

1115^{NO} BEVERLY DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS CALIFORNIA

Tuesday, 13th July

Dear Sylvia;

This is, of course, long overdue. I had made several attempts to complete a letter to you over the past few days but each ended in frustration for a variety of reasons which seem inconsequential at the moment.

Your 'phone calls and letters have been extremely meaningful and have served to re-stimulate some of my momentarily flagging zeal! Despite what is revealed in the pictures, I had reached a kind of impasse, prior to hearing from you, and felt utterly discouraged and spiritless over any possibility of interesting people, other than the two or three cohorts with whom I have been engaged these many months, for despite the undeniably explosive and dramatic implications of those pictures, the fact still ~~persisted~~ ^{remained} that one could not prove the veracity of what is represented ~~thathat!wall!~~ It was tremendously heartening, therefore, - to say the least - to learn of your immediate reaction and of Mr. Lobenthal's, too, especially in view of the fact that I, myself, was not able to pinpoint those figures upon my first exposure to them; it took me about twenty minutes or half-an-hour before I was finally able to distinguish them clearly.

Obviously, you have done a tremendous amount of work and I am particularly impressed by the zeal and thoroughness and persistence of your endeavors. I find your "harassment file" one of the more inspired concepts and applaud your refusal to be ignored! The latest communication you sent, i.e. the detailed resumé of your hour-and-a-quarter telephone conversation with Mr. Eisenberg, is extremely significant and I am, of course, observing your request not to divulge its content, but I can't help wondering whether or not he realized how much he revealed to you!

To go back a bit, you wanted to know how and when I first became involved in this great pursuit and under what circumstances, so I will attempt to fill you in. The very moment I

2.

Learned, on that terrible Friday, that the President had been shot, it never occurred to me that there could be any explanation besides the fact that he would have been the target of a conspiratorial plot. My first words, at the time, were: "Well, they really got him, just as if he were a sitting duck!" and I have never changed my opinion! I began, because of my deep suspicion, to collect every written word about the circumstances and, as you know, with each day the stories in the press changed, the lies and the leaks took over and the only thing about the entire sordid business that continues to amaze me is the ease with which the public was snowed and mesmerized into accepting without questions the lies, impossibilities and distortions. For a very long time - I should say some six or eight months after the assassination - I was utterly and completely alone with my convictions, or so it seemed, at the time - for my husband, family and friends all thought I had flipped my wig! It was a dreadful and lonely burden and I found, as I'm certain you did, too, that people in whom I had confidence and whose intelligence, perception and sensitivities I had trusted turned away from the subject without wanting to examine it. Some found it too painful to explore - some couldn't believe that they could have been duped on such a vast scale and still others really didn't seem to care at all. There were moments, too, when I had serious doubts about my own conclusions because of the fact that I seemed so isolated from the "mainstream"! The first indication that a few others, in this country, were stirring with indignation and refusal to accept the pre-conceived verdict was the Mark Lane brief which first appeared in the Guardian. From there, I finally came to realize that there were, indeed, a few other voices who refused to be silenced and who dared to challenge and question. When the Report finally appeared, and subsequently the 26 Volumes I was, frankly, quite flabbergasted at how convincingly the testimonies, exhibits and other material therein contained substantiated my convictions! I have neglected friends, social commitments, my household and life, in general, in order to pursue this and I'm frank to admit that I'm completely compulsive about it, as I'm certain you are, too. There is no giving up, giving in or relinquishing when one has traveled this route for as long and as far and as intensively as we have!

103

Today, tragically, the course of events and the policies being endorsed and followed by the administration are all part of a pattern, at least as I see the picture, and that is one of the most compelling and important reasons why I cannot refrain from the pursuit of the truth. I realize that one is up against the ~~most~~ most terrifying kind of obstacles and I have no illusions that one can break through without the most dogged and relentless persistence - and without absolutes and irrefutable proof and, God knows how difficult it is to achieve such demands but I do feel that, thanks to the few people with whom I have been in contact, we have made some significant discoveries and we are on some kind of positive and conclusive trail, at least - and from yours and Mr. Lobenthal's reactions, you are in agreement with that belief. In any case, I am committed to this task, in spite of myself! I am long since past the point where I have any choice about dropping the quest. Something compels me ever onward and I suppose I shall spend the rest of time on it - unless, hopefully, something is resolved sooner than I now anticipate!

Many thanks again for your calls, your letters and for the enclosures, all of which add fuel and bolster my position. Let us keep in touch, indeed! I am not the best of all possible correspondents but I shall certainly make every effort to hold up my end and if anything at all significant develops, I would not hesitate to call you and I know you will do the same (as you have already proved).

In closing, would you be kind enough to ask Mr. Lobenthal if he has any objection to my sending a copy of his letter (to me) to anyone whom I consider would benefit by reading it and ^{who might stimulate} thus be ~~drawn~~ into further examinations into the case. I don't feel that I can go ahead and use his letter as reference without his permission and yet I do feel it can be enormously effective for certain people. When in N.Y., I asked him about it and I believe he said he had no objections to my doing so, at the time, but I would appreciate further confirmation.

Do let me know what reactions you observed in those to whom you showed the panoply and did Sauvage see the pictures? If so, what was his pronouncement? We are, of course, most curious!

Kindest regards to you and greetings to Mr. Lobenthal and do let me hear from you whenever you feel inclined to ^{word} writing or 'phoning.

Cordially yours,

Maggie (Field!)