

3/26/67

Dear Maggie,

I guess I have lost my marbles: I cannot find in my own Subject Index any listing for "address book" under "A" or under "Oswald." Have I gone mad? The only thing I found that mentions both CE 18 and CE 105 is under "Oswald, Notebooks." But that says nothing about Walker's phone number. Is it CONCEIVABLE that different copies of the Index as published by Scarecrow are not IDENTICAL??? Please clear this up for me by letting me have the exact page and line numbers of the citations you originally asked me about.

I am grateful to you for sending flowers to Bill on my behalf. As long as you have to send me the citations discussed above, please also indicate the exact amount due for the flowers. You know how compulsive I am—in fact, here is a signed check, you insert the amount, and let me know what it is so I will deduct it from my bank balance—okay? (That will teach you to do me a favor!)

I am feeling greatly relieved to have mailed off the review of the Manchester book, which is a cheap dirty rotten and disgusting travesty of history. He is worse than the WC—blatantly wrong, wrong, wrong, about the evidence and the guilt for the murders. One or two interesting bits of information, though: For example, he writes that an unnamed police detective was seen administering artificial respiration to Oswald as he lay waiting for the ambulance—the worst possible step, which could only cause hemorrhage. If the accuracy of Manchester's other statements that are verifiable are any yardstick, he is probably incorrect about "artificial respiration." Bieberdorf did say that he was attempting heart massage just before the ambulance arrived.

Another item: he says that Humes phoned Perry just after midnight—technically, 11/23/63, but if so, while Humes still had the body there; whereas it seems generally conceded now by most of those who have said anything about it that the consultation with Perry and the change in the autopsy findings from a non-penetrating to a penetrating bullet exiting at the Adam's apple took place when the body was no longer available for further examination by Humes & co. I guess this is Manchester's ingenious (and un-documented) way of getting them off the hook. They can have the phonecall the NEXT day (technically) but still have the body available. I conclude, on balance, that it is just a plain lie.

It is certainly hard to understand Lifton's letter to Savage. There has been no previous contact between them (unless Lifton sent other material earlier, which Savage disregarded). And why write a letter of that type on lined, notebook paper? Yet it is surely Lifton's own letter, judging from the similarity of the contents and his remarks to you about photos taken from the parking lot. If you hear anything more, I'll be interested.

Savage seems to be having unexpected difficulty writing the introduction to my book; he finally ground out some 4 pages, which have not yet arrived in the mail, but says he himself is not satisfied with them. I hate the thought of more re-writing as he has already delayed things by quite a few weeks. I wish it had been possible to have Arnold write the introduction, which was my first impulse and preference. I hope you have by now received full reassurance from Random House—I feel certain things are really okay. (I hadn't meant to write this much—must close now.) Love,