

In a July 27, 2004, New York Times op-ed, Gerald Posner once again floated his conspiracy theory about the late Prince Ahmed. Prince Ahmed's brother, Prince Sultan bin Salman, responded to the accusations--accusations Posner himself writes are "unproven"--in an August 3, 2004 letter to the editor of The New York Times.

**Letter to the Editor
The New York Times***

Dear Editor:

Chairman Thomas H. Kean has made it abundantly clear that the final report of the 9-11 Commission is based on fact, not conjecture. Nevertheless, there are some people who place greater value on their preconceived notions than on the conclusions of this comprehensive investigation.

In his recent New York Times op-ed ("Scrutinizing the Saudi Connection", July 27, 2004), author Gerald Posner attempts to cast doubt on a specific conclusion of the 9-11 Commission's final report because it directly contradicts a false conclusion of his last book.

My brother, the late Prince Ahmed bin Salman, was one of the Saudis who left on the post-9/11 flights. With regard to these flights, the 9-11 Commission concluded: "Our own independent review of the Saudi nationals involved confirms that no one with known links to terrorism departed on these flights."

This is a rather embarrassing statement of fact for Gerald Posner, who has perpetuated the myth that Prince Ahmed bin Salman was somehow connected to Al-Qaeda and had foreknowledge of the September 11 attacks. This anonymously sourced claim of a terrorist connection can be found in the final chapter of Posner's last book, and it has dishonored the memory of my brother, a peaceful man who was widely known for his good relations in America and his success as a racehorse owner and breeder (his horse "War Emblem" won the Kentucky Derby).

In his op-ed, Posner continues to defend the appalling lies that he printed about my brother even though the 9-11 Commission contradicts them and not a single individual from any government or media has ever substantiated them.

As the brother of the man whose legacy has been marred by this author, I will readily admit to a certain lack of impartiality. But I would invite Americans to consider

the source when comparing the conclusions of an independent, bipartisan investigative commission against those of someone who is making a living denigrating Saudis and Saudi Arabia.

** An edited version of this letter to the editor appeared in The New York Times on August 3, 2004.*