

OSWALD

105-82555

SERIAL 5734 EBF

WORK
copy

105-82555-5734

THIS FILE OR ENCLOSURE IS
MAINTAINED PERMANENTLY IN
ROOM ~~5~~ 8988
PLEASE RETURN IN
MESSENGER ENVELOPE

4-537 (Rev. 8-5-70)

POW/MSA

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-82555)

DATE: 7/30/75

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (105-15823) (RUC)

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R - CUBA
OO: Dallas

Re reports of SA DAVID J. REID at El Paso, dated 12/20/63 and 1/30/64, captioned as above; and reports of SA DAVID J. REID at El Paso, dated 2/4/64 and 6/9/64 in the case captioned "RICHARD CASE NAGELL, aka, ESPIONAGE - X, Bureau File 64-48933.

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies each, and for Dallas is one copy each of the following 16 communications:

Referenced report, dated 12/20/63.

Referenced report, dated 1/30/64.

Letter of WILLIAM R. MARTIN, dated 6/20/67.

Letter of RICHARD C. NAGELL, dated 6/30/67.

Letter of WILLIAM R. MARTIN, dated 9/11/67.

Letter of RICHARD C. NAGELL, dated 11/21/68.

Letter of WILLIAM R. MARTIN, dated 11/23/68.

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 6/18/75.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 32) (RM) *ENCLOSURE* *EX 104* *105-82555-5734*
- 1 - Dallas (100-10461) (Enc. 16) (RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles (1 - 65-7445) (RICHARD CASE NAGELL)

DJR/smm
(4)

*Nagell not cited
11/11/75*

7 AUG 7 1975

Dec
41501A
mm
mm

5 SEP 25 1975

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

Please Refer to File in

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 6/21/75.

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 6/23/75.

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 6/29/75.

Letter of RICHARD C. NAGELL, dated 6/30/75.

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 7/5/75.

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 7/7/75.

Letter of RICHARD C. NAGELL, dated 7/9/75.

Letter of RICHARD C. NAGELL, dated 7/16/75.

Enclosed 7/16/75 letter is addressed to the Assistant Director in Charge of the Los Angeles Office by RICHARD C. NAGELL. In the letter, NAGELL makes reference to the two referenced reports of the El Paso Office, dated 12/20/63 and 1/30/64 (enclosed) wherein NAGELL is mentioned and which apparently had been obtained from the FBI by Professor RICHARD H. POPKIN, Department of Philosophy, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, California.

In his 7/16/75 letter, NAGELL complained that he had "never authorized the FBI to release any information about me to any private individual or non-official organization."

In addition, NAGELL complained these two El Paso reports in question contained incorrect information about him. He closed his letter by stating "I trust that this will clear up any question concerning the matter that conceivably might be raised in the future".

The writer of instant letter, now assigned to the Los Angeles Office, prepared the El Paso reports in question and well remembers encounters with NAGELL in El Paso, Texas.

The synopsis of referenced report, dated 2/4/64, reads as follows:

LA 105-15823

Background: Subject entered U.S. Army 8/5/48 and honorably discharged as Captain 10/29/59. Received many campaign awards during Korean conflict. Sole survivor airplane crash 11/28/54, suffered facial disfigurement and given psychiatric examination. Subject claimed he was released from employment by State Beverage Department, Los Angeles, California, 6/8/62, having been accused of taking \$20,000 bribe. Subject refused furnish police details of his shooting by unidentified assailant on 7/16/62 and subsequently filed Civil Rights complaint against police. In September, 1962, subject advised U.S. Embassy, Mexico City, he had been approached for recruiting in Mexico City, refused to elaborate, did not desire to return to U.S., was "bitter, disgusted, disillusioned and disaffected." Said if he did go to some other country it would cost U.S. millions, was "through being a good citizen" and thought he had gotten a "dirty deal all around." Advised FBI in New York City on 11/16/62 he wanted to expose Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control in California. Advised FBI in Jacksonville, Florida on 12/15/62 he had been approached shortly before in Washington, D.C., by individual believed to be working for Soviets; contacted CIA in Virginia for instructions, was sent to Miami, Florida, by his Soviet contact and said he believed he was actually working for Soviets. Subject's condition diagnosed at Veterans Administration Hospital, Bay Pines, Florida, in January, 1963, as "chronic brain syndrome associated with brain trauma with behavioral reaction characterized by passive, aggressive and paranoid features." Asked FBI in Miami on 1/24/63 if his Cuban or Russian sources gave him a pistol and microfilm would he be permitted to return same to his contact so he could be of further use to U.S. Government. Claimed to be constantly under surveillance. Advised FBI in Los Angeles on 4/19/63 he had taken former wife to court on same date for failure to comply with court order giving subject visitation rights with children. Subject's condition diagnosed by Veterans Administration, Los Angeles, on 6/4/63 as "depression, tearful, nervous, rigid. Would only utter words "Got to see my kids.""

LA 105-15823

Attempted Bank Robbery: Subject arrested 9/20/63 in El Paso, Texas, on charge of attempting to rob State National Bank, El Paso, same date in violation Section 2113, Title 18, U.S. Code. Slashed wrist night of 9/20/63, felt he needed psychiatric treatment, highly emotional when interviewed, given to spells of crying, stated unable to get on feet since discharge from U.S. Army. Cell mate said subject apparently became member Communist Party during confused period after discharge, decided everything was against him in Los Angeles and made arrangements with Communist Party in Los Angeles to pick up visa and passport from contact in El Paso and eventually end up in Czechoslovakia. Subject reportedly attempted suicide three times enroute to El Paso but lost nerve. Advised FBI in El Paso on 1/6/64 he was instructed by agent of foreign government in September, 1963, to comply with agreement made in May, 1963, to participate in criminal offense against United States or be exposed to FBI, which caused subject to act as he did on 9/20/63. Subject ordered sent to Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri, on 1/24/64, by U.S. District Court, El Paso, for 30-day period to undergo psychiatric examination.

Alleged Connection with LEE HARVEY OSWALD: Subsequent to President's assassination, subject claimed acquaintance with OSWALD and wife. On 1/18/64, MARINA OSWALD disclaimed any knowledge of subject. Description and Identification Record: Set out. SUBJECT HAS ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

Referenced report dated 6/7/64 contains information obtained from his military record, beginning on page 49. Information is set out therein regarding his health status.

In view of the information set out above, it would seem that NAGELL's appearance before the Church Committee, as suggested in the POPKIN letter, dated 6/18/75, could prove to be embarrassing for that Committee.

No further action is being taken in this matter by the Los Angeles Office.

November 21, 1968

Mr. William R. Martin
Counselor At Law
International Trade Mart
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Martin:

I have only recently returned to the United States from Europe, where I had been since last May; hence, the delay in writing you about the following matters:

I am apprised that my transcripts of the first trial record and pre-trial and post-trial hearings, consisting of three volumes, were loaned to you by Mr. Jones Harris of New York, and, according to him and Mr. Jim Garrison, the Orleans Parish district attorney, such transcripts were subsequently lost while they were in your possession.

It is not clear to me why these transcripts were turned over to you in the first place, since, as you well know, our brief association came about for the express purpose of your picking up an item of physical evidence being held for me by a friend (notwithstanding some of the cryptic remarks contained in our ensuing correspondence). Certainly you never informed me that Mr. Harris had loaned you the transcripts, nor was his action in this regard initiated with my knowledge.

In any event, the aforesaid transcripts were purchased at my own expense for \$240.00, and, if the information given to me by Mr. Harris and Mr. Garrison is correct, then I would think it behooves you to either provide me with duplicate transcripts or refund the money I spent to obtain those you lost.

Concerning another matter, that pertaining to the lies and distortions printed about me in the July 13 issue of the New Yorker magazine, I would hope that you are not the source of the author's allegations.

Very truly yours,

Richard C. Nagell

November 21, 1968

Mr. William R. Martin
Counselor At Law
International Trade Mart
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Martin:

I have only recently returned to the United States from Europe, where I had been since last May; hence, the delay in writing you about the following matters:

I am apprised that my transcripts of the first trial record and pre-trial and post-trial hearings, consisting of three volumes, were loaned to you by Mr. Jones Harris of New York, and, according to him and Mr. Jim Garrison, the Orleans Parish district attorney, such transcripts were subsequently lost while they were in your possession.

It is not clear to me why these transcripts were turned over to you in the first place, since, as you well know, our brief association came about for the express purpose of your picking up an item of physical evidence being held for me by a friend (notwithstanding some of the cryptic remarks contained in our ensuing correspondence). Certainly you never informed me that Mr. Harris had loaned you the transcripts, nor was his action in this regard initiated with my knowledge.

In any event, the aforesaid transcripts were purchased at my own expense for \$240.00, and, if the information given to me by Mr. Harris and Mr. Garrison is correct, then I would think it behooves you to either provide me with duplicate transcripts or refund the money I spent to obtain those you lost.

Concerning another matter, that pertaining to the lies and distortions printed about me in the July 13 issue of the New Yorker magazine, I would hope that you are not the source of the author's allegations.

Very truly yours,

Richard C. Nagell

WILLIAM R. MARTIN
COUNSELOR AT LAW
INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

23 November 1968

Mr. Richard C. Nagell
82 - 25 Grand Avenue
Elmhurst, Long Island
New York

Dear Mr. Nagell:

Your registered letter of 21 November 1968 was delivered today. I too have been overseas and out of touch for many months. Your letter was my first information that you had actually been released from custody and are at complete liberty. You must be, in order to have traveled to Europe.

I have periodically received mailings from Mr. Arthur Greenstein, which I enclose. Two or three days ago I wrote to him asking for news of you. He had told me of your acquittal in a local court, but I had no idea that you had finally been released.

I am truly and profoundly happy for you.

Yes, the three volumes of your transcripts of trial and hearings were given me to read when I was Assistant District Attorney to Mr. Garrison. It was only by studying those volumes that we were able to separate you from the dozens of crack-pots that were flooding the office with mail, messages and telephone calls in those days. I was certain that I had said this to you during one of our meetings, but perhaps I didn't.

