

15 January 1974

Dear Paul,

I think there is logic in your theory about the motivations of people like Harrison Salisbury and I.F. Stone. I know that Stone, who worships Warren for his role in civil rights, said that he did not give a f--- who killed JFK so long as Warren was not discredited. In any event, endorsing a big lie to avoid a bigger one (if that was indeed the motivation of the WR advocaters) leaves those concerned still the enemies of the truth and the traitors to justice, and I hold them still in contempt and disgust.

There were only a very few references, if I recall correctly, to "Harvey Lee Oswald" and they may have been innocent transpositions. There is one UN delegate whose name I constantly misstate, by transposing it, and it is seemingly a quirk on my part, since no one else does it. In any case, I kept no record of the "Harvey Lee Oswald" references.

As I perhaps mentioned already, I did not read Belin's book nor catch any of his radio/TV appearances promoting it. Your review/essay has given me a very good and very full picture of the book and its author. I certainly hope that your review can be published--perhaps by the Texas Observer, although it is too long for so slim a periodical and might have to be severely truncated to suit their purposes. Other possibilities might be The Nation, The Rolling Stone, the resurrected Saturday Evening Post, The New Republic, or the New Leader.

Coming to the variations in the official evidence with relation to Oswald's name and/or aliases, and to Oswald's addresses (both contemporaneous or past), I have not seen CD 948 and would be grateful for a copy. I doubt that it can explain all of the contradictions and discrepancies. Keep in mind the sequence of events (discussed in Accessories, under the heading of Oswald's addresses pp 83-93 and in the chapter on Hidell). Fritz first hears of the Beckley Street address from an unidentified police officer, and then Oswald confirms it. Presumably at a later point, Revill obtains an Oswald address from Fritz and/or his aides. Why not the Beckley address? Was there in Oswald's wallet a library card with the Elsbeth Street address? If so, why did the arresting officers have any problem in learning his name? I am writing this letter from my office and do not have the 26 volumes available; but even without them, I feel that there were serious conflicts and discrepancies attached to Oswald, as to his name or names and his address or addresses, which are not likely to have been cleared up by CD 948.

I do wish you luck in finding publication for your first-rate demolition of Belin and his book, and of course I do appreciate your generous words about Accessories.

Sincerely,

