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Auckland, 06/12/92

Dear Harold,

I thank you very much for your long letter of 4th November, and I especially thank you for venturing (and sharing) your thought that the assassination may have been the result of a military conspiracy, as you are putting forward in a new book.

Where does one arm of a secret organisation begin and another start? It seems to me that the CIA had very close links with all the various levels of military intelligence, even beyond and into the administrative branches of the armed services. It is the very nature of such organisations to be kept informed about what the other is doing, by whatever means. I am sure many of the principals in the intelligence gathering community served more than one master while all the time not violating their ultimate loyalty to what they saw as the interests of the USA.

Since my last letter I have seen only one news story that was connected with the JFK assassination. It was a short news item on the international news page of "The New Zealand Herald" of 21/11/92. I am enclosing a photocopy of the item for your information, and hopefully for your comments.

The part of this report that seems significant, in the light of the idea you develop in the new book for a military role, is the assertion by Morrow that he was paid by the US Army. This in itself is no proof that he was on the Army payroll, but it is an interesting point nonetheless.

I enclose also a p/copy of the cover and flyleaf blurbs from my new book. It is a book of photos mainly, not the official sort of photo taken by German army or propaganda photographers, the ones in my book show what the ordinary German soldier saw themselves and photographed of the war in North Africa, and more to the point, what happened in between the spells of fighting. The text comes from my own study of many thousands of such photos, and from my interviews and correspondence with German veterans from the North African campaign.

Nothing has been reported here on the subject of releasing any further official records dealing with the JFK assassination since my last letter. It seems like you (by 'you' I mean all Americans interested in finding out more) are being drip fed some sort of expectation that is never quite realised. Since writing to you I now treat all news reports on this subject with even more disbelief than I usually gave to such stories.

You will see I am enclosing a small 1993 NZ calender, I hope you find a good spot for it. It is surprising how many North Americans imagine New Zealand has a tropical climate, just because it is in the South Pacific. Our climate is in fact more West European, NZ lies down in the 40's latitudes, and there is no warm gulf stream to raise temperatures. But I know I do not need to tell you these things.

Thank you for your background information on Mary Ferrell. It is a pity Marina Oswald/Porter has not been able to do more to bring light and knowledge to the events she was herself a part of. Has it not been possible for somebody wth enough knowledge themselves to question Marina about the things she must know?

Yes, it seems certain now my new book will be out in a North American edition next year, sometime. It looks as if there may be a German language edition too of the new book next year, and that is good news. Did I tell you that my English publisher is going to do a revised edition of the first book next year for European release in late 1993? I am hoping the American publisher may buy into this edition too. What this all means is that I will probably be going through the USA on my way to Europe sometime in late 1993.

When I make this trip I will stop off somewhere on the US East Coast so that I can get to see you. It would be a pleasure almost beyond description to meet you and to have some time talking to you.

What do I teach? I am a history teacher, what else could I be? That is rhetorical, I swapped jobs a couple of years ago and moved into an area called 'transition education' which in practice very roughly translates as talking to students about every conceivable sort of social and economic and cultural and political change that may (or may not) affect their lives beyond school. I find I often spend time talking to the families of my students who are also in need of somebody who will talk to them about changes in our modern world. I do not know the answers, but I have a more informed view simply because I deal with change, and the consequences of change, in my job so much. But it is not history, and I am looking at moving back into teaching history again. That was something I enjoyed doing very much.