No, the three volumes are not lost. Messrs. Harris and Garrison might have been more careful in their choice of language. Prior to visiting you at Springfield, I handed them to a member of the staff and asked him to read them. I wanted confirmation of some of my opinions. I am certain he will still have them.

I have today spoken to Mr. James Alcock, First Assistant to Mr. Garrison, and learned that the individual in question will be away for a week or more. I am certain that we will have the three volumes in the mail to you as soon as he returns.

I do not take the New Yorker, but will make it a point to read the article to which you refer. Had I been a source for any

Richard C. Nagel
Page 2

author, the material would not have been derogatory to you.

May I say again that I am deeply pleased to learn of your freedom and wish you every possible good fortune.

Most sincerely yours,

William B. Martin

WILLIAM R. MARTIN
COUNSELOR AT LAW
INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

23 November 1968

Mr. Richard C. Nagell
82 - 25 Grand Avenue
Elmhurst, Long Island
New York

Dear Mr. Nagell:

Your registered letter of 21 November 1968 was delivered today. I too have been overseas and out of touch for many months. Your letter was my first information that you had actually been released from custody and are at complete liberty. You must be, in order to have traveled to Europe.

I have periodically received mailings from Mr. Arthur Greenstein, which I enclose. Two or three days ago I wrote to him asking for news of you. He had told me of your acquittal in a local court, but I had no idea that you had finally been released.

I am truly and profoundly happy for you.

Yes, the three volumes of your transcripts of trial and hearings were given me to read when I was Assistant District Attorney to Mr. Garrison. It was only by studying those volumes that we were able to separate you from the dozens of crack-pots that were flooding the office with mail, messages and telephone calls in those days. I was certain that I had said this to you during one of our meetings, but perhaps I didn't.

No, the three volumes are not lost. Messrs. Harris and Garrison might have been more careful in their choice of language. Prior to visiting you at Springfield, I handed them to a member of the staff and asked him to read them. I wanted confirmation of some of my opinions. I am certain he will still have them.

I have today spoken the Mr. James Alcock, First Assistant to Mr. Garrison, and learned that the individual in question will be away for a week or more. I am certain that we will have the three volumes in the mail to you as soon as he returns.

I do not take the New Yorker, but will make it a point to read the article to which you refer. Had I been a source for any

Richard C. Magel
Page 2

author, the material would not have been derogatory to
you.

May I say again that I am deeply pleased to learn of your
freedom and wish you every possible good fortune.

Most sincerely yours,

William B. Martin

WV
2/24/69

Copy to:

Report of: SA DAVID J. REID
Date: January 30, 1964

Office: EL PASO

Field Office File No: EP 105-1264

Bureau File No: 105-82555

Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

Synopsis:

U.S. Secret Service, El Paso, Texas, advised that Mrs. MARINA OSWALD said she did not know RICHARD CASE NAGELL and had never seen him. In presence of newspaper reporters on January 24, 1964, NAGELL accused FBI of not attempting to prevent the assassination of President KENNEDY. A January 27, 1964 newspaper article stated that the United States District Court, El Paso, granted a motion to put NAGELL in a Federal institution in Springfield, Missouri, for psychiatric examination, over NAGELL's vigorous objections.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

AT EL PASO, TEXAS:

Date January 30, 1964

1
OSCAR G. WEISHEIT, JR., United States Secret Service, El Paso, advised that an Agent of the United States Secret Service in Dallas, Texas, had displayed a photograph of RICHARD CASE NAGELL to Mrs. MARINA OSWALD, wife of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, on January 18, 1964. He said this photograph of NAGELL had been taken on September 21, 1963 at the El Paso County Sheriff's Office in El Paso, Texas. Mr. WEISHEIT indicated that, according to the information he received from the Dallas Office of the United States Secret Service, Mrs. MARINA OSWALD carefully examined the photograph and said she did not know the individual appearing in the photograph and had never seen him. Mrs. OSWALD was informed of the name and aliases of RICHARD CASE NAGELL and she then stated that she did not know anyone by any of those names.

On 1/23/64 at El Paso, Texas File # EP 105-264
by SA DAVID J. REID/st -2- Date dictated 1/24/64

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Commission No. 197

Copy to:

Report of: SA DAVID J. REID
Date: December 20, 1963
Field Office File No: EP 105-1264

Office: EL PASO

Bureau File No: 105-82555

Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

Mexico Associates

Synopsis:

General MANUEL M. SICILIA, Brigadier, Mexican Army Garrison, Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico, advised he had never seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD and did not recall ever having told anyone that he had. RICHARD CASE NAGELL, incarcerated in the El Paso County Jail, El Paso, stated that he had met OSWALD in Mexico City and Texas, and that their association was purely social. NAGELL refused to elaborate on this statement.

- P -

DETAILS:

AT EL PASO, TEXAS AND OJINAGA, CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO:

December 20, 1963

Date

1

On December 19, 1963, General MANUEL M. SICILIA, Brigadier, Mexican Army Garrison, was telephonically contacted for an appointment and he then advised that he had never seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD, and did not recall ever having told anyone that he had. General SICILIA said he was at a loss to understand how anyone could have said that he had seen OSWALD in Ojinaga on November 6, 1963.

On December 20, 1963, General SICILIA advised that he had just completed a complete investigation regarding the above-mentioned matter and that he was unable to locate any civilian or military authorities in Ojinaga who could substantiate the allegation that OSWALD was in Ojinaga on November 6, 1963.

On 12/19/63 at Ojinaga, Chih., Mexico File # EP 105-1264

by SA HARREL LEON DAVIS/st -2- Date dictated 12/19/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Date December 20, 1963

RICHARD CASE NAGELL incarcerated in the El Paso County Jail on a complaint charging him with Bank Robbery advised that "For the record he would like to say that his association with OSWALD (meaning LEE HARVEY OSWALD) was purely social and that he had met him in Mexico City and in Texas."

NAGELL stated he decided to "clear the record up" since his fingerprints were taken on December 12, 1963 by Special Agents WHITE and BOYCE.

Although questioned as to where and when his contacts with OSWALD were made, he refused to comment further and said he had nothing more to say.

On 12/19/63 at El Paso, Texas File # EP 105-1264
by SA HAROLD H. BOYCE &
SA THOMAS B. WHITE, JR./st -3- Date dictated 12/19/63

December 20, 1963

Date

1

RICHARD CASE NAGELL, who is presently incarcerated at the El Paso County Jail in El Paso, was reinterviewed, at which time he stated "My contact with OSWALD was strictly social and that is all I can say." When NAGELL was questioned regarding the nature of his contact with OSWALD, he refused to make any additional statement.

On 12/19/63 at El Paso, Texas File # EP 105-1264
by SA DAVID J. REID & SA RICHARD K. GRAHAM/st -4*- Date dictated 12/20/63

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Commission No. 197

Copy to:

Report of: SA DAVID J. REID
Date: December 20, 1963

Office: EL PASO

Field Office File No.: EP 105-1264

Bureau File No.: 105-82555

Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

*Mexico
Associates*

Synopsis:

General MANUEL M. SICILIA, Brigadier, Mexican Army Garrison, Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico, advised he had never seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD and did not recall ever having told anyone that he had. RICHARD CASE NAGELL, incarcerated in the El Paso County Jail, El Paso, stated that he had met OSWALD in Mexico City and Texas, and that their association was purely social. NAGELL refused to elaborate on this statement.

- P -

DETAILS:

AT EL PASO, TEXAS AND OJINAGA, CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO:

December 20, 1963

Date

1

On December 19, 1963, General MANUEL M. SICILIA, Brigadier, Mexican Army Garrison, was telephonically contacted for an appointment and he then advised that he had never seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD, and did not recall ever having told anyone that he had. General SICILIA said he was at a loss to understand how anyone could have said that he had seen OSWALD in Ojinaga on November 6, 1963.

On December 20, 1963, General SICILIA advised that he had just completed a complete investigation regarding the above-mentioned matter and that he was unable to locate any civilian or military authorities in Ojinaga who could substantiate the allegation that OSWALD was in Ojinaga on November 6, 1963.

On 12/19&20/63 at Ojinaga, Chih., Mexico File # EP 105-1264

by SA HARREL LEON DAVIS/st -2- Date dictated 12/19/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 20, 1963

1
 RICHARD CASE NAGELL incarcerated in the El Paso County Jail on a complaint charging him with Bank Robbery advised that "For the record he would like to say that his association with OSWALD (meaning LEE HARVEY OSWALD) was purely social and that he had met him in Mexico City and in Texas."

NAGELL stated he decided to "clear the record up" since his fingerprints were taken on December 12, 1963 by Special Agents WHITE and BOYCE.

Although questioned as to where and when his contacts with OSWALD were made, he refused to comment further and said he had nothing more to say.

On 12/19/63 at El Paso, Texas File # EP 105-1264
 by SA HAROLD H. BOYCE & SA THOMAS B. WHITE, JR./st -3- Date dictated 12/19/63

December 20, 1963

Date

1

RICHARD CASE NAGELL, who is presently incarcerated at the El Paso County Jail in El Paso, was reinterviewed, at which time he stated "My contact with OSWALD was strictly social and that is all I can say." When NAGELL was questioned regarding the nature of his contact with OSWALD, he refused to make any additional statement.

On 12/19/63 at El Paso, Texas File # EP 105-1264

by SA DAVID J. REID &
SA RICHARD K. GRAHAM/st -4*- Date dictated 12/20/63

WILLIAM R. MARTIN
COUNSELOR AT LAW
INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

20 June 1967

Mr. Richard Case Nagell
U. S. Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

Dear Mr. Nagell:

After my most recent visit with you at the Springfield Medical Center, I traveled briefly to interview the witness you had indicated as being valuable to your appeal and to obtain from him evidence that he might have had.

