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Dear Dal,

This paper intended for an ancient copier is I think lighter than the bond I use.

Until about 10 days ago I was, for me with all my many interruptions, making good time on the book with the working title, "Twenty-Eight Years of Silence." Then the sleep-disturbance specialists at the Johns Hopkins Hospital Research Campus told me not to retire early because I get up too early but to persist in staying up until at least 10 p.m., with no naps. I've done it with no benefit but I lose my very early and never-interrupted working time and because I'm not even to think of my work from the time I sit down for supper I have no working benefit from the time I get in replacement of it. I've gotten no more sleep, a little less rest because I get no naps no matter how brief, which they all were, and I've gotten as little as two hours of sleep under their plan. Mail and weariness will prevent my doing any work on the book today. I doze off almost whenever I sit down and relax, often when I'm reading a book, and this morning twice while cranking a Cybex UBE machine, an "ergometer" that is great for upper-body exercise. Fortunately when my head hit the gadget it did no harm. So, most nights now I take in the Baltimore Orioles games with my wife.

I lead what for most would be a strange life anyway. When I took my wife grocery shopping this morning we got the mail as we left and I read your and the other letters. I use a highlighter to tell me what to address when I respond. But before looking for those marks, I remember you said that Jenny Wheeler has an interest in the status of the campaign to disclose the undisclosed JFK assassination records. Without a word from Oliver Stone his movie kicked that off. But with his word it all got bogged down. He wants public attention and then wanted it for his movie, and after the movie was out, got it by any means possible, including flaunting his ignorance about withheld and disclosed record. (He had no interest in those already disclosed.) I was thinking of that as a possible article, the additional disillusionment virtually certain because of his ignorance and need for attention. I'll explain this on the chance Ms. Wheeler might be interested:

"If Oliver Stone had kept his big mouth closed the largest known single archive of withheld JFK assassination records would have been processed for disclosure beginning only a few weeks after his movie JFK was in the theaters.

"But Stone, who was ignorant of the established fact of the JFK assassination when he began making his movie and was startling ignorant of it after ~~the~~ the movie was finished (boy can + insert what was picked up from the satellite when he was in a talk-show studio with the mike live and the satellite in circuit! relating to his unimaginable ignorance!), loves publicity for himself, did anything possible to get attention for his movie, and from

the
profundity of his ignorance ruined the certainty of a major and undoubtedly the largest single disclosure of withheld JFK assassination records.

"These are the records of the Select Committee of the United States House of Representatives, a committee established 15 years ago to investigate the JFK assassination and that of Martin Luther King, Jr.

"In its wisdom, when the United States Congress enacted the fine Freedom of Information Act in 18 1966, to become effective on the United States Independence Day, July 4, 1967, the Congress exempted itself from the disclosure provisions of that most American of laws.

"Only the executive agencies are with FOIA and its disclosure requirements.

"Under the rules of the Congress, the unpublished records of its committees may not be disclosed for 50 years after they are generated by standing committee, and not for 50 years after the end of the life of special and select committees.

"Stone's movie, however, particularly the controversy over the criticism of it (for which I am responsible, not the CIA and its alleged "recipied" committees in Stone fabrication to portray himself as the victim of errant officialdom) created a great public clamor for the disclosure of withheld official records. JFK assassination

"The clamor was so great that few if any Members of either House of the Congress would have dared oppose disclosure of the assassinations committee's records.

"And all that was required to compel, not merely authorize their disclosure, was a simple resolution calling for it by the House of Representatives alone, an abrupt ^{certainty} ~~instant~~ ^{act}.

"If Stone had not been proclaiming that "all" records were withheld, such a resolution was have passed immediately and soon thereafter those who process records for disclosure at the National Archives would have been assigned to redacting what defames the innocent, identified informers and in less common instances transgresses against legitimate national security interests.

"These and all records like them are rich in vindictiveness and imaginings. Their disclosure can seriously damage innocent people. It can get informers killed. So they must be processed and processing does take time. But were it not for Oliver Stone's reiterated demand that "all" records be promptly disclosed the largest single deposit of them, by that defunct House committee, would be under processing now and would have been for months, with some publicly available.

"But once Stone demanded that "all" be disclosed, he involved the records of all executive agencies and that led to enormous complications, with the probable result that none will now be disclosed.

