not.

I took all grocery shopping today and skimmed some of the lengthier things while waiting for her. I made a few brief notes I'll come to. When, tired, I read your letter as soon as we were home I used a highlighter and that will tell me what I'll be addressing.

I subscribe to none of the so-called newsletters and have found little of worth in any of them. True of the ~~newest~~ newest you enclose, <sup>DFK</sup> Honor Guard. These people really know nothing about the fact and don't even try to or want to. You may find what they (all of them) say interesting but it has no real/relevance.

The Shackelford Zaprudd memo is interesting but it is quite incomplete and did not really seek the evidence that is there and is missed. It also omits what some of the sources it cites does include, especially my work. The listing of witnesses also is worthwhile as a research tool but not for me now. I'm glad to have it as a valuable file item but to me it is rather late to be considering possible witnesses.

Until someone comes up with some real, factual reason to believe that Cuban exiles were involved I'm not taking any time for that stuff. Again, good to have, but not for any time for me now.

Setzman was simply wrong, Miller tape. They were not Secret Service men. One was Harry McCormick of the Morning News...I'll resume when I can.

Resumed 11/22/92 What I'd seen when I wrote the first page was of the outdated past. There is also what is sort of new and it is by undependable people most of whom do not enjoy a reputation for dependability.

A general comment: I'm glad to know about this stuff that I now can't take time for and to have it on file. Where it is a matter of which you know more or have more info., I think it would be a good idea to identify yourself as the source so that in the future, if there is interest in any of those matters, those doing the research will know to check with you.

The Houston Post articles, my opinion, not dependable. I have a vague recollection of the woman reporter's record being of exaggeration and undependability in earlier writing.

Livingstone and me and Paul Rothermel: he mentioned this to me by phone and apparently got some of Rothermel's records relating to me from him, but there is nothing of significance in that except what Harry did not know, that Rothermel reported to the FBI about me and what gave him that came out entirely wrong in the FBI's records.

Jim Marrs' Korth letter is interesting but Marrs knows nothing about the fact, detests and avoids it, has written with execrable inaccuracy and irresponsibility, so I'm not prepared to take his word on anything.

The same is true about anything Hinckle and Turner write. I'll not buy their book.

What you say about SA O'Neill is what his report says. In Post Mortem. He may well have said that Jackie wanted an incomplete autopsy but until I see solid evidence to the contrary I don't believe that is why there was so atrocious and incomplete an autopsy. A complete waiver was filed in her name by Bobby, also in Post Mortem.

Oakes and Szersen argue too much when they interview. It does appear that the man is not Barrett on the basis of what Oakes gave me.

That Gemberling was at ASK does not surprise me. After he retired the FBI rehired him as a <sup>per diem</sup> consultant. It could well have sent him there or he could have gone on his own.

Maddox: I do not believe that "the rifle was still smoking." In fact, I have to be convinced that it was fired that day.

Hosty has always claimed there was some kind of coverup, beginning when, as it should have been, the file was taken from him. He is so far right he might question Genghis Khan.

I agree and from the first mention of her have believed that Oliver has no credibility at all about anything.

Never heard of the central-agency collection of JFK assassination records, you attribute to Gordon Winslow, and am not inclined to credit it.

I do not believe the Nag's head stuff or that a high CIA agent befriended Oswald. I have seen no proof. From what I know of them the agencies do not work that way.

I've not seen any article with Gore saying there was a conspiracy to kill JFK. I'd like to see it, of course.

More on Sitzman: Zapruder said the shot he heard came from over his right shoulder. In Whitewash II, as I recall. I would not dispute that a silencer could have been used.

Never heard of any "Critique" security clearance.

It is not "Ferris Rookstool" but Paris Rookstool III. He has phoned and written me not telling me he was FBI and even sent me, a longer story that I give you here, a picture taken of me the day I got the rifle when I was staying with Fred Newcomb\* and taken in Fred's then back yard in Sherman Oaks. He fell silent when I asked him how he got it and told him when and where it was taken. That led me to pay attention to his address and that confirmed he was FBI. He'd asked to come here and I'd invited him. I am inclined to believe he is the current Dallas FBI case agent but do not know this to be true.