Fortunately enough, I was able to locate the witness with absolutely no trouble and managed to spend several hours in amiable conversation. I was much impressed by this individual; by his dignity, bearing and loyalty. I am satisfied in my own mind that he would have helped in every possible manner in the legal battle that lies ahead.

Unfortunately, however, the physical evidence that I had hoped to obtain was not available. Apparently it was the subject of a burglary sometime in 1964 and was the only item of interest to the burglar, who did not disturb, as far as can be determined, any other items of value...so I am told. In any case, I was interested in nothing else.

Of course I will continue the preparation of our case with all diligence, but I wanted you to know that this particular effort had been in vain.


WILLIAM R. MARTIN

WRM/lm

P.S. In as much as I am not certain of your present address, I would appreciate acknowledgement of this letter.

June 30, 1967

Mr. William B. Martin
Counsel At Law
International Trade Mart
New Orleans, Louisiana 70113

Dear Mr. Martin:

I am in receipt of your letter dated June 20. Since the physical evidence referenced therein is no longer available, for whatever cause, I see no purpose in continuing with the preparation of my case.

Richard C. Hazell

A-83286-L

WILLIAM R. MARTIN
COUNSELOR AT LAW
INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

20 June 1967

Mr. Richard Case Nagell
U. S. Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

Dear Mr. Nagell:

After my most recent visit with you at the Springfield Medical Center, I traveled briefly to interview the witness you had indicated as being valuable to your appeal and to obtain from him evidence that he might have had.

Fortunately enough, I was able to locate the witness with absolutely no trouble and managed to spend several hours in amiable conversation. I was much impressed by this individual; by his dignity, bearing and loyalty. I am satisfied in my own mind that he would have helped in every possible manner in the legal battle that lies ahead.

Unfortunately, however, the physical evidence that I had hoped to obtain was not available. Apparently it was the subject of a burglary sometime in 1964 and was the only item of interest to the burglar, who did not disturb, as far as can be determined, any other items of value...so I am told. In any case, I was interested in nothing else.

Of course I will continue the preparation of our case with all diligence, but I wanted you to know that this particular effort had been in vain.


WILLIAM R. MARTIN

WRM/lm

P.S. In as much as I am not certain of your present address, I would appreciate acknowledgement of this letter.

June 30, 1967

Mr. William B. Martin
Counselor At Law
International Trade Mart
New Orleans, Louisiana 70113

Dear Mr. Martin:

I am in receipt of your letter dated June 20. Since the physical evidence referenced therein is no longer available, for whatever cause, I see no purpose in continuing with the preparation of my case.

Richard C. Nagell

A-83286-L

WILLIAM R. MARTIN
COUNSELOR AT LAW
INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Mr. Richard Case Nagell
83286
U.S. Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

11 September 1967

Dear Mr. Nagell:

Your letter of 30 August was in the office when I returned from the weekend. It had arrived, I am told, late Friday afternoon. This seems an unusually long time for mail to be in transit...at least moreso than any of your other letters to me.

Senator Russell's letter to you, dated 20 January, will be in the evening mail to your sister by registered mail. I presume that Mrs. Gambert will have returned by now to her address in Elmhurst. I apologize for my oversight in not having included Russell's letter in my mailing of 25 July.

Continuing our remarks concerning your July 16 letter to my "associate": I understand, now, your remarks concerning the company, but I would not have without your explanation. For whatever it may be worth to you, you might doublecheck on your source of information. It was inaccurate and that threw my understanding off stride.

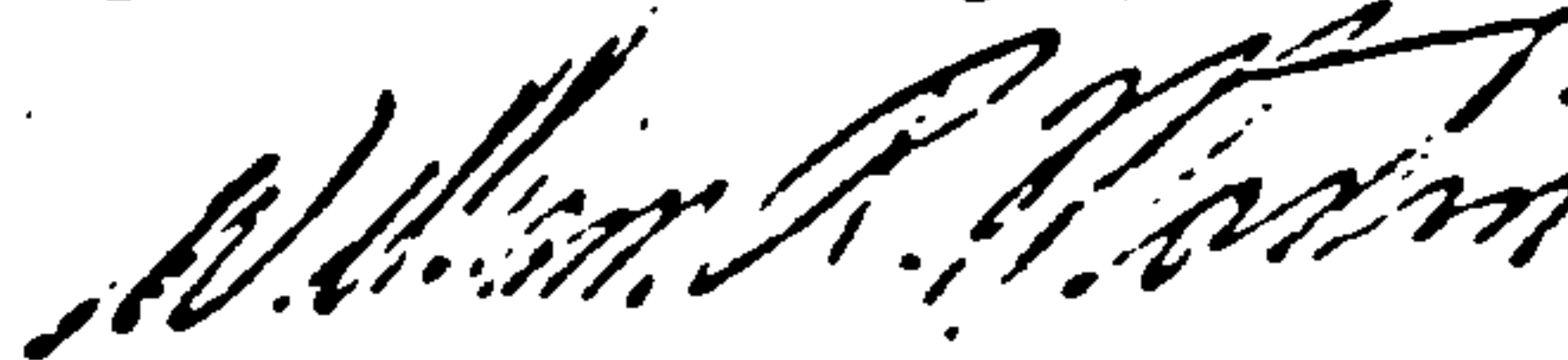
As to the balance; it may be unimportant...but it is still as cryptic as ever, I'm afraid. By deduction, should you have in mind Mrs. Fredricks in Colorado, then let me say that after my visit with her I wrote two letters. One, a polite thank-you note, the other a followup asking if they had received the first...in neither case did I receive a reply.

Your waiver of privileged communication with me is acknowledged and accepted and, insofar as I am concerned, was neither unnecessary or academic. Since you did not indicate anything specific, I will, as you said, await the dictates of the future.

Richard Case Nagell
page 2

Over the past several days I have been busy refurbishing my office and renewing contacts with old friends and clients. One of the latter is the Hedrick Land Title Corporation of Kansas City, Kansas, which corporation has asked that I pay them a visit at an early date to evaluate their Central American plans. The point is that I expect to be in Kansas City in the near future on business and will be glad to drive over to visit you at Leavenworth, if such would not be inconvenient to you.

Most sincerely yours,



WRM/ml

encl.

VILLIAM R. MARTIN
COUNSELOR AT LAW
INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Mr. Richard Case Nagell
83286
U.S. Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

11 September 1967

Dear Mr. Nagell:

Your letter of 30 August was in the office when I returned from the weekend. It had arrived, I am told, late Friday afternoon. This seems an unusually long time for mail to be in transit...at least moreso than any of your other letters to me.

Senator Russell's letter to you, dated 20 January, will be in the evening mail to your sister by registered mail. I presume that Mrs. Gambert will have returned by now to her address in Elmhurst. I apologize for my oversight in not having included Russell's letter in my mailing of 25 July.

Continuing our remarks concerning your July 16 letter to my "associate": I understand, now, your remarks concerning the company, but I would not have without your explanation. For whatever it may be worth to you, you might doublecheck on your source of information. It was inaccurate and that threw my understanding off stride.

As to the balance; it may be unimportant...but it is still as cryptic as ever, I'm afraid. By deduction, should you have in mind Mrs. Fredricks in Colorado, then let me say that after my visit with her I wrote two letters. One, a polite thank-you note, the other a followup asking if they had received the first...in neither case did I receive a reply.

Your waiver of privileged communication with me is acknowledged and accepted and, insofar as I am concerned, was neither unnecessary or academic. Since you did not indicate anything specific, I will, as you said, await the dictates of the future.

Richard Case Nagell
page 2

Over the past several days I have been busy refurbishing my office and renewing contacts with old friends and clients. One of the latter is the Hedrick Land Title Corporation of Kansas City, Kansas, which corporation has asked that I pay them a visit at an early date to evaluate their Central American plans. The point is that I expect to be in Kansas City in the near future on business and will be glad to drive over to visit you at Leavenworth, if such would not be inconvenient to you.

Most sincerely yours,

William R. Nagell

WRM/ml

encl.

JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

RICHARD H. POPKIN, Editor
Department of Philosophy
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California 92037

BENSON MATES, Associate Editor
University of California, Berkeley

JAMES R. GROVES, Assistant Editor
Central Washington State College

BUSINESS OFFICE
JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY, INC.
Department of Philosophy
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California 92037

BOOK REVIEW EDITORS

HERBERT W. SCHNEIDER
Harper Hall
Claremont, California 91711

A. R. LOUCH
Claremont Graduate School

W. H. WERKMEISTER
Florida State University

DAVID F. NORTON
McGill University

RALPH ROSS
Claremont Graduate School

JOHN GOHEEN
Stanford University

June 18, 1975

Dear Mr. Nagell:

Our conversation on Sunday was extremely interesting to me. I enjoyed very much the opportunity to get to know you. I will send xeroxes of the papers I promised you as soon as I get organized.

I am presently negotiating for your immunity before the Church Committee.

