

copy for Harold.

Auckland, 17/01/95

Dear Peter

Hello, greetings from New Zealand Aotearoa, and all best wishes for a happy, successful and healthy new year in 1995.

Thanks for your letter. I am pleased to know you went ahead and ordered Harold's books. Did you order the complete number of titles? If not I strongly recommend you do. So much of what other authors have written wanders into varying degrees of speculation and theorising that it colours all other parts of their books too and you end up with everything tainted by those parts not rooted firmly in hard evidence.

You will need to read Harold's books very carefully. He says a lot in a few words, and the documents he reproduces are especially worth close study. The official documents tell you a lot after you start to understand the context in which they were written, and they allow you to move much closer to reality in a perception of what actually happened in the 'investigation'.

I also recommend you buy your own copy of Sylvia Meagher's "Accessories after the Fact". This was reprinted in the States in a paperback edition a couple years ago and shops up there are selling off remainder stock at greatly discounted prices now. Another book I recommend is John Newman's "JFK and Vietnam". This book came out in 1993 and I hear it is also available at a good discount at bookstores in the States. I think I recall advising you to buy these two titles in my last letter, but it bears repetition I think.

Thanks for the information on what resources you use. Do you think you could get me a copy of the Zapruder film from Channel 9? I tried to get a good quality copy on video tape from the files of TV NZ and I was told I would have to pay whatever the commercial rate is for broadcast of film on air, some incredible figure. If you are able to obtain another copy from Channel 9 I shall of course be happy to pay your costs, VHS tape and postage etc. What is the video programme you mention, "The JFK Conspiracy", hosted by James Earl Jones? I have neither seen it nor heard of it here. Is it commercially available in Australia? If 'yes', would you mind picking me up a copy?

Late last year I was informed the university had turned down my application to teach a course "The JFK Assassination, Fact and Mythology". From friends who work there I know the Centre for Continuing Education were keen to take it, and the History Dept had approved it. Before any courses can be taught as part of the university's programmes they have to be approved by the Senate, and this was where my course was thrown out. The Dean of Humanities, Nicholas Tarling, himself a historian, but a most conservative figure of some political muscle stood up and said, "I'm not having any of this!". That was that. I heard from a friend that not one voice in the senate was raised to question this Godlike pronouncement.

All is not lost however, I am still going to teach the course over the Winter months this year, but it will have to be done through the Community Education Programme my own college runs with its night school. It will be the same course, and I may have many of the same students who would have enrolled for the course at university. I am thinking of promoting it through the Auckland History Teachers' Association.

I have started work on the draft outline of the course, basic material of which I shall then develop into a History Skills Analysis textbook. Harold is happy to let me quote him from any of his work, though obviously the Whitewash and maybe Whitewash II books would be easiest to build an outline on. When I have it in a more or less readable form later I will send you a copy. Your comments would be welcome.

Like you, I wonder what the world would have been like if Kennedy had not been assassinated, very different we know. I think the world still largely belongs to those forces, those values and those in power who either encouraged the assassination or stood back and let it happen and then allowed the coverup to proceed. I think I understand more what Kennedy was and what he would have tried to do when I put him up against what has happened since the assassination, and the direction so many things have taken since then.

Well, it is late at night here I am off to bed. Peter, please keep in touch. I would like to hear how you found Harold's books, and of course, whether you are able to help me with a tape of the James Earl Jones programme, and copy of the Zapruder film on VHS video tape.

All the best.

Dal McGuirk