We do hope you can get here at the time of the Chicago conference!!!

As to our health, I suppose for us and at our ages it is as good as we can hope for. We've both had something new, bronchial infections, for some weeks. I'd lost her voice more than three weeks ago.

Please excuse my haste. I'm snowed under and want very much to be able to complete the draft of the book I'm working on.

Again thanks and best wishes,

Hal

\* I'm pretty sure Fred took that picture and of course I wonder how the FBI got it. Maybe Fred <sup>can</sup> say but I lost track of him years ago.

HAL VERB  
P.O. Box 421815  
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NOV. 9, 1992

HAROLD WEISBERG  
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DEAR HAL=

AS I PROMISED, I'M WRITING TO GIVE YOU MY IMPRESSIONS OF THE RECENT "ASK" SYMPOSIUM HELD IN DALLAS THIS PAST OCTOBER PLUS SOME OTHER INFORMATION I PICKED UP ALONG THE WAY.

THE REASON I'M NOT PUTTING THIS ON A TYPE-WRITER IS THAT I'M NOT A V. ACCOMPLISHED TYPIST AND I WRITE SLOWLY ENOUGH AND TYPING THIS WOULD TAKE ME TWICE AS LONG TO DO. AND, I BELIEVED IT IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO WRITE YOU AS I HAD SO MANY THINGS TO CATCH UP ON SINCE I RETURNED FROM DALLAS.

TO BEGIN WITH REGARDING THE ENCLOSURES I'LL BRIEFLY COMMENT ON THESE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) THE "ASK" MEMORABILLA ENCLOSED AND THE PROMOTION LITERATURE WILL GIVE YOU SOME SENSE OF WHAT WAS BEING CIRCULATED THERE.

(B) OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS THE SHACKELFORD ZAPROUDER ANALYSIS; THE CICCOONE LISTING OF WITNESSES (I HAVE HIS SURVEYOR'S MAP AND THESE AREAS ARE IN IT WHICH I'LL BE WRITING HIM ABOUT. THE NEWLY REVISED MAP WHICH HE CIRCULATED INCLUDES NAMES I HAD PROVIDED WHICH HE USED FOR HIS REVISION); THE "JAMA" ARTICLE BY LIVINGSTONE & DR. AGUILAR'S LETTER ON "JAMA"; THE ALVAREZ FIUM ANALYSIS (PP. 20-23) OF THE "DATIVE DALLAS" ISSUE; & THE VARIOUS ARTICLES, ETC. FROM THE "BACK CHANNELS" ISSUE.

(C) THE COBAN EXILES INFORMATION (DONE BY WINDLOW) HAS SOME GOOD STUFF IN IT.

(D) THE 2-PAGE LETTER FROM JOHN MILLER REGARDING THE STIZMAN INTERVIEW AND A REFERENCE TO ANOTHER TAP (AUDIO) WHICH HE SUPPLIED ME.

(E) THE HOUSTON POST ARTICLES OF 2/8/92 & 7/26/92 BY THE LA-FONTAINES ON THE OSWALD "MILITANT" PHOTO. WHAT IS YOUR EVALUATION OF THEM?

(F) COPIES OF "HONOR GUARD" (I PROMISED THE EDITOR THAT YOU WOULD BE SUPPLIED WITH COPIES).

(G) THE GOD-AWFUL ONE PAGE DIATRIBE BY LIVINGSTONE ATTACKING THE "ASK" SYMPOSIUM. HE WAS CIRCULATING THIS DURING THE ENTIRE SYMPOSIUM AND APPARENTLY WAS NOT BLOCKED BY ANYONE FROM SHOWING UP. LIVINGSTONE WANTED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT ROTHERMEL AND H. L. HUNT. I SAID I KNEW SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR WORK ON THIS BUT IT'D BE DIFFICULT FOR ME TO LOCATE WHAT THIS WAS. HE PRESSED ME RATHER HARD TO GET MORE STUFF ON THIS. APPARENTLY HE BELIEVES HUNT IS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE CONSPIRACY.