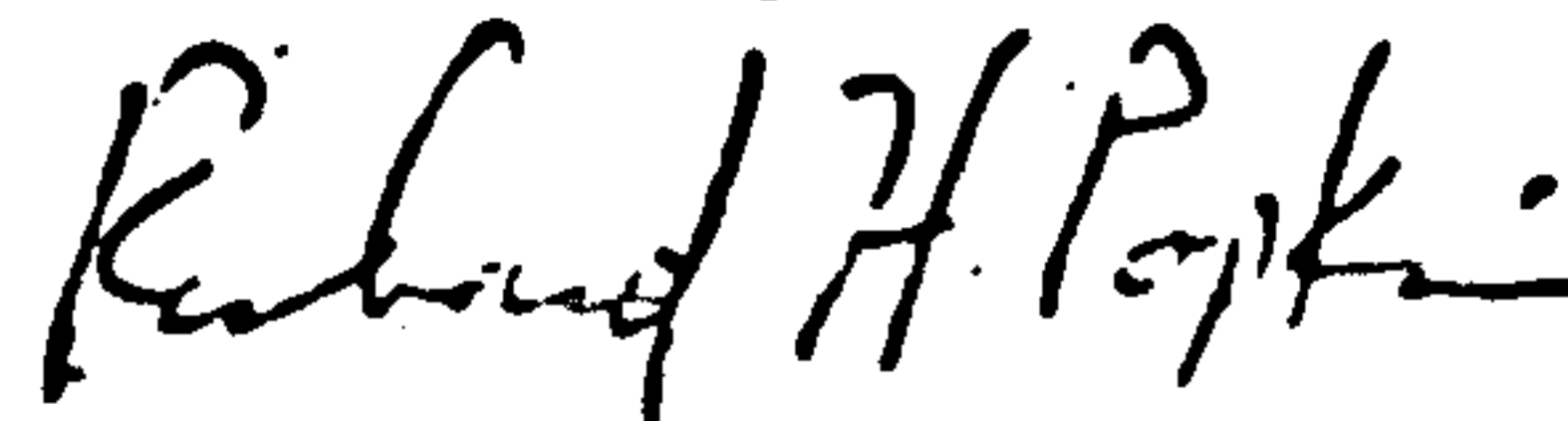
Thank you very much for the papers you sent me yesterday. I would appreciate very much an annotated copy of the Addendum to the article in FAMILY which will help me in knowing which claims in the Addendum are true and which are not. Would you also please send me a letter which states that you were instructed to dispose of Oswald before and not after the assassination.

I told Fensterwald over the phone that you had said that I could have all his files on you except one page. He will accept this verbally but it might help if you would send a written statement to that effect to him in order that he will not get into any difficulties giving out a client's information.

I will give you a ring when I know where things stand with the Church Committee and will send you copies of the telegrams concerning the matter. I hope you will be able to come down and enjoy the Beach with your children.

Hope all is going well on your front and best wishes.

Yours very truly,



Richard H. Popkin

RHP:mls

JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

RICHARD H. POPKIN, Editor
Department of Philosophy
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California 92037

ELSON MATES, Associate Editor
University of California, Berkeley

AMES R. GROVES, Assistant Editor
Central Washington State College

BUSINESS OFFICE
JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY, INC.
Department of Philosophy
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California 92037

BOOK REVIEW EDITORS

HERBERT W. SCHNEIDER
Harper Hall
Claremont, California 91711

A. R. LOUCH
Claremont Graduate School

W. H. WERKMEISTER
Florida State University

DAVID F. NORTON
McGill University

RALPH ROSS
Claremont Graduate School

JOHN COHEEN
Stanford University

June 18, 1975

Dear Mr. Nagell:

Our conversation on Sunday was extremely interesting to me. I enjoyed very much the opportunity to get to know you. I will send xeroxes of the papers I promised you as soon as I get organized.

I am presently negotiating for your immunity before the Church Committee.

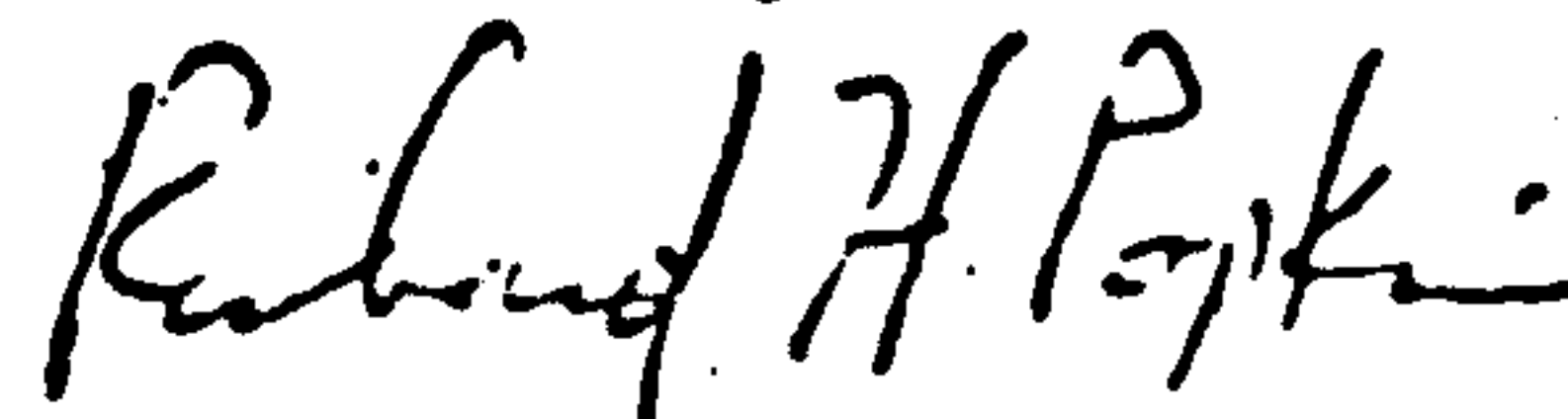
Thank you very much for the papers you sent me yesterday. I would appreciate very much an annotated copy of the Addendum to the article in FAMILY which will help me in knowing which claims in the Addendum are true and which are not. Would you also please send me a letter which states that you were instructed to dispose of Oswald before and not after the assassination.

I told Fensterwald over the phone that you had said that I could have all his files on you except one page. He will accept this verbally but it might help if you would send a written statement to that effect to him in order that he will not get into any difficulties giving out a client's information.

I will give you a ring when I know where things stand with the Church Committee and will send you copies of the telegrams concerning the matter. I hope you will be able to come down and enjoy the Beach with your children.

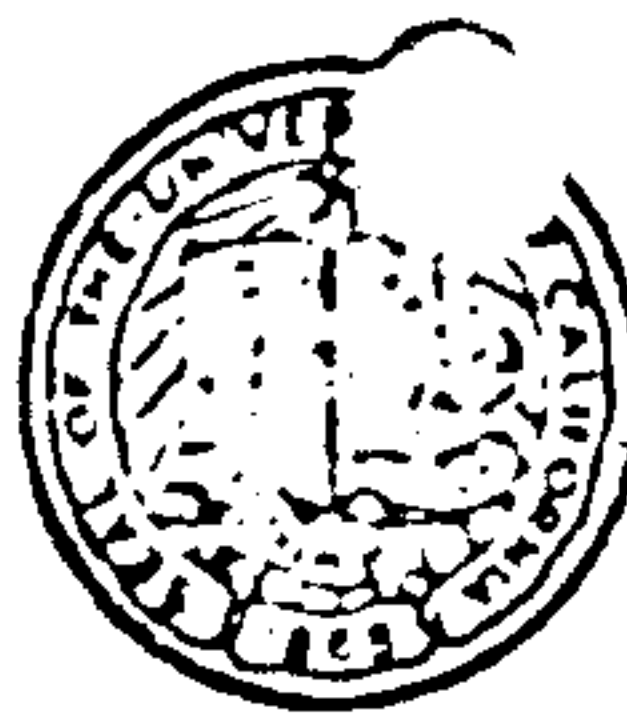
Hope all is going well on your front and best wishes.

Yours very truly,



Richard H. Popkin

RHP:mls



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92037

June 21, 1975

Mr. Richard Nagell
1141 Ninth Street
Manhattan Beach
California 90266

Dear Mr. Nagell:

I am sorry that there seems to be some misunderstanding. Let me explain what I recall. I had made a date to see Mr. Noyes at 6:00 at the Hotel. I assumed our discussion would last only two hours, I would then get a chance for a nap and then Noyes would turn up. I can assure you that his arrival had nothing to do with your being there. Since you told me you were going to the car to get a document, I didn't want him to come up until we had finished our business, which is why he was hanging around in the lobby. He and some other people have been working on the business that took place in the Hotel Luna. Everytime I have seen the description of what they have, you know and I know something is screwy because they always have you in attendance at a time when you were in jail. One of the documents you sent me makes clear you never set foot in the hotel so that somebody is feeding them that material. For the last few weeks they (Noyes, John Moulder of the NATIONAL TATTLER, Eric Golz of the DALLAS MORNING NEWS and a couple of others) have been trying to track me down. I have been noncommittal because I have no idea if a meeting took place in the hotel. All I know is that you were not there and know nothing more about it.

*BI reports
be in ca
not pres-*

I am enclosing the FBI-reports I showed you about your case. Under separate cover I am sending you Martin's correspondence. Tomorrow I should have a copy of Epstein's COUNTERPLOT and the data as to when it was published to see if you can institute a suit or whether I can since what he says about me is all false. There is also a recent article (within the last two months) by Tom Beghel (in Garrison's office) in the WASHINGTONIAN which makes similar claims. I think I have it in the boxes I have not yet unpacked. If I find it I will send it on to you. Otherwise, Fensterwald can send it to you.

Regarding the last item that disturbed you, as I told you over the phone, I hadn't slept for three days when I saw you and that was probably the reason for my behavior. I understand you to have told me two things: 1) that you authorized me to use any material in Fensterwald's file except one page and 2) that you authorized me to say to the Church Committee that if given immunity you would testify. I called Fensterwald right after you left and you may check with him as to whether or not this is what I told him. If I am mistaken (and I admit that I was not in the best of health after three sleepless days) please let me know

and I will utilize no material I have gotten from Fensterwald from your file and will only utilize material I gained from Garrison's investigation and what you send me. If you desire I will burn the letters I have from Fensterwald's file. As I told you when we met, and I swear by any Bible or whatever else you wish, seriously I intend no harm to you and will not do anything which could lead you into any harm. I have a Don Quixote complex about this and believe that the time is right to make America a better place for your children and mine to live in.