"A bill for disclosure requires the agreement of all the committees of both Houses with jurisdiction, about a half-dozen, and then the differences between the bills that emerge in each House must be reconciled in conferences, after which the conference bill must be passed by both Houses. It then requires the signature of the president, and today that means the signature of the former Director, Central Intelligence, President

He and the CIA have
 George Bush. ~~Who has already indicated his opposition to it, a certainty for any director of intelligence.~~

"Moreover, contrary to Oliver Stone's well-publicized and self-publicizing - representations, there will be no smoking gun in any official records. This is because the JFK assassination itself was never officially investigated and was never intended to be. (I have solid documentation on this, stated by the acting ~~at-rone~~ attorney general on that level and on the street-agent level, ^{by the refusal} documentation of pictures showing the

President being killed!" *It did not show Oswald with a smoking gun so the FBI did not want it. And most of the records he said were undisturbed would be years earlier!*

Well, this is off the top of the head ^{would be} and I do not know whether it can appeal to NZ readers or editors. Of course, this ~~gets~~ ^{would be} expanded and documented. Or ~~would be~~ ^{Sup. 5}

What I refer to above is rd "tone while waiting for the 20/20 TV show (ABC) to begin, when he had his so-called "research coordinator" with him, the mike was live, the satellite was in gear for the show about to begin, and after his movie was in the theaters he asked he what to say about such things as the fatal shot to JFK's head! *a big thing in his movie.*

I have two related chapters in 28 Years on the sordid records I've gotten. I refer to a couple above. One is "Dirty Linen" and the second is "What a Stench!" rd Heavily documented.

A short item in our local paper today, not in the Washington Post, reports from Moscow (AP) that the KGB did not disclose its records on Oswald ^{because of} the objections of Russian spooks who ^{feared he} ~~feared~~ being identified and ^{U.S.} ~~not to disclose~~ intelligence sources.

There is no such likelihood and if there were the names could be redacted. *at 11/10/77*

I'm sure the real reason is to avoid embarrassing the U.S. because Oswald was anti-Communist in the USSR and he was opposed to US communists. In his secret writings he referred to the former as "fat stinking politicians" ^{and} to the latter as having "betrayed the working class." ^{U.S.} and his favorite book was Orwell's "The Animal Farm."

The KGB suspected he was a ^{U.S.} "sleeper" or an "agent in place."

Meanwhile the CIA prepared ^{meat} demands to be made of the USSR that left the State Department and the Commission aghast, they were that insulting. This guaranteed what then happened, our government asked ^{the USSR} for virtually no Oswald information. All I remember is the record of his hospital stay after he slashed his wrists.

When the Congress was considering bills to require JFK records disclosures my former FOIA lawyer agreed to present copies of a statement I would prepare under oath to each of the committees of jurisdiction. But after I rushed it and got it to him he did nothing with it until after the hearings were over. ^{then} He did give copies to at least some of the committees and was told by at least one that it will print my statement. I can send one at least for info. It addresses the charade by the present Director, Central Intelligence, when he appeared before a Senate committee with a ^{NY} grand gift - ^{NY} ~~if~~ about 110 pages of records. Most were not those of the CIA and not a single one held any new disclosure. *(see p. 5)*

We have no fax but there is one where I have large xeroxing jobs done about 15-20 minutes from here. I've used them to send before, ~~not~~ often, but they fax commercially.

I'm sure they'd accept for me, too.

^{Roll} ~~ask~~ whether Bush or Clinton have taken positions on records disclosures. I've mentioned Bush's above-negative. So all that is required of Clinton is that he be for motherhood, so to speak, his position, he is for it and hasn't used it in his campaign to the best of my knowledge.

I should have said more about what is- and what is not-withheld above.

The FBI has disclosed its headquarters files on Oswald, the assassination, the commission and Ruby. I compelled the production of others but these are the largest and the main ones. The other possible files, with a single exception, are small and secret files of which we know nothing, not that they exist, ^{even} even. I also forced them to give me the companion files of the Dallas and New Orleans offices and many other smaller files they have.

