

Naimus Horvath

DALLAS 1, TEXAS
March 26, 1964

*Re: de
Perrin
Cassidy*

MR. ABE FORTAS
ARNOLD, FORTAS, AND PORTER
1229 NINETEENTH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

DEAR ABE:

I have been on the verge of calling you several times since I've been in Europe to acquaint you with the European reaction to the aftermath of the assassination, for I felt that this is a subject of which the President should have a keen awareness. The USIS people in London and in Paris are extremely concerned by the reaction in both countries to the explanations of the Oswald assassination and the Ruby murder and the Ruby trial. I don't know whether you are aware of the series of articles that have been published throughout Europe written by an American newspaperman named Buchanan which have raised many questions without attempting to answer any of them. Buchanan has been identified as a former reporter on the Washington Star who was fired in 1948 when he admitted to being a Communist. Whether he still is one, I have no idea, but the impact of his articles has been tremendous.

It has been difficult to explain to Europeans that we in America are satisfied with the information that we've received to date as to the assassination and the murder, and that we, as Americans, are willing to wait until the Warren Commission has made its final investigation and rendered its decision. The Europeans find the whole case too illogical to accept and have been waiting for some more definitive answers to the Buchanan questions than they have heard so far.

If it were possible for one of the three best known American newspaper voices in Europe (Lippmann, Alsop, or Reston) to make some answer to the Buchanan questions, it would be tremendously helpful. I know the FBI has obliquely answered

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A. Fortas Papers - Warren Commission, 6-11-64

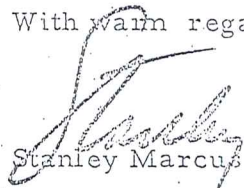
RELEASED PER P.A. 102-528 (JFK ACT)
ARA WDP DATE 6/23/01

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these questions, but the FBI, in the minds of the European, is suspect as an interested party. I've tried to explain that the competition between the various police organizations involved in the case is about the best guarantee against any one of them sitting on evidence and suppressing it. The Europeans smile at this suggestion, but don't buy it. However, I think that an article from anyone of the three that I have mentioned could have very valuable results in Europe. Bill Blair, our Ambassador in Denmark, first appraised us of this wave of apprehension throughout Europe and we found it everywhere we went. We'll survive it, of course, but the longer that doubts persist the more erosion occurs to the European conception of the United States as the bastion for integrity, civil rights, and honesty. It would appear to me that any efforts made to stop this erosion would be tremendously valuable.

We'll be back in the states on the 30th and in Dallas on the 31st, of this month.

With warm regards,


Stanley Marcus

SM:GS