

2 June 1974

Dear Paul,

Thank you for allowing me to read your manuscript on the FBI and the Warren Commission. As you doubtlessly realize, the material is of special interest to me because of my own work on the suppressed Hosty entry in the LHO address-book and on Ruby's relationships with police and other groups.

I think your manuscript is a work of meticulous scholarship and would constitute a significant addition to the historical record on these aspects of the case which you have treated in detail. You have found additional support for the inferences drawn and conclusions reached, in earlier books, on the basis of more fragmentary evidence.

Much of your material on Ruby was new to me and as such is a new contribution to the literature. I fear, however, that a non-critic might complain that there are no major new discoveries or revelations in the book and that it is difficult to follow the maze of minutiae through their byzantine course to their somewhat ambiguous conclusions.

My over-all reaction is positive and I hope that you will proceed with the ms. and complete it on the basis of your "To Follow" table of contents.

I should like to suggest one correction, relating to page 6.21, paragraph 2, and specifically to the sentence that states that I have pointed out that "only the authorities claim that Oswald made this unusual request, and that the interview may have been asked for by the New Orleans police or the FBI, using as a cover the story that Oswald had asked for it himself." I do not have my unpublished memorandum at hand and do not have the time to make a search for it, but as I recall my argument it was that the so-called request by Oswald for an FBI interview is recorded solely in FBI documents (the contemporaneous Quigley report) and FBI testimony (the Quigley testimony). The request is not, however, reflected in the contemporaneous documents of the New Orleans police or in the testimony of Lt. Martello, as one would expect, if the story is valid. I might add that some time ago Tom Bethell, at my urging, talked to Martello about this point, and Martello assured Bethell that the FBI version was true. However, I do not necessarily accept Martello's belated conversational corroboration, and I continue to think that the failure of the Commission and its staff to obtain corroboration under oath--after Quigley's unconvincing testimony--is not to be excused.

All the best,

Yours sincerely,