(H) THE COPY OF THE JIM MARRS LETTER ON KORTH IS VERY INTERESTING. YOU KNOW OF MY CONTINUING INTEREST IN KORTH.

(I) I GAVE YOU A ZEROX OF MADDOX WITH DAY IN FRONT OF THE DEPOSITORY. MORE ON MADDOX LATER IN MY LETTER.

(J) THE GEORGE BUSH "DEADLY SECRETS" INTERVIEW OF THE AUTHOR IS AN INTERESTING PIECE AND I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD HAVE A COPY OF IT.

(K) A COPY OF THE 1993 CHICAGO CONFERENCE HAS THE NAMES OF THE PARTICIPANTS. I'M TRYING TO SEE IF THEY CAN HAVE ME AS A SPEAKER.

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Now, I'll relate to you my impressions of the "ASK" conference and other items I picked up along the way.

Even before the "ASK" symposium officially opened, I went to the JFK Center in Dallas which is several blocks from the Dealey Plaza Area. There I viewed a film made by George M. Evica in which he interviewed FBI Agent Francis X. O'Neill. This film was not shown at the symposium.

O'Neill stated that JFK's body was "wrapped in a sheet"; that it was a "ceremonial casket - a shipping casket" --- (with) "handles on both sides." He also said that one sheet was wrapped around JFK's head and the other wrapped around the body --- and that during the autopsy JFK's stomach, head (I believe here he meant parts of his head, certainly not all of head), lungs and liver were removed --- there was a "massive wound in (the) right rear of head" --- (A) "massive defect in the head." He also said "there was some surgery (done)" --- "what did they mean? I don't know - ask the doctors!"

After they "turned the body over", Sibert "noticed (A) wound in the upper back right." O'Neill discussed the measurements made during the autopsy and said "(the) figures were given to me by the doctors themselves." O'Neill said that Mrs. Jackie Kennedy "only gave authority for a partial autopsy" but "we wanted a full autopsy."

After the doctors started the autopsy Humes in his probing stated: "there's no point of exit - absolutely no point of exit!" He then left and called Killian of FBI Ballistics.

O'Neill then commented about 2 pieces of fragments. He said the "Navy put them down as missiles." O'Neill said "I signed a receipt for them - together with Sibert --- (they) put them in a little jar in my presence." O'Neill ~~put~~ <sup>said it was taken</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> the laboratory later.

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GENERAL WHEELER CAME INTO THE ROOM. O'NEILL SAID "I HAD NO IDEA WHO HE WAS." O'NEILL THEN REMARKED HOW (HERE I BELIEVE HE WAS REFERRING TO ROBERT KENNEDY) "HE DIDN'T WANT HIM (JFK) TO BE BURIED IN A DAMAGED CASKET." (MY INTERPRETATION OF THIS IS THAT SOMEONE HAD ~~ARRIVED~~ COME INTO THE ROOM WITH AN EMPTY CASKET THAT APPARENTLY SHOWED SOME DAMAGE ON IT. THIS IS STRICTLY MY INTERPRETATION, HAL, SINCE O'NEILL MADE NO COMMENTS ON THE CAUSE AND NATURE OF THE DAMAGE).

O'NEILL THEN SAID (THEY) "FIXED UP (THE) WOUND IN THE THROAT" AND ALSO "FIXED UP THE BACK." O'NEILL INSISTED THIS WAS NOT A BODY BAG WITH A ZIPPER" (AFTER CASKET WAS OPENED). HE WAS MOAT EMPHATIC ABOUT THIS POINT AND COMMENTED THAT "HE (JFK) HAD THAT LONG SCAR IN THE BACK WHERE HE WAS OPERATED ON!" (BY THIS O'NEILL MUST'VE BEEN REFERRING TO A PREVIOUS OPERATION ON JFK HAVING TO DO WITH THE SCAR REMAINING).