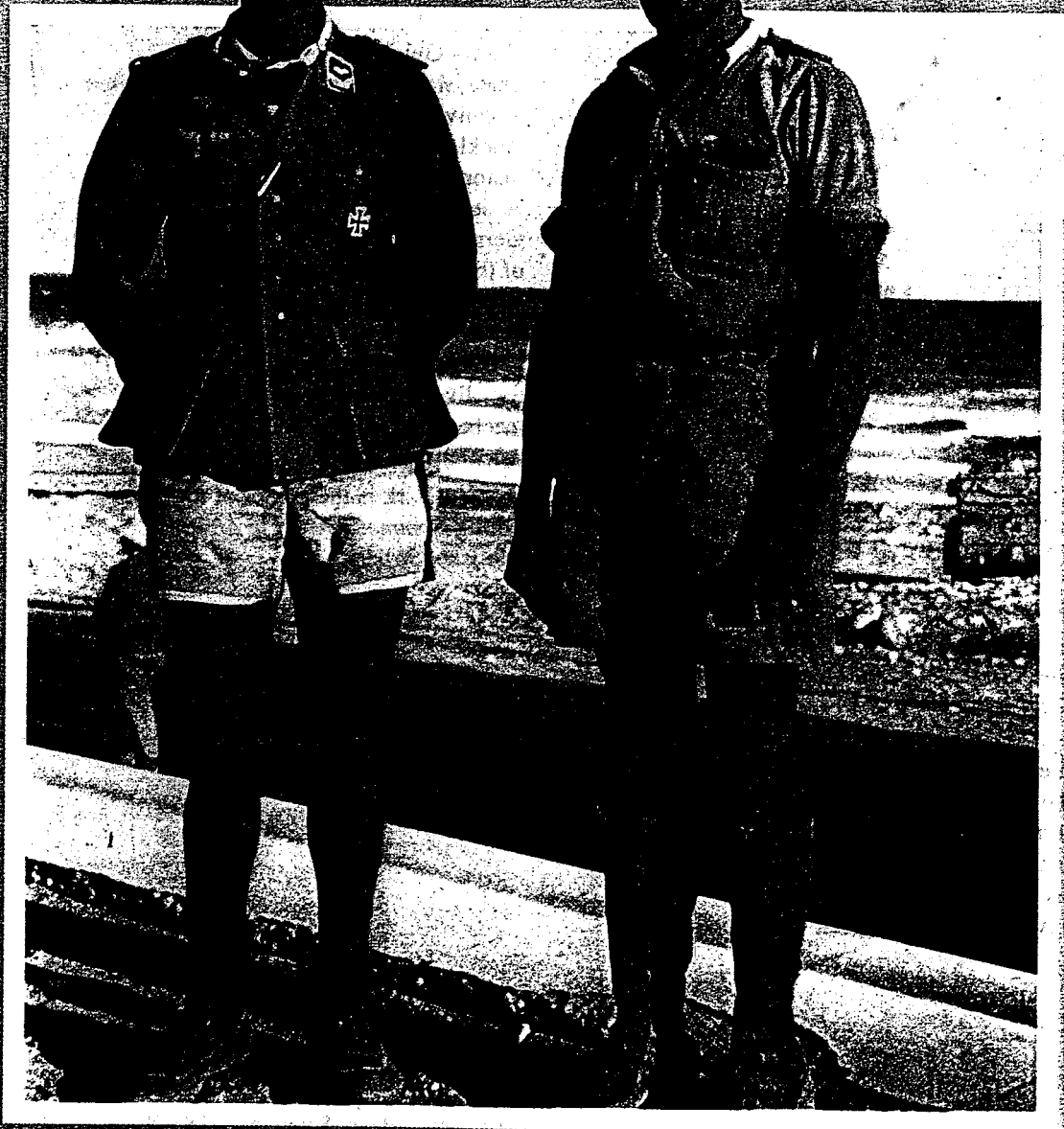
Once again I have to plead that my time is scarce and ask you to forgive this short letter. I am still very busy in my work. Our academic summer vacation starts in a few days time, school does not begin again until February 1993, and that will give me time to read your books again. So, look out, there will be more long letters from me to you in 1993. In the meantime, all best wishes and thoughts to you and to your wife. May you both have a happy and warm Christmas (assuming you do celebrate Christmas), and a successful and satisfying New Year in 1993.

yours,  
Dad.

DAL MCGUIRK

# AFRIKAKORPS

SELF PORTRAIT



## Afrikakorps

Here is a different view of the German Army that fought in North Africa in World War II, in a collection of unique and hitherto unpublished photographs taken in most part with the ordinary cameras of the average German soldier. This book gives its readers a glimpse that touches the very essence of the period itself, a window through time looking back to the places where so much once happened. Here is an honest view of the Afrikakorps, as seen by the ordinary German soldiers themselves.

The images are representative of those taken by German troops in North Africa, snapped by such as these mostly young faces who fill the pages. The photographs show the common scenery of the desert war, with its battlefield debris and all the paraphernalia of modern warfare. The men, and women, who played their part in this war are seen in their daily military routines, eating, training, relaxing, in battle too, and their story is told here through their photographs. In keeping with how these Afrikakorps soldiers saw themselves, as belonging to and identifying with whichever unit or arm of service they served in, this book makes the same distinctions. The photographs are grouped mainly according to whether they are connected with artillery, or transport and supply, or infantry, or armour, and so on. Each section is headed by brief and informative background stories.

Other sections of this book include soldiers' home life in Hitler's Germany, training and action with the German Army in Europe before being posted to Africa, rare shots taken for the Wehrmacht's own archives, and a selection of unpublished photographs from the personal collection kept by the Afrikakorps' top official photographer, Ernst Zwilling.

Most of the material seen here came straight from the very battlefield scenes shown in the book, picked up by Allied soldiers and kept as souvenirs, or from the personal albums kept after the war by the veterans of the Afrikakorps and given to the author.

## The Author

Dal McGuirk has a longheld interest in the Afrikakorps, from the time when as a young teenager he was given an uncle's German war souvenirs picked up in Libya and Egypt. A natural bent as a collector found its focus and direction in this small bundle of war relics.

In what has been nearly a lifetime of leisure time spent finding and researching everything connected with the German Army in North Africa in World War II, Dal McGuirk has put together a collection that includes over 3,000 German photographs and large numbers of documents such as paybooks and diaries and letters and postcards that survived the war as souvenirs kept by the Allied soldiers who picked them up from among the battlefield wreckage that followed every period of fighting.

Dal McGuirk was born in 1941 in Queensland, Australia, and was educated at Universities in Queensland and Auckland, after which he trained as a history teacher. He has worked in Australia, England, Denmark and Germany, and his research into the subject of the Germany Army in North Africa in World War II has taken him to archives in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, France, Italy and Germany. He now lives in New Zealand where he teaches Transition Education at an Auckland College.

Dal McGuirk is the author of the best-selling *Rommel's Army in Africa*, published in 1987.

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