

31 March 1967

Mr. Tom Bethell  
2323 Ashmead Place NW  
Washington, D.C.

*Filed in  
drawer,  
"Nat'l Archives"*

Dear Tom,

Thanks for the document on Lewis and I'm sorry for my waspish letter, which crossed with it in the mails. Now that I have read the document, I realize that it may not be as significant as I first thought. My impression from our telephone conversation when you first discovered the Lewis interview was that he was claiming that no long homemade paper bag such as the one described in the Warren Report was recovered from the Depository. But the interview shows that Lewis agrees that a "sack" was turned over to the FBI by the Dallas Police, presumably found in the Depository and displayed to Wesley Frazier before it went to the FBI.

What he is saying is that the police found and turned over to the FBI a paper bag which does not correspond to the one that Wesley Frazier remembered--"crinkly brown paper sack." Still, the document is not valueless: It indicates that Lewis concedes that the paper bag found in the Depository ("brown, heavy paper") does not in fact match the bag described by Frazier, which Lewis speculates Oswald may have thrown away. He does not go on to say how he would then account for the heavy brown paper bag presumably found in the Depository, if Oswald carried and threw away a different wrapper.

I've had still another glowing report on your boss, from one of the researchers who returned from there Wednesday night. He was deeply impressed by G. in every way, and feels that he has got (or will get) enough evidence. Meanwhile, I'm told that Mark Lane was on the Mort Sahl radio program in Los Angeles by phone from Louisiana--he was even more inspired in his praise of G. than the researcher who called me, and said that he was rocked by the evidence that G. had shown him. He flatly asserted that G. knows everything about what happened, even the hands on the triggers, and that when it comes out publicly, the whole country will be shaken up as never before. Deducting something on the ground of Lane's occasional penchant for exaggeration, it is still striking that he was so confident and categorical in his radio interview; even more astonishing is the fact that Lane, who usually seems to suggest that he is the only critic at work, should have paid such a massive unqualified tribute to G.

Best regards,