

Auckland, 31/10/93

Dear Harold

I trust that by now you will have received the six copies of the **Chronicle** and their letter with a token donation towards your expenses. When I last spoke to Nancy Bates on the phone, nearly two weeks ago, she said they had lost your address and were going to send the six copies to me so that I could forward them to you. I said, 'that's okay, I'll do it, no problem'. So far nothing has turned up here, so I guess your address was located in Maryborough in time to post everything to you direct.

I have not phoned the **Chronicle** for just on a week now, and I have about lost hope that other papers may take the story. When I came back to New Zealand I was phoning every few days, speaking to either Nancy Bates (the editor) or to David Lacey (the reporter who edited what I had written and did the fillers etc.). I phoned first to see when the story was going in, and to ask whether I could add anything to what I had left with them. After the story was printed I was phoning every three or four days to check if any of the other papers they share material with were going to use the story. None of these papers has even shown a bit of interest. And Nancy sent a copy to the **Courier Mail** too, but when I last asked her about it she had heard nothing back from them in reply.

It is somehow like being in a vacuum, outer space. You think you should be hearing something but there is only a great black silence. I suppose you are used to it?

Thank you for your kind comments, but I apologise for the couple of errors. They should not have been there at all. I had no books or any other of my reference material (like your letters) with me in Maryborough and I wrote it over two mornings sitting in their reporters' room in front of a keyboard feeding into a strange word processor programme.

There is a four part programme on the life JFK starting on TV here tomorrow night that runs over the next four weeks, it will finish on the 22nd November. I will tape it. I will include with this letter a photocopy of the promotional story in the TV and Radio guide that advertises the show. It is a rather incredible story you will see, putting the JFK assassination in with a number of other 'conspiracy' theories, and even comparing it to the anti-semitism of the Nazis who believed in a conspiracy of the Jews to rule the world. This sort of association does nothing for historical or any other sort of objectivity. I was surprised though to read that there is a part-time course offered by the University of Canterbury in Christchurch dealing with the assassination. I will write to this person and see what I can find out about his course.

I feel I should be doing something more than I am to tell people some of the things I have learnt over the past two years so I am starting a series of lunchtime lectures at my college for staff during the lunch break. And I am meeting Donna Chisholm next week with a view to offering the **Sunday Star** an article arguing against Posner (I expect he will be quoted widely over the coming weeks up to and during the thirtieth anniversary.)

I am in awe of your effort in getting out your rebuttal to Posner's book so quickly. I suppose you must be nearly finished **HOAX** now? How do you feel about it now that you have done it? Silly question, you must be satisfied but drained physically and emotionally.

Has anything new come out of any of the material declassified over the past few months? Where did the material come from that was gathered by the House Assassinations Committee? Was it records of their own deliberations (taken in committee maybe?), or was it material they had obtained from government agencies? And what of the CIA documents released around the same time? What was the origin of these papers? Were they from the period before the 22nd November 1993? Or later? Or both? I have read nothing in the papers here about these released papers since that story in the **NZ Herald** I sent you some time back. Who is working through this mountain of paper?

You will see from the enclosed copies of my letters to Gary Mack and Jim Lesar that I am still waiting for their copies of the photos. To date I have heard nothing, but I can well imagine this is a busy period for them.

In your letter before last you made an intriguing reference to some of the recently released copies of Lyndon Johnson's phone logs (cannot put my hand on your letter right this moment, buried here somewhere under papers, it is not in my file yet). What is it that intrigued you so? I think President Johnson is **THE** central character in the post-assassination period, either directly or indirectly his actions must have been of prime interest and concern to the people who conspired to kill Kennedy. I wish I knew more of the decisions Johnson followed in the days and weeks after 22nd November. I wonder what he was doing before the assassination? Who did he talk to? Who talked to him? Which period do the records concerning Johnson's phone calls cover? Before 22nd November? After 22nd November?

I have a friend in the **NZ Herald** trying to find out what they are going to run over the week of the 22nd of November, and to find out if there is any chance I may get a spot to write something. I should know this week. If I get the green light I will have to raid the Auckland Central Library for books that have good illustrations I can copy and use.

I am still catching up with everything I got behind with by going over to Australia for those three weeks. It does not get any easier. My father has been in relatively good health since we came back to **NZ**, thankfully.

I include a couple of postcards I bought and meant to send you while I was in Australia, but did not. One is an aerial view of Maryborough that only shows about half of the city, the centre of this photo is the business centre, built around the 1850s and 1860s. In the twentieth Century the city expanded to the right of what you see in this view. I have pierced the card with a pin to show you where my father's house is. If you hold it up to the light you will see it plainly. Because it is such an old city, that is by Australian standards, there are many many lovely old buildings, very gracious, elegant in style, well I think so.

Now I must go, to bed, it is very late, and I have to work in the morning.

with love, and best wishes to you both,
Dan.