NOW TO DISCUSS OTHER ITEMS I LEARNED FROM TALKING TO VARIOUS RESEARCHERS BOTH BEFORE AND DURING THE "ASK" CONFERENCE =

(A) HAROLD NORMAN HAS BEEN RECALLED BY THE DEPOSITORY BUILDING (IT IS NO LONGER DESIGNATED AS THE TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY AS YOU KNOW). HE WAS HIRED ABOUT A YEAR AGO AND IS WORKING AS A JANITOR. WHEN I WAS ON A TOUR OF THE 6TH FLOOR WINDOW I ASKED ONE OF THE EMPLOYEES THERE IF A HAROLD NORMAN WORKED THERE AND HE CONFIRMED THIS FOR ME

(B) YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT MARK OAKES AND STAN SZERSZEN'S WORK ON GEMBERG AND BARRETT SO NO WE REPEATING THAT HERE. I TOLD BOTH OAKES AND STAN THAT THE CONCLUSION THAT THE MAN PICKING UP THE FRAGMENT, BULLET OR WHATEVER ABOUT 12-40 PM ON 11/22/63 IS DEFINITELY BARRETT IS NOT 100% CERTAIN AND THEREFORE I ADVISED THAT THEY NOT USE IT IN ANY WAY AS OF THE PRESENT PERIOD AND CERTAINLY NOT TO SHOW IT AT THE "ASK" SYMPOSIUM.

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GEMBERLING, AS YOU'RE PROBABLY AWARE OF BY NOW, SHOWED UP ~~AT~~ AT THE "ASK" SYMPOSIUM AND CONFRONTED OAKES AND WARNED HIM IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS THAT HE'D HEAR FROM HIM IF HE MADE THIS WHOLE AFFAIR PUBLIC. MARK SAID GEMBERLING WAS EXTREMELY UPSET AND MEANT BUSINESS.

ONE OTHER THING THAT WAS ON THE OAKES-GEMBERLING VIDEO WAS GEMBERLING STATING "I THINK I INTERVIEWED MARY MOORMAN AND SHE GAVE ME A POLAROID PICTURE SHE HAD TAKEN."

(C) I SPENT SOME TIME WITH AL MADDOX (SEE PAGE 2 REFERENCE TO HIM REGARDING A ZEROX OF MADDOX AND LT. DAY IN FRONT OF THE ISBD) AND HE TOLD ME THAT IT WAS HE (MADDOX) WHO GAVE THE CARCASS RIFLE TO DAY AND THAT THE RIFLE WAS "STILL SMOKING". THIS IS SOMETHING I'VE NEVER READ ANYWHERE (THAT MADDOX GAVE THE RIFLE TO DAY AND IT BEING "STILL SMOKING"). WHEN I SPOKE WITH STAN SEEBSEN RECENTLY HE SAID MADDOX TOLD HIM HE HAD BEEN ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR AROUND THE TIME OF OR SHORTLY AFTER THE RIFLE WAS DISCOVERED. MADDOX IS OF THE BELIEF THAT OSWALD DID THE SHOOTING FROM THE 6<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR AND HE SAID TO ME "YOU KNOW HE WAS AN "EXPERT" (RIFEMAN). I THEN POINTED OUT TO MADDOX THAT OSWALD BARELY QUALIFIES BEING A "MARKSMAN". MADDOX WAS UNAWARE OF THIS FACT.

(D) ONE OF THE RESEARCHERS I MET TOLD ME THAT HOSTY WAS ON A TV PROGRAM AND IS NOW STATING THAT HE BELIEVES THERE WAS A COVER-UP.