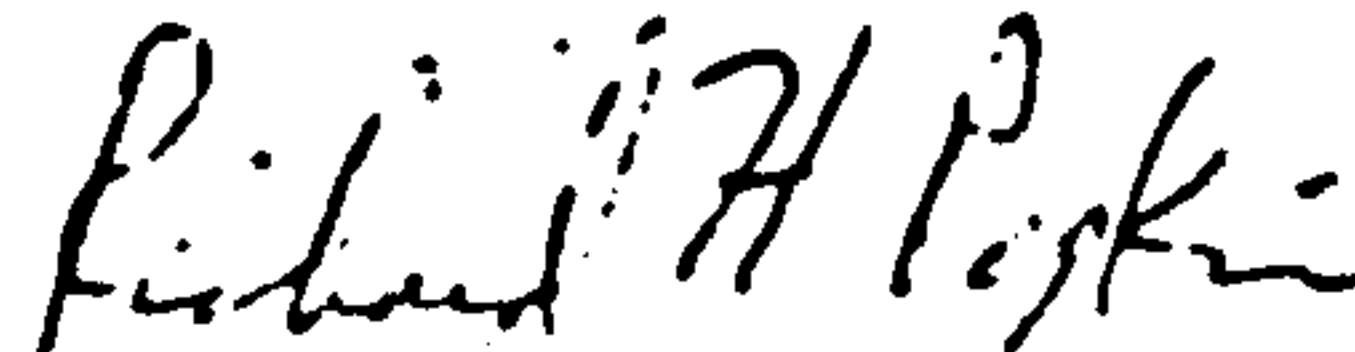
I stand by the dedication I wrote to you in my book until you tell me something which would make me change my mind. You have suffered an inordinate injustice at the hands of the U.S. government. I realize that there is nothing I could do or anyone else could do that will give you back the 4½ years to make up for the torments you went through. But I think since we are both parents we can make the world a better place for our children. If I am wrong I at least would like to have made the effort.

I will not ask you questions over the phone since I realize the situation. There are two things I would appreciate if you would tell me: 1) whether the description of the Odio Affair in my book is accurate and if it is not, any guess or commentary you could offer me would be most helpful. The book will be reissued soon and I would like to correct any errors especially on the Odio matter. 2) Is it possible to obtain a picture of Second Oswald, preferably with Lee Harvey Oswald. I would be most anxious to have one. I hope this letter has indicated that I have done my best to keep my end of what I thought were our agreements at our meeting and I give you my word (and you know from what I did in the past) that I will do everything to gain your vindication. I do believe that you made a monumental contribution to saving us from World War III. If you want to prove to me otherwise that is up to you but that is my present reading of the data.

Until given further assurance from you I will carry on my crusade strictly out of documents I had prior to our meeting, documents you have sent me since the meeting and the material about Luis Castillo.

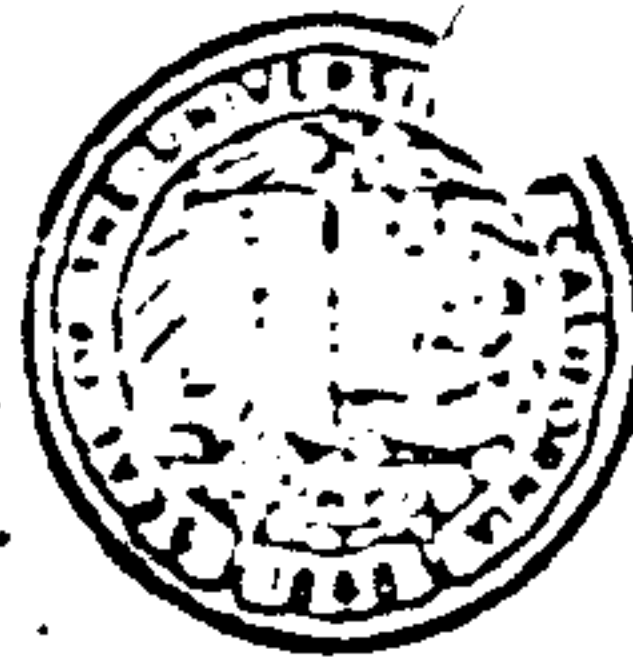
With very best wishes to the bravest man I know.

Yours very truly,



Richard H. Popkin

RHP:mls



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92037

June 21, 1975

Mr. Richard Nagell
1141 Ninth Street
Manhattan Beach
California 90266

Dear Mr. Nagell:

I am sorry that there seems to be some misunderstanding. Let me explain what I recall. I had made a date to see Mr. Noyes at 6:00 at the Hotel. I assumed our discussion would last only two hours, I would then get a chance for a nap and then Noyes would turn up. I can assure you that his arrival had nothing to do with your being there. Since you told me you were going to the car to get a document, I didn't want him to come up until we had finished our business, which is why he was hanging around in the lobby. He and some other people have been working on the business that took place in the Hotel Luna. Everytime I have seen the description of what they have, you know and I know something is screwy because they always have you in attendance at a time when you were in jail. One of the documents you sent me makes clear you never set foot in the hotel so that somebody is feeding them that material. For the last few weeks they (Noyes, John Moulder of the NATIONAL TATTLER, Eric Golz of the DALLAS MORNING NEWS and a couple of others) have been trying to track me down. I have been noncommittal because I have no idea if a meeting took place in the hotel. All I know is that you were not there and know nothing more about it.

*31 reports
be in a
etc. pres.*

I am enclosing the FBI reports I showed you about your case. Under separate cover I am sending you Martin's correspondence. Tomorrow I should have a copy of Epstein's COUNTERPLOT and the data as to when it was published to see if you can institute a suit or whether I can since what he says about me is all false. There is also a recent article (within the last two months) by Tom Bethel (in Garrison's office) in the WASHINGTONIAN which makes similar claims. I think I have it in the boxes I have not yet unpacked. If I find it I will send it on to you. Otherwise, Fensterwald can send it to you.

Regarding the last item that disturbed you, as I told you over the phone, I hadn't slept for three days when I saw you and that was probably the reason for my behavior. I understand you to have told me two things: 1) that you authorized me to use any material in Fensterwald's file except one page and 2) that you authorized me to say to the Church Committee that if given immunity you would testify. I called Fensterwald right after you left and you may check with him as to whether or not this is what I told him. If I am mistaken (and I admit that I was not in the best of health after three sleepless days) please let me know

and I will utilize no material I have gotten from Fensterwald from your file and will only utilize material I gained from Garrison's investigation and what you send me. If you desire I will burn the letters I have from Fensterwald's file. As I told you when we met, and I swear by any Bible or whatever else you wish, seriously I intend no harm to you and will not do anything which could lead you into anyharm. I have a Don Quixote complex about this and believe that the time is right to make America a better place for your children and mine to live in.

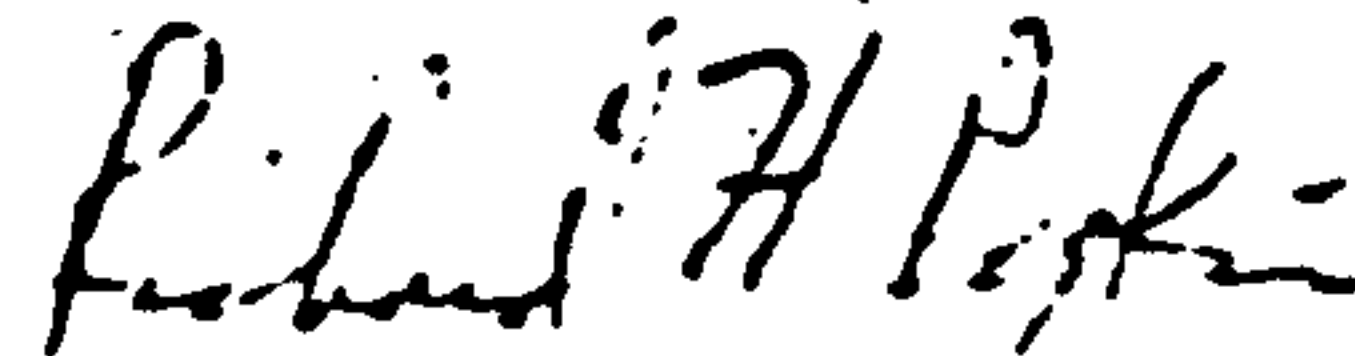
I stand by the dedication I wrote to you in my book until you tell me something which would make me change my mind. You have suffered an inordinate injustice at the hands of the U.S. government. I realize that there is nothing I could do or anyone else could do that will give you back the 4½ years to make up for the torments you went through. But I think since we are both parents we can make the world a better place for our children. If I am wrong I at least would like to have made the effort.

I will not ask you questions over the phone since I realize the situation. There are two things I would appreciate if you would tell me: 1) whether the description of the Odio Affair in my book is accurate and if it is not, any gboss or commentary you could offer me would be most helpful. The book will be reissued soon and I would like to correct any errors especially on the Odio matter. 2) Is it possible to obtain a picture of Second Oswald, preferably with Lee Harvey Oswald. I would be most anxious to have one. I hope this letter has indicated that I have done my best to keep my end of what I thought were our agreements at our meeting and I give you my word (and you know from what I did in the past) that I will do everything to gain your vindication. I do believe that you made a monumental contribution to saving us from World War III. If you want to prove to me otherwise that is up to you but that is my present reading of the data.

Until given further assurance from you I will carry on my crusade strictly out of documents I had prior to our meeting, documents you have sent me since the meeting and the material about Louis Castillo.

With very best wishes to the bravest man I know.

