

24 March 1967

Dear Philippe,

Please forgive me if this letter is less than satisfactory...I am down with a frightful cold and bronchitis, thanks to the atypical weather which opened the spring season, plus late work at the UN, plus general depletion of energy...But I don't want to delay writing until I am feeling better, as these sieges are unpredictable in duration.

New Orleans Things were quiet all week; Clay Shaw is alive and well, which in a way is "news;" But yesterday Garrison subpoenaed two more witnesses and issued a warrant for the arrest of Gordon Novell, former tavern owner in New Orleans, who has been running from place to place and is now in Chicago. The witnesses continue to accumulate, a seedy bunch, and my greatest hope is that Garrison is holding back his real evidence and using this lot of weirdos as decoys. Sauvage stands pat on Garrison; I avoid conversation with him, because he depresses me. He is due to be "wrong" one of these days; let's hope this is the issue on which his judgment is awry. I've heard nothing about Arcachia; Cummings to me seems utterly ridiculous, I just can't believe him.

New York Post The series by Mike Bernlin was much better than I feared. I even wrote to him, expressing the view that he had dealt objectively with questions of evidence. I thought he was rather vicious toward Lane, but Lane can write his own protests.

My book Tout va bien...the ms. goes to the printer for galley proofs within the next week. The designer finishes his work on the type and page set-up on Monday, the introduction (by Sauvage) is due on Monday too. Some inquiries have come already from a book-club, a newspaper interested in serialization, and a magazine or two interested in publishing a chapter or a feature story. The sales director for the publisher apparently has worked up some excitement about the book; on his recommendation, the price is to be lowered somewhat and a larger first printing will be published. If all continues to go well, the book will be released officially in early November; but it will actually be in bookshops about a month or so earlier.

The CIA photo This is one of the abiding mysteries of the Dallas case. It is the photo shown to Marguerite Oswald on the night of the 23rd, which she later insisted was a photo of Ruby. Since I don't remember whether you have a copy of my Subject Index (it is entirely sold out, out of print, and Scarecrow does not wish to do another edition; it is impossible to get a copy; I even asked my father, who lives in Florida, to return the copy I had sent him, since it has only sentimental value, ~~nothing~~ and little at that, for him, but he cannot find it! I am hoping Penn will let me have one or two copies), I will give you the references:

- Vol. I, pp. 153, 237-238, 249, 397-398
- Vol. XI, pp. 468-469
- Odum Exhibit CE 237, 3028

It is discussed on page 94 of Epstein's book Inquest. Your feeling that you have seen this man somewhere could be very important—try to remember where and when it might have been. No one has ever been able to solve the mystery of his identity and those who know will not tell. There is some indication that the FBI or CIA thought this was a photo of Oswald himself; and some indication that the man in the photo strongly resembles a man allegedly seen in Oswald's company on a number of occasions, including New Orleans. Maybe Garrison is already working on it, I have a vague recollection that someone might have mentioned that. But my head is too stuffed up to function properly,

I'd better quit. Yes, I wish you could come here, at least until this case is finished, once and for all.

18 ① for reading March 24th
 ② True Buchman doing a new book?