NOW TO GET INTO THE SYMPOSIUM ITSELF =

MARINA SHOWED UP AND SHE THANKED EVERYONE FOR THEIR EFFORTS. IT WAS A SHORT SPEECH (SHE SPOKE RIGHT AFTER MARY FERRELL'S OPENING & KEYNOTE ADDRESS) BUT ONE FILLED WITH EMOTION.



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LARRY HOWARD TOLD ME LATER THAT IT WAS MARINA, HERSELF, WHO DECIDED ON HER OWN TO APPEAR AND SPEAK. HE SAID SHE DECIDED THIS ABOUT 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE "ASK" FORUM. (THE PROGRAM BOOK DID NOT LIST HER AS A SPEAKER).

ANOTHER INTERESTING REVEALATION WAS JIM LEVEEER WHO WAS ON ONE OF THE PANELS ADOPTING THAT HE DID TAKE NOTES (DURING OSWALD'S INTERROGATION) BUT THAT THEY WERE OF "NO CONSEQUENCE". DURING THE QUESTIONING PERIOD, LEVEEER WAS TAKEN TO TASK FOR MAKING SUCH A STATEMENT. THE AUDIENCE FROM MY POINT OF VIEW WASN'T BUYING WHAT HE WAS LAMELY EXCUSING.

BETTY OLIVER WAS ANOTHER PANELEST I FIND WHATEVER SHE HAS TO SAY WITHOUT ANY CREDIBILITY. I DID TALK WITH HER LATER AND SHE IS A VERY NICE PERSON TO SPEND WITH BUT OBVIOUSLY SEEMS TO BE ENJOYING THE SPOTLIGHT. ON A "CAROUSEL NIGHT" HEARD AT THE SYMPOSIUM SHE DID HER SONG BIT AGAIN, WHERE SHE WACKS UP TO SOMEONE SITTING AT A TABLE AND "ROMANCES" HER PATRON. YOU'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE, I'M SURE!

I ALSO MET MR. AND MRS. PHIL WILLIS AND I ASKED HIM TO AUTOGRAPH A ZEROX OF HIS WILLIS #5 SLIDE AND WHEN HE DID SO HE COMMENTED TO ME THAT THIS PHOTO IS "MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE ZAVRUDER FILM."

I, MYSELF, WAS A PANELEST AND DISCUSSED OSWALD'S APPEARANCE AND ROBERT ATZUGH AND OTHER EVIDENCE SUGGESTING OSWALD'S ROLE AS A POSSIBLE U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENT. MARY FERRELL WHO WAS ON THE PANEL WITH ME DISCUSSED OSWALD'S ALLEGED MOVEMENTS IN MEXICO.

ONE OF THE PANELESTS I HEARD WAS GORDON

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WINSLOW, HE PUBLISHES THE "MASTER RESEARCH DIRECTORY," HE'S DONE A LOT OF WORK ON CUBAN EXILES. ONE THING HE MENTIONED WAS A "CUSTOMS NEUTRALITY TEAM" HEADED, WINSLOW SAID, BY A STANLEY SCHACKTER. THE TEAM WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR GATHERING AND COORDINATING INTO ONE CENTRAL AGENCY ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES RECORDS ON CUBA TO JFK. DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING AT ALL ABOUT THIS TEAM—WHO WERE THEIR MEMBERS—AND WERE THERE ANY PUBLISHED (OR UNPUBLISHED) DOCUMENTS THAT HAVE SURFACED ON THIS?

I SPOKE WITH WINSLOW LATER AND HE TOLD ME HE WAS IN TOUCH WITH SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE SENDING WINSLOW "ABOUT 900 WORTH OF PHOTOS DEALING SOLELY WITH JFK'S VISIT TO ~~THE~~ MIAMI ON 11/18/63. I'LL BE WRITING HIM ON THIS AND KEEP YOU POSTED.

