

26 March 1970

Dear Paul,

We received mail today, for the first time in more than a week. I did not chafe as much as I might have because I was laid up with flu for most of this period and was able to leave bed only this morning, in time to receive the first delivery—four pieces of junk mail, plus your letter of the 20th with enclosures. Please bear in mind that I am under the weather and a bit fuzzy-minded, if this letter seems to ramble into confusion; but I have the feeling that we have seen only the curtain-raiser to a real post office strike and that it might be well to reply while we are still in the five-day period of grace.

Thanks for the clipping on Liebeler's misfortunes. Apropos of the real Chappaquiddick, the newscasts are reporting tonight that DA Dinis is reconvening the grand jury, after his study of the transcript of the closed inquest, so that we may be hearing more about the strange death of Mary Kopechne and the many mysteries of that night.

I have heard about the Judy Bonner book but in such unfavourable terms that I have not ordered it. I suppose I should, just to keep my WR literature complete. I also skipped the Jim Bishop book, on the theory that it would enrage but in no way inform me. Recently someone was kind enough to send me the pamphlet "Conspiracy Interpretations of the Assassination of President Kennedy" by Alfred Goldberg (Security Studies Project, Paper Number 16, UCLA, 1968, \$1.50). Although you almost surely know of this, I thought I would just mention it. It is an Epsteinesque exercise in apologia for the WR, in which "improbability" is first used to dismiss the critics of the WR, and then used again (without a blush) as evidence of the essential truth of the WR.

As to the forthcoming book by one Al Newman: Back in 1965 (not a typographical error—1965) I was listening to a radio discussion of the assassination by a number of uninformed and orthodox panelists. Newman, who was among them, kept mentioning the book he was then writing, which apparently was to be a psychological (Freud-cum-Hartogs) study of Oswald, explaining his odds and ideo— you know the dreary old story, shades of Manchester rubbing elbows with good old David Abrahamsen and that coterie. Why it should have taken Newman five years to dish out this warmed-over hash, I cannot imagine, but so far as I know that was to be the theme of his book.

Now, to CE 2812. I opened Vol. XXVI and saw that I had annotated this CE, as to Ruby's presence in New Orleans in June 1963, but had not pursued the matter further. This afternoon, I tried to check out Alliance, Inc. After a thorough search of the current phone books, I too found nothing that jibed with the phone number, Mu 3-1277, but I took a chance and called one outfit, Alliance Publishers Representatives Co. Inc., which seemed to have a possible resemblance. But this turned out to be a relatively new company which was not yet in existence in 1964, never had the Mu 3 phone number, never heard of a woman "Luizza" and never heard of or get calls or mail for "Alliance, Inc." So much for that. I then took a chance and called Mu 3-1277, but the man who answered said that it was a private residence and he knew nothing of Alliance, Inc. He was so impatient and irritated that I thought it best not to press further, though I would have liked to find out how long he has had the Mu 3 phone number. As to the address "150 East 35 Street," it happens that one of the girls in my office lives at 240 East 35 Street and she promises to walk over to the 150 building in the next week or so and provide a description. I will let you know what she reports.

Best regards,