Yours very truly,



Richard H. Popkin

RHP:mls

JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

RICHARD H. POPKIN, Editor
Washington University, St. Louis

MURRY E. ALLISON, Associate Editor
University of California, San Diego

ANDREW M. MATES, Associate Editor
University of California, Berkeley

MES R. GROVES, Assistant Editor
University of California, San Diego

ADVERTISING OFFICE
JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY
Department of Philosophy
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California 92037

BOOK REVIEW EDITORS
HERBERT W. SCHNEIDER
Harper Hall
Claremont Graduate School
Claremont, California 91711
JOHN GOHEEN
Stanford University
A. R. LOUCH
Claremont Graduate School
DAVID F. NORTON
McGill University
RALPH ROSS
Claremont Graduate School
W. H. WERKMEISTER
Florida State University

June 23, 1975

Mr. Richard C. Nagell
114 Ninth Street
Manhattan Beach, California 90266

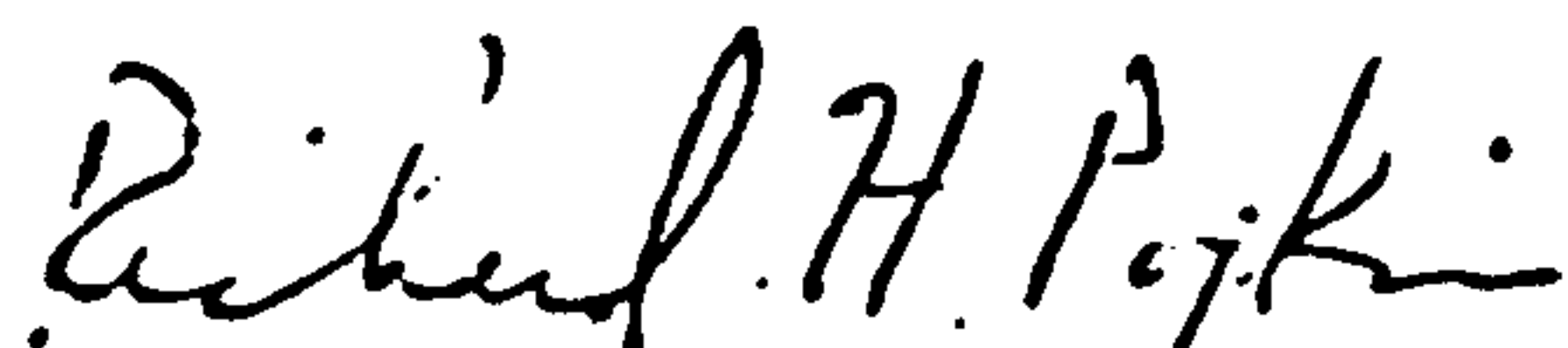
Dear Mr. Nagell:

Enclosed are the FBI materials I have. I will search my files for further correspondence with Martin. I have not yet had a chance to unpack carefully. Please note the September 15, 1967 letter.

I will get you a copy of Counterplot by tomorrow, plus Tom Bethel's recent article slandering all of us.

I hope things are going well for you and that you have got a copy of my book by now.

With very best wishes,



Richard H. Popkin
Professor of Philosophy

RHP:pjm

JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

RICHARD H. POPKIN, Editor
Washington University, St. Louis

MARY E. ALLISON, Associate Editor
University of California, San Diego

ROBERTSON MATES, Associate Editor
University of California, Berkeley

ALAN R. GROVES, Assistant Editor
University of California, San Diego

ADVERTISING OFFICE
JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY
Department of Philosophy
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California 92037

BOOK REVIEW EDITORS

HERBERT W. SCHNEIDER
Harper Hall
Claremont Graduate School
Claremont, California 91711

JOHN COHEEN
Stanford University

A. R. LOUCH
Claremont Graduate School

DAVID F. NORTON
McGill University

RALPH ROSS
Claremont Graduate School

W. H. WERKMEISTER
Florida State University

June 23, 1975

Mr. Richard C. Nagell
114 Ninth Street
Manhattan Beach, California 90266

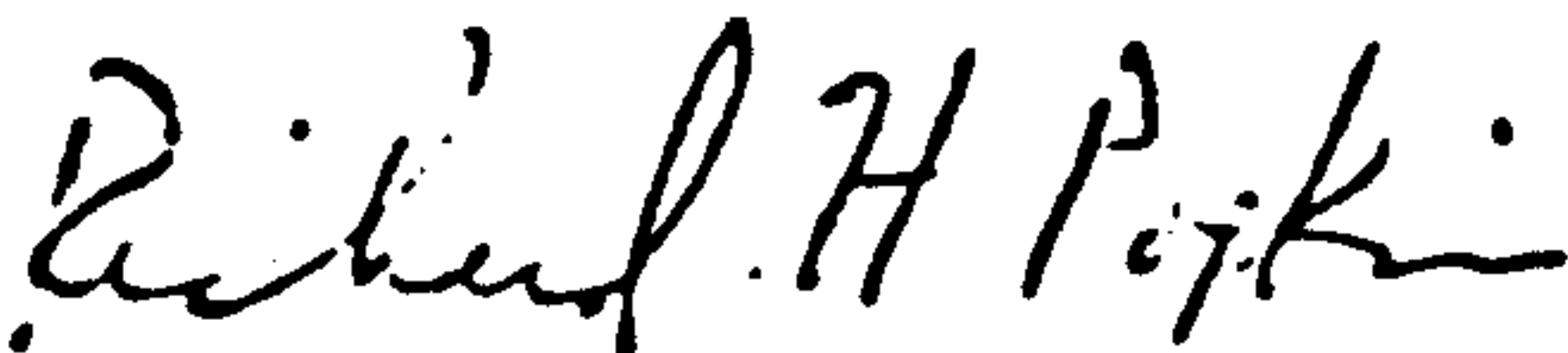
Dear Mr. Nagell:

Enclosed are the FBI materials I have. I will search my files for further correspondence with Martin. I have not yet had a chance to unpack carefully. Please note the September 15, 1967 letter.

I will get you a copy of Counterplot by tomorrow, plus Tom Bethel's recent article slandering all of us.

I hope things are going well for you and that you have got a copy of my book by now.

With very best wishes,



Richard H. Popkin
Professor of Philosophy

RHP:pjm

29 July 1975

Mr. Richard C. Nagell
1141 Ninth St.
Manhattan Beach, Ca. 90266

Dear Mr. Nagell:

I tried to call you yesterday. I have some news which may be of interest to you. First of all, Mr. John Buckley, the Assistant to the Attorney General tells me that the file number that you listed in your allegations is definitely missing from your FBI files. He is looking for it in the file that Hoover took away from the office and kept personally. As you may have noticed from news stories, a whole batch of the files were taken away and are missing. He will let me know about further developments. I have made an appointment to see him and the Attorney General on July 10 concerning the other material I showed you regarding the robot gunman Castillo. I will also give the same material to the Church Commission, and will let the Commission Xerox any material related to you, except any items which you do not want them to have. I think you know of all the material I have. I will be receiving from New York some more material of Martin's correspondence with me that you may not have.

I hope that you have received the pages from Epstein's book. I have spoken to my lawyers, Roger S. Ruffin and Richard Whalen. They are of the opinion that we can sue. I sent you a passage that deals with you, which is approximately the same as the New Yorker article. There are several passages about me which do not relate to you that are also false.

A more recent article in the Washington Monthly by Tom Bethal makes the same claim that you are a kook and that I am the kook who brought you into the case. This was published last spring. I am obtaining a copy of it and will send it to you in the mail (If you prefer to receive mail at your P.O.Box, please send me the number, as all I have is the address given to me by Fensterwald).

Mr. Richard C. Nagell
29 June 1975
Page -2-

Is there any possibility that your sister has a copy of the letter to J. Edgar Hoover? In studying documents, it appears that she has no copy, but you seem to have sent copies of all your correspondence to her. If she does have a copy, it would be a great bombshell that would bring about your vindication completely. I have found a text of your allegations from the El Paso trial, where the FBI admits to having the letter, however they refuse to produce it. If you could send me a copy of the page from the transcript, I would appreciate it greatly. Independently, I am ordering a transcript of the whole trial to study the action of your lawyers, as well as the ruling of Homer O. Thornberry. There may be significance in President Johnson's own account as to why he chose Thornberry for such an august position.

Two other matters:

1) Have you any information that you would care to pass on as to the truth of the story of Mrs. Odio? Is it true in the form that I give in my book where I cite the relevant texts in the Warren Commission?

2) Is it possible that the second Oswald did not speak English? There is a description of a man who resembles Oswald who was in Dallas at the same time. He is Cuban, and speaks no English. This would fit in with the many accounts of people who got no response from greetings and attempts at conversation. You indicated that you did not want to discuss this over the phone, and you are probably correct in thinking that both of our phones are tapped (I have installed another phone whose number is: 714-452-0809. I don't think that they have had a chance to bug it as of yet. I also have an answering service if you would like to leave a number where you can be reached.

Lastly, I am giving some T.V. interviews that will appear as soon as my story is ready to break. I am sending you the first version that has already appeared in the Saramento Bee last week. I will probably be asked to appear on the Mike Wallace Show next week. Mr. Arcega, who de-programmed Castillo will probably appear with me. If you have any interest in having an opportunity to state any of your views, I am sure that they would be delighted to interview you. I have indicated that you might wish to answer some of the charges of Epstein and Bethal, but do not wish to answer questions. If you want to do this, I can make whatever arrangements you wish, and you, of course, would have the right to cancel any part of the interview, or all of it if you felt it might jeopardize your position in any pending court cases or in your future appearance before the Church Commission.