ONE RESEARCHER I MET AT THE SYMPOSIUM TOLD ME HE WAS IN TOUCH WITH A "HIGH-LEVEL" CIA AGENT WHO BE FRIENDS OSWALD AND ALLEGEDLY KNEW OSWALD WHEN HE WAS (ALLEGEDLY) AT NAGS HEAD, NORTH CAROLINA. HE WOULDN'T REVEAL THE NAME OF THIS CIA AGENT BUT AN INTERESTING THING HE MENTIONED TO ME ABOUT THIS "AGENT" WAS THAT HE WAS AT DEALEY PLAZA ON 11/22/63! I REALIZE ALL THIS SOUNDS VERY FAR OUT BUT I'LL BE WRITING HIM (SOON) TO SEE WHAT FURTHER DETAILS HE CAN SUPPLY. THIS RESEARCHER DID NOT SEEM TO BE THE "KANGAROO" TYPE AND SEEMED VERY SINCERE. ONE THING I'LL BE SENDING THE RESEARCHER IS A COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL WITNESSES PRESENT ON 11/22/63 AND I'LL ASK THE RESEARCHER IF HE COULD AT LEAST TELL ME WHETHER THIS "AGENT" IS IN THE LISTING. (WHEN I GET THE LISTING COMPLETED I WILL, OF COURSE, SEND YOU A COPY.

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JIM DIEGENIO ONE OF THE PANELISTS SAID THAT THERE WAS AN L.A. TIMES ARTICLE DATED 4/27/92 IN WHICH AL GORE SAID THERE WAS A CONSPIRACY TO KILL JFK (IN HIS OPINION). I HAVEN'T SEEN THIS - HAVE YOU HEARD OR READ ANYTHING ABOUT THIS?

THE "ASK" SYMPOSIUM ANNOUNCED THAT SEVERAL KEY WITNESSES WOULD APPEAR AT THE GRASSY KNOLL ON SUNDAY, OCT 21TH AT ABOUT 2 P.M. I ATTENDED. THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS THAT THE FOLLOWING WERE SCHEDULED TO APPEAR - AUBREY RICE, MARILYN BAKER, HAROLD NORMAN, C. BREHM, JEAN HILL, AL MADDOX, M. SUMMERS, B. HARRIS, M. SITZMAN, MR. & MRS. HARTMAN, WILLIAM NEWMAN, ED HOFFMAN AND AN UNIDENTIFIED WITNESS (WHO, ACCORDING TO CARRY HOWARD, WAS UNABLE TO APPEAR).

OF THE NAMES MENTIONED ABOVE THE ONLY ONES I SAW WHO SHOWED UP WERE BREHM, HILL, MADDOX, SITZMAN, MR. & MRS. HARTMAN AND ED HOFFMAN. THERE MAY HAVE BEEN OTHERS BUT THESE WERE ALL I SAW THERE & WITH WHOM I SPOKE WITH.

I SPOKE WITH MARILYN SITZMAN AND SHE TOLD ME THE FOLLOWING - SHE SAID SHE HEARD THE (FATAL) SHOT AND IT CAME FROM BEHIND HER AND TO HER LEFT. SHE WAS STANDING NEAR THE PEDestal WHERE ZAPRUDER TOOK HIS FILM AND SHE POINTED BEHIND HER AND TO HER LEFT - AWAY FROM THE PICKET FENCE AREA. SHE TOLD ME SHE HEED ON TO MR. ZAPRUDER DURING THE ENTIRE FILMING AND "NEVER LET GO".