There is no prospect at all that the CIA, which had a third of a million pages, will disclose anything of real significance voluntarily. And what a cost and time-waster to sue them as I have! And the CIA can claim what no politician hoping to be reelected will fight, its need to protect its sources and methods. Where I've prevailed on this in the past there was no real concern for any harm and the records did not really require classification. and had little value to me. But they do get away with this and the Courts are in their pockets. So no reason to expect any real disclosures from the CIA even under the compulsion of a law.

~~He~~ That House committee had records it got from the executive agencies and it had the records it generated. The latter only are withheld. The FBI has been processing the records it gave the committee for a friend of mine. As of several months ago he'd gotten more than 80,000 pages. He gave me copies of several file drawers of them. He and I had filed similar FOIA requests but my health precluded my suing to get what I asked for.

I've in all about a third of a million pages, mostly ^{from} of the FBI and mostly on the JFK assassination. about 80,000 are in the "ing assassination. I make them available to all writers and ^{in more than a decade} not a single one has spent any real time here. This is to say that while withheld records the number of which has been enormously ~~exaggerated~~ ^{not} should be available to the people, ^{but} nobody is willing to invest the very, ~~very~~ great amount of time required just to read them. And without paying for them they can be read only at the agency whose records they are. ^{is} The magnifies the burden and the cost. So it boils down to still another frustration for the misled and deceived people and adds to the great confusion that does exist.

You refer to the books you are reading. You'll be lucky if they just do not impress you. They are not factual and absent a meaningful official investigation there are no leads for private persons to follow. The books are all bad in varying degrees and ways for a really significant bit of writing just reprinted here by Vintage, which hasn't advertised or promoted it at all: Sylvia Meagher's "Accessories after the Fact."

The two on whom ^{the} ~~transhaw~~ depended are conspiracy ^{theorists who} but who can't distinguish between

fact and the fictions they invent and, on invention, will into fact. It is probably that Crenshaw, who was only an insignificant resident, lied. I have the Secret Service and White House transportation and phone logs and it is close to impossible for LBJ to have phoned him at the time permitted by Crenshaw's crap. Moreover, the phone logs do not include any such calls at all to anyone. In addition to which no part of ~~it~~ ^{what he said} makes sense.

Some of the Dallas cops have talked to people I know, some friends, and they have ~~said~~ said nothing of any significance. I do not know what Oswald could have said unless he was guilty, and the odds are that he wasn't.

While we cannot know what any spookieria knew there is little prospect that Castro had an significant information and no proof at all that his political enemies were involved in the crime. Much mythology but no substance to any of it of which I know. I'm sure he had them penetrated but unless they were involved he'd have learned nothing about the crime from them through his spies.

My wife did the indexes. All I did was edit them. And it was a great labor she did remarkable well. She had prior experience as an indexer.

I've rambled, in part because I was too tired to use this little time for writing on the book. I hope it makes sense after I read and correct it. But with the "efficiencies" instituted by Reagan and Bush this probably can't leave before Monday. No weekend service is efficiency.

Recently, beginning with a weekly magazine piece in the Baltimore Sun, there has been attention to my giving all I have to a fine, small local college, originally and still largely a woman's college. They are preparing to be able to provide copies to all other libraries by some modern electrical or optical gadgetry of which I know naught. They the paper in the ext town carried a story and then AP put one on its wire for last Sunday and thereafter. The Wash. Post carried it yesterday. *What the college will do*

~~This~~ has meaning. What ~~Oliver~~ Oliver Stone did not only does not - it to now has blocked the disclosures that were possible and none of the agencies will do with any such records what this fine little college will do and to a degree is already doing. Not with my records, with others I got for it. Making them available to another college, lending them.

Now for supper. Glad to hear from you, thank for your efforts and my
→ Note from p. 3: As a practical matter best to you all, *Hardy*
Stone's uninformed and self-serving intrusion

mylified the years-long effort to two of the few genuine subject-matter experts to obtain the disclosure of these House committee records. And on Gates from p. 3: He made this "disclosure to show the committee how well the "historical review" he initiated was working! As though to emphasize the fraud by the CIA at the same time the FBI disclosed to me a stack of mostly CIA records of 16 inches! and he gave the committee 110 second-hand pages! If it is not clear above most of the records the disclosure of which ~~it~~ ^{it} demanded have been available for years. He said all the Commission's were suppressed but 98 ^{were} ~~are~~ disclosed long ago.