Besides informing the Church Commission, as you indicated at our meeting in Los Angeles, that I have left the whole problem of negotiating the legalities of immunity to them and Fensterwald, I assume that they will have to contact Fensterwald themselves. Somebody from the Commission called me about it and I gave him Fensterwald's number. As I have not spoken to him since, I do not know what is being done at present. As

Mr. Richard C. Nagell
29 June 1975
Page -3-

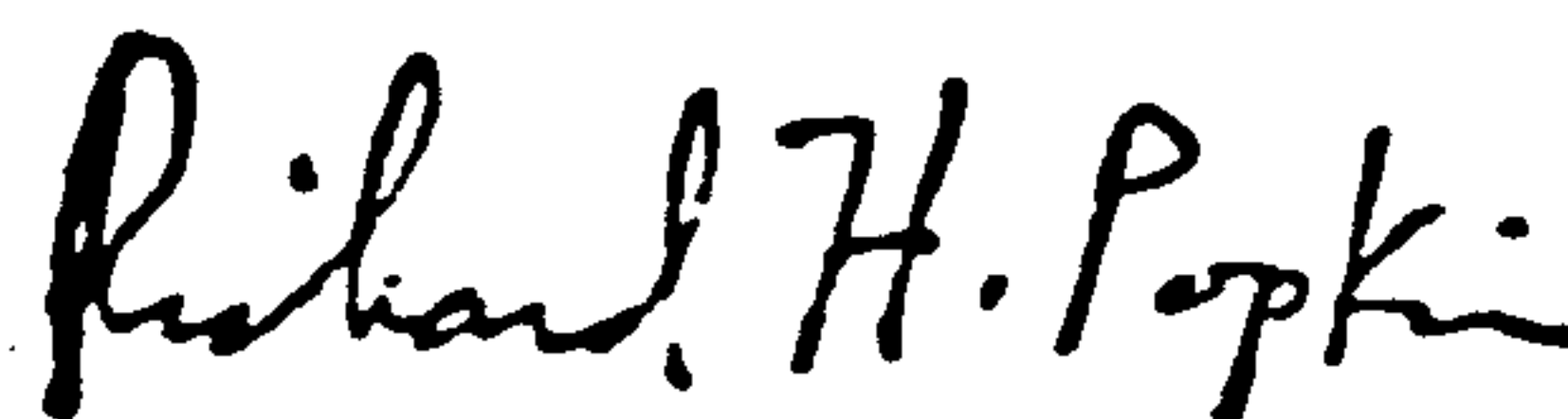
I said previously, I will see the Church Commission on the 10th of July. Unless I hear from you to the contrary, I will let them see all the material I have regarding you, Castillo, and other matters. As I promised you, I would certainly do nothing that could possibly be of any harm to you. You have suffered more already than any human being should.

The material you sent me from the Carla Hillis lawsuit, and what I take to be from your memoirs is absolutely fascinating. You have obviously lived one of the amazing lives of the century. If you wish to send me any more material along these lines, it would be much appreciated. Also you mentioned in our conversation in L.A. the names of several hotels in Mexico City, at which Oswald had registered. I was too groggy and sleepy, at that time, to remember these names. I would appreciate your sending them.

My offer to bring your children and yourself to our beach is open-ended. We would be most honored to have you visit us, and to relax together on the beach which, as you know, is one of the best on the west coast.

Very best wishes and my continued admiration for the amazing role you have played in the history of the United States.

Yours very truly,



Richard H. Popkin

RHP: j

29 June 1975

Mr. Richard C. Nagell
1141 Ninth St.
Manhattan Beach, Ca. 90266

Dear Mr. Nagell:

I tried to call you yesterday. I have some news which may be of interest to you. First of all, Mr. John Buckley, the Assistant to the Attorney General tells me that the file number that you listed in your allegations is definitely missing from your FBI files. He is looking for it in the file that Hoover took away from the office and kept personally. As you may have noticed from news stories, a whole batch of the files were taken away and are missing. He will let me know about further developments. I have made an appointment to see him and the Attorney General on July 10 concerning the other material I showed you regarding the robot gunman Castillo. I will also give the same material to the Church Commission, and will let the Commission Xerox any material related to you, except any items which you do not want them to have. I think you know of all the material I have. I will be receiving from New York some more material of Martin's correspondence with me that you may not have.

I hope that you have received the pages from Epstein's book. I have spoken to my lawyers, Roger S. Ruffin and Richard Whalen. They are of the opinion that we can sue. I sent you a passage that deals with you, which is approximately the same as the New Yorker article. There are several passages about me which do not relate to you that are also false.

A more recent article in the Washington Monthly by Tom Bethal makes the same claim that you are a kook and that I am the kook who brought you into the case. This was published last spring. I am obtaining a copy of it and will send it to you in the mail (If you prefer to receive mail at your P.O.Box, please send me the number, as all I have is the address given to me by Fensterwald).

-e/ .
-sj . n
3

that I had met her or knew her personally . . . though I sure knew a lot about her. As for the FBI report that refers to General Manuel Sicilia and the "INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA" bit, I wonder if it was meant to provoke some kind of a reaction from me?

Re William R. Martin's correspondence: I am interested only in obtaining a copy of his memorandum to Jim Garrison concerning his interview with Frederick H. John (cryptically referred to as "Mrs. Fredericks in Colorado" by Mr. Martin in one of his letters to me) at Los Angeles in 1967. I already have copies of the distorted memos that he wrote to Mr. Garrison following his talks with me. In the former regard, I am enclosing herewith copies of some correspondence between Mr. Martin and myself, which should help to dispel Mr. Epstein's lies about the missing recording tape.

I'm curious as to why Bernard Fensterwald failed to send me a copy of the recent WASHINGTONIAN article by Mr. Tom Bethel, which you said slanders me too, moreso considering that he has sent me data that has nothing to do with my case, per se. As I recall, you indicated that he had read it. Yet, on second thought, Bud's actions (and lack of actions) appear entirely consistent with his handling of other matters, for instance my Court case. If he took the case just to "pick my brain," as you surmised, then he blew it. I have not given him any crucial information about the topic that so many people seem concerned with . . . and I certainly do not intend to do so until after my case is settled to my satisfaction, if even then. Being a lawyer, he should understand why.

The two assumptions mentioned in the third paragraph of your June 21 letter are incorrect: I did not authorize you to use any material relating to me that is contained in Mr. Fensterwald's file (nor did I authorize Mr. Fensterwald to release copies of such privileged communications to you or to anybody else) and I did not authorize you to say anything about me to the Church Committee. In this respect, I have rechecked my tapes of every conversation that we had, both over the telephone and at the Hyatt House. I did state that I would send you copies of some letters that I had written to Mr. Fensterwald, and I commented that he should have the originals in his file. I did mention that I would not testify about my activities in 1963 without first being granted immunity from prosecution by both federal and state authorities, but I mentioned this merely to apprise you of my longtime stand on the matter. Also, I added that there were some aspects about which I would not testify under any circumstances until my children reach adulthood.

I am including below for your perusal a transcription of a portion of our telecon on June 21:

POPKIN: "I'll write you this telegram . . . that you'll testify that you once saw assassination meetings being planned in Jackson Square. (Pause) I could write out something . . ."

NAGELL: "Well, who told you that I stated that?"

POPKIN: "I have it in a letter you wrote Fensterwald . . . that you saw a meeting in Jackson Square where they were discussing the assassination. I just took the text down from one of your Fensterwald letters."

NAGELL: "Well, I'm identified as the author of that letter?"

POPKIN: "Yeah."

I've transcribed the above excerpt verbatim so that you can compare it with the letter you have at hand (assuming that it is indeed a letter written by me) and see how you twisted my wordage around. I can state with full confidence of being able to prove what I wrote and what I did not write that I did not write what you alleged in that telecon. And it is precisely this type of distortion and misuse of what I do say that makes me reluctant to furnish information, verbally or in writing, to even well-intentioned writers, researchers, investigators or whatever. Needless to say, I resent such blatant declarations being expressed over the telephone, particularly after you were advised of my current situation and cautioned not to do so.

Regarding your request that I write corrections to THE FAMILY article by Thomas C. Lucey and/or to the MAN IN THE MIDDLE "addendum" (that was supposedly written by me), I have decided against doing so at this time. I repeat, however, that while I may very well have voiced some of the statements and allegations attributed to me in both pieces, neither version is accurate nor was the MAN IN THE MIDDLE pamphlet written or "compiled" by me.

I repeat also that I have never stated to anybody that I deliberately got myself arrested in order to provide an alibi for (my) part in the assassination of President Kennedy or the "assassination conspiracy," etc., or that I was instructed to shoot, kill or otherwise dispose of Lee Harvey Oswald after the assassination . . . and I intend to sue for libel the next author and publication that states or prints these longstanding lies publicly. I do not intend to be used any longer by anybody.


Regarding the fifth paragraph of your June 21 letter, I have not yet received or read your book, THE SECOND OSWALD. After I do so, I shall inform you whether or not I have any commentary to offer on what you term "the Odio Affair."

I do not have in my possession a photograph of the individual who identified himself as "Lee Oswald," but in my opinion he did not resemble Lee Harvey Oswald. For all I know, Lee Oswald was his real name. I have no idea whether or not he was acquainted with Lee Harvey Oswald. I would suggest that you contact the U.S. Department of State Passport division for a duplicate photograph.

Page 4, ltr to R. H. Popkin,
dtd 6/30/75.

Concerning the material you showed me about Luis Castillo, if it is of any interest to you, I think you've been given a bum steer. In my opinion, Mr. Castillo is too far out to have been utilized by any bona fide intelligence agency for such a purpose, despite what you may have heard about the CIA's experiments with LSD or other mind-altering drugs. Along these lines, I want to emphasize that it is also my opinion - based on what I knew then and know now - that the CIA, as such, did not plan or carry out the assassination of President Kennedy . . . though I wouldn't really know about that, would I?

Sincerely,


Richard C. Nagell

Enclosures (5):

Cpy of ltr from William R. Martin, dtd	6/20/67
" " " to " " " "	6/30/67
" " " from " " " "	9/11/67
" " " to " " " "	11/21/68
" " " from " " " "	11/23/68

June 30, 1975

Professor Richard H. Popkin
Department of Philosophy
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California 92037

Dear Professor Popkin:

I am in receipt of your letter dated June 21, 1975, your letter of June 23, with enclosures, and the xerox copies of pages 76-77 of Edward Jay Epstein's book, COUNTERPLOT.

I note that Mr. Epstein's references to me include some additional distortions and fabrications, aside from those he put in his original account in THE NEW YORKER. His cheap shot that I "was a convicted felon" (while conveniently neglecting to disclose that I was ultimately acquitted) and his closing remark that I "claimed" William R. Martin was a (former) CIA agent reveals more about his deceit than his research.

Re your letter of June 21: I am satisfied with your explanation for Pete Noyes' sudden appearance at the Hyatt House on June 15. Had you not given it, his presence there on that day would appear to be other than coincidental.