SHE SAID TWO SECRET SERVICE MEN ASKED ABOUT MR. ZAPRUDER AND HER FILM. I ASKED HER HOW SHE KNEW THEY WERE SECRET SERVICE AND SHE SAID "YOU COULD TELL - THE WAY THEY WERE DRESSED." SHE ALSO SAID THAT WHOEVER WAS FIRING THE WEAPON BEHIND HER "MUST'VE USED A SILENCER" BECAUSE IF IT WASN'T THE NOISE OR REVERBERATION FROM THE SHOT WOULD'VE

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KNOCKED BOTH HER AND MR. ZAPRUDE DOWN FROM THE PEGOTAL WHERE THEY WERE STANDING. SHE INDICATED SHE KNEW ABOUT GUNS BECAUSE SHE HAD GROWN UP WITH A KNOWLEDGE OF THEM (I SUSPECTED SHE MEANT SHE HAD GONE HUNTING OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT AND THEREFORE WOULD KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT SOUNDS AND WHERE THEY CAME FROM).

INCIDENTALLY, ON AN AUDIO TAPE OF SITZMAN (THE "GERALDO" ONE OF 11/2/91) SHE SAYS "I SAW THE VERY FIRST TWO SHOTS FURTHER UP THE STREET - SOUNDED LIKE FIRECRACKERS". SHE ALSO RECOUNTED HOW SHE SAW A COUPLE SITTING ON A PARK BENCH AND THEY "DROPPED A POP BOTTLE THAT HIT THE CEMENT." SHE ADDED, "IT KIND OF WOKE US UP." SHE NOTED EVERYONE WAS CYING-DOWN AND SHE FELT SILLY STANDING THERE WITH MR. ZAPRUDE AND THEN "I GOT DOWN AND SO DID MR. ZAPRUDE --- HE APPARENTLY WENT BACK TO THE OFFICE --- I TOOK THEM (SECRET SERVICE) BACK TO THE OFFICE."

DR. WECHT ALSO GAVE THE FINAL ADDRESS AND SAID HE WAS "HAPPY TO BE ONE OF THE (DARLINGS)" OF ALL THE ASSASSINATION BUFFS. HE SAID THE PRINCIPAL OPPOSITION TO GET THIS CASE MOVING FURTHER ALONG DESPITE POLICE SHOWING PEOPLE DISBELIEVING THE WARREN REPORT WAS FOUR-FOLD IN NATURE. THESE FORCES WERE= (A) THE GOVERNMENT; (B) THE MEDIA; (C) POWERFUL PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS, AND FINALLY, LAST BUT NOT NECESSARILY (LAST, D) ALL OF THE KENNEDYS. "HAVE YOU HEARD ONE WORD (STRONGLY EMPHASIZED BY WECHT) FROM THE KIDS OF JOHN KENNEDY - AND, NO, YOU WANT!"

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WECHT ALSO GAVE YOU, HAL, HIGH PRAISE. HE DESCRIBED YOU AS "A PHENOMENAL PERSON WHO NEVER SEEMS TO TIRE".

WECHT ALSO SAID "DON'T EXPECT A PERRY MASON ENDING TO THIS!" HE SAID THAT UP TO LAST YEAR HE WAS "PAINFULLY PESSIMISTIC" THAT ANYTHING WOULD COME OUT OF ALL OF THIS BUT NOW HE FEELS MORE OPTIMISTIC THAN EVER THAT THE TRUTH WOULD COME OUT IN HIS LIFETIME.

A RESEARCHER, JOHN MILLER, WHO GAVE ME A LIFT TO THE AIRPORT IN DALLAS (ON SUNDAY NIGHT OCT. 25<sup>TH</sup>) - YOU HAVE A XEROX OF HIS LETTER TO ME PLUS HIS EXCERPT COPY ON SITE MAN - TOLD ME THAT FORMER TEXAS GOVERNOR CONNALLY SHOWED UP LATE THAT SUNDAY AFTERNOON. HE ~~WAS~~ GOT OUT OF A LIMOUSINE AND WACKED ABOUT THE AREA. MILLER WAS THERE AT THE TIME AND SAID OTHERS GOT HIS AUTOGRAPH. MILLER SAID HE TOOK PHOTOS PLUS OBTAINED HIS AUTOGRAPH AND THAT CONNALLY TOLD HIM THAT IT WAS THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE ASSASSINATION HE HAD BEEN TO THE SITE.

ANOTHER THING THAT MILLER TOLD ME WAS THAT HE SPENT SIX HOURS WITH MARINA TALKING WITH HER, SHOWING HER AROUND, ETC. AND AT ONE POINT IN TIME HE TOOK HER TO THE DEALEY PLAZA AREA. HE TOLD HER IT WAS HER FIRST TIME EVER BEING THERE. SHE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHERE THE DEPOSITORY BUILDING WAS AND JOHN HAD TO POINT IT OUT TO HER. ONE INTERESTING THING THAT MARINA TOLD JOHN WAS ABOUT THE PAINE FAMILY. ASKED IF SHE HAD ANY SUSPICIONS ABOUT RUTH PAINE, SHE REPLIED, "NO, DEFINITELY NOT!" BUT WHEN

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ASKED ABOUT MICHAEL PAINE, SHE SAID SHE DID HAVE SUSPICIONS ABOUT HIM.

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF A SECURITY CLEARANCE ABOVE TOP-SECRET KNOWN AS "CRITIQUE"? SOMEONE I KNOW HERE IN THE S.F. AREA TOLD ME ABOUT IT RECENTLY. THIS SAME PERSON SAID THAT WHEN HE WAS RIDING A JEEP WITH TWO GENERALS IN BACK OF HIM HE OVERHEARD THE MENTION OF A DELICATE SECURITY MATTER. IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS RETURN TO HIS QUARTERS THE CIC CONTACTED HIM AND INTERROGATED HIM. DESPITE HIS "CRITIQUE" CLEARANCE THEY LOCKED HIM IN HIS ROOM FOR ONE WEEK AND PREVENTED HIM FROM GOING ANYWHERE - EVEN FROM GOING OUT TO EAT! THIS EVENT TOOK PLACE DURING THE KOREAN WAR.

THIS PERSON ALSO TOLD ME THAT WHENEVER A GENERAL HAD A SPECIFIC ROUTE THE CIC HAD TO BE NOTICED FIRST BEFORE HE UNDERTOOK THE ROUTE.

CARRY HOWARD (OR POSSIBLY GARY SHAW) MENTIONED THAT THE FBI HAD APPARENTLY ASSIGNED AN AGENT IN DALLAS (FERDUS ROOKSTOOL) TO HANDLE ANY "DAMAGE CONTROL." I ASSUME THE FBI'S INTEREST IN THIS IS TO SEE TO IT THAT THE JFK CENTER IN DALLAS IS NOT RELEASING STUFF PUTTING THE FBI IN A BAD OR EMBARRASSING LIGHT. WITH ALL OF THE NONSENSE COMING OUT OF THAT CENTER I CAN WELL UNDERSTAND WHY THE FBI WOULD DO THIS. HAVE YOU HEARD OF THIS AGENT (ROOKSTOOL) - I HAVEN'T?

THIS PAST WEEKEND I MET WITH PAUL HOCH. PAUL WILL BE ATTENDING THE APRIL, 1993 CHICAGO CONFERENCE.

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HE WILL BE ONE OF THE SPEAKERS AND I'VE BEEN TRYING TO SEE IF I CAN ALSO APPEAR AS A SPEAKER. I SPECIFIED TWO AREAS I COULD TALK ON AND THESE ARE = (A) OSWALD AS A POSSIBLE U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENT, AND (B) THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE.

I WILL KEEP YOU POSTED OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS HERE ON THE WEST COAST. I HOPE THE ENCLOSURES WILL BE HELPFUL FOR YOU.

IF POSSIBLE I MAY BE ABLE TO VISIT YOU AROUND THE TIME OF THE CHICAGO CONFERENCE IN APRIL, 1993. THIS WILL DEPEND ON HOW MUCH TIME I CAN GET OFF AND FINANCES PERMITTING.

I'LL CLOSE NOW AND DO HOPE YOU AND YOUR WIFE ARE FEELING WELL

Best,  
Hal Ver