Not being aware of what Mr. Noyes and his associates have about me, I'm unable to agree or disagree with your assertion that "something is screwy." But judging from your own comments on the "Hotel Luna," you yourself misinterpreted my statement on that subject. The so-called Ricard von Kleist document alluded to a meeting being held at the hotel in July 1963 (at which time I was not in jail; I was monitoring the testimony of a certain witness at a hearing before the House Committee on Un-American Activities). To my knowledge there was no Hotel Luna in Mexico City circa 1962-63. In any event, it was the Hotel Luma that was situated at Orizaba 16 . . . and I "set foot" in it on many occasions. The spelling is significant since almost every name cited in the Ricard von Kleist document was similarly (and I believe purposely) misspelled. The Hotel Luma was also the hotel that was brought up during my conversations with Robert Clayton Buick at El Paso. However, let me assure you (and Mr. Noyes, et al) that neither Mr. Buick nor Mr. von Kleist are cognizant of any meeting held there in July 1963 that was attended by Lee Harvey Oswald and myself. Further, since I knew what Lee Harvey Oswald looked like before July 1963 there was no mistake on my part as to his identity. Incidentally, one correction to my statement: The Restaurant Fritz was located at Rio de La Loza 80, not at 117 or 170. I had one of these numbers confused with an address on Clay Allee in West Berlin.

Re the FBI reports that you sent me: I wonder why the Secret Service displayed my mug shot to Marina Oswald. I never stated

that I had met her or knew her personally . . . though I sure knew a lot about her. As for the FBI report that refers to General Manuel Sicilia and the "INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA" bit, I wonder if it was meant to provoke some kind of a reaction from me?

Re William R. Martin's correspondence: I am interested only in obtaining a copy of his memorandum to Jim Garrison concerning his interview with Frederick H. John (cryptically referred to as "Mrs. Fredericks in Colorado" by Mr. Martin in one of his letters to me) at Los Angeles in 1967. I already have copies of the distorted memos that he wrote to Mr. Garrison following his talks with me. In the former regard, I am enclosing herewith copies of some correspondence between Mr. Martin and myself, which should help to dispel Mr. Epstein's lies about the missing recording tape.

I'm curious as to why Bernard Fensterwald failed to send me a copy of the recent WASHINGTONIAN article by Mr. Tom Bethel, which you said slanders me too, moreso considering that he has sent me data that has nothing to do with my case, per se. As I recall, you indicated that he had read it. Yet, on second thought, Bud's actions (and lack of actions) appear entirely consistent with his handling of other matters, for instance my Court case. If he took the case just to "pick my brain," as you surmised, then he blew it. I have not given him any crucial information about the topic that so many people seem concerned with . . . and I certainly do not intend to do so until after my case is settled to my satisfaction, if even then. Being a lawyer, he should understand why.

The two assumptions mentioned in the third paragraph of your June 21 letter are incorrect: I did not authorize you to use any material relating to me that is contained in Mr. Fensterwald's file (nor did I authorize Mr. Fensterwald to release copies of such privileged communications to you or to anybody else) and I did not authorize you to say anything about me to the Church Committee. In this respect, I have rechecked my tapes of every conversation that we had, both over the telephone and at the Hyatt House. I did state that I would send you copies of some letters that I had written to Mr. Fensterwald, and I commented that he should have the originals in his file. I did mention that I would not testify about my activities in 1963 without first being granted immunity from prosecution by both federal and state authorities, but I mentioned this merely to apprise you of my longtime stand on the matter. Also, I added that there were some aspects about which I would not testify under any circumstances until my children reach adulthood.

I am including below for your perusal a transcription of a portion of our telecon on June 21:

POPKIN: "I'll write you this telegram . . . that you'll testify that you once saw assassination meetings being planned in Jackson Square. (Pause) I could write out something . . ."

NAGELL: "Well, who told you that I stated that?"

POPKIN: "I have it in a letter you wrote Fensterwald . . . that you saw a meeting in Jackson Square where they were discussing the assassination. I just took the text down from one of your Fensterwald letters."

NAGELL: "Well, I'm identified as the author of that letter?"

POPKIN: "Yeah."

I've transcribed the above excerpt verbatim so that you can compare it with the letter you have at hand (assuming that it is indeed a letter written by me) and see how you twisted my wordage around. I can state with full confidence of being able to prove what I wrote and what I did not write that I did not write what you alleged in that telecon. And it is precisely this type of distortion and misuse of what I do say that makes me reluctant to furnish information, verbally or in writing, to even well-intentioned writers, researchers, investigators or whatever. Needless to say, I resent such blatant declarations being expressed over the telephone, particularly after you were advised of my current situation and cautioned not to do so.

Regarding your request that I write corrections to THE FAMILY article by Thomas C. Lucey and/or to the MAN IN THE MIDDLE "addendum" (that was supposedly written by me), I have decided against doing so at this time. I repeat, however, that while I may very well have voiced some of the statements and allegations attributed to me in both pieces, neither version is accurate nor was the MAN IN THE MIDDLE pamphlet written or "compiled" by me.

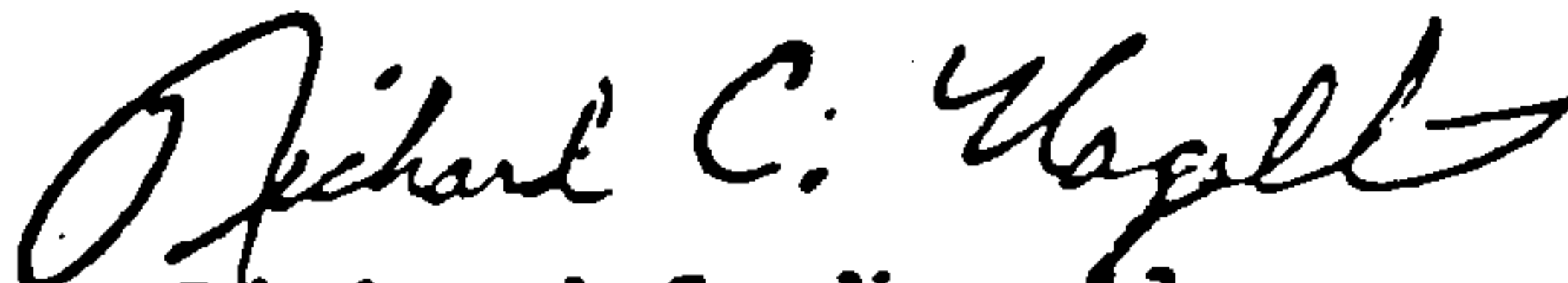
I repeat also that I have never stated to anybody that I deliberately got myself arrested in order to provide an alibi for (my) part in the assassination of President Kennedy or the "assassination conspiracy," etc., or that I was instructed to shoot, kill or otherwise dispose of Lee Harvey Oswald after the assassination . . . and I intend to sue for libel the next author and publication that states or prints these longstanding lies publicly. I do not intend to be used any longer by anybody.

Regarding the fifth paragraph of your June 21 letter, I have not yet received or read your book, THE SECOND OSWALD. After I do so, I shall inform you whether or not I have any commentary to offer on what you term "the Odio Affair."

I do not have in my possession a photograph of the individual who identified himself as "Lee Oswald," but in my opinion he did not resemble Lee Harvey Oswald. For all I know, Lee Oswald was his real name. I have no idea whether or not he was acquainted with Lee Harvey Oswald. I would suggest that you contact the U.S. Department of State Passport division for a duplicate photograph.

Concerning the material you showed me about Luis Castillo, if it is of any interest to you, I think you've been given a bum steer. In my opinion, Mr. Castillo is too far out to have been utilized by any bona fide intelligence agency for such a purpose, despite what you may have heard about the CIA's experiments with LSD or other mind-altering drugs. Along these lines, I want to emphasize that it is also my opinion - based on what I knew then and know now - that the CIA, as such, did not plan or carry out the assassination of President Kennedy . . . though I wouldn't really know about that, would I?

Sincerely,


Richard C. Nagell

Enclosures (5):

Cpy of ltr	from	William R. Martin,	dtd	6/20/67
"	"	to	"	6/30/67
"	"	from	"	9/11/67
"	"	to	"	11/21/68
"	"	from	"	11/23/68

July 5, 1975

Mr. Richard C. Nagell
1141 Ninth St.
Manhattan Beach, Ca. 90266

Dear Mr. Nagell,

Thank you for your most interesting letter of June 30 (I am surprised that my book hasn't arrived. If you still don't have it, I will send you another copy). I assume by now that you have my letter of June 29. I am very happy to learn that you have a tape of our conversation at the Hyatt House. As you know, I was very groggy, and may easily have confused several points. Please inform me of any other misunderstandings you think I may have indicated. (If you want to send me a copy, I will study it, and make sure I do not err about any of our understandings.). I am really impressed that you gave no indication that taping was going on. But since you have the tape, I think it affords us both protection.

As to the substance of your letter, first I keep being called about the Hotel Luna, and you and Luis Castillo are listed as being there, and the date given is September 26, 1963. So I know what I am called about is crap. It emanates from somebody named William Morris. But each time a reporter calls me about it, the story has more details about you or Castillo.

The Secret Service picture of you shown to Marina may have been just to enable them to see (a) she didn't know ^{you} so (b) her husband also didn't, and (c) your story could be disregarded.

On the Martin correspondence, I am glad to have the additional items, especially the two '68 letters. I think I told you that I tried over and over again to get Martin's report of his visit to Frederick H. John. Martin never gave it to me, nor could I find it in Garrison's files. Bethel (about whom more below) kept the files, and told me in '68 that he couldn't find it.

On the transcripts, Jones Harris got them from your sister. I helped him carry them to New Orleans to show Garrison. They were shown to Martin so that he could tell what your case was all about. What happened to them after the California trip is unknown to me. I am ordering my own set.

Now Bethel is an interesting case (Fensterwald never mentioned the article to me, even though I am one of the principal parties attacked. I received it from my mother, who got it from a friend). Bethel was