

XX June 24, 1966

Dear Sylvia,

I'm back in town and burrowing into my schoolwork again.

Here's some information that is useful. When I was at Ramparts, they needed some temporary help to cite check. ~~TKKKK~~ I suggested that they call in a girl I ~~knew~~ who was the executive secretary at the firm which published Kerry Thornley's book. Her name is Louise Lacey. ~~KKK~~ I called her up Sunday night, ~~AKKKX~~ just to talk, and she ~~told~~ me that Welsh had just hired her to help oversee the project. So I should have a reasonably good ~~KKKK~~ grapevine connection to see what is going on up there.

In answer to your question, I just hit their P.B. machine for the postage. Don't worry about that.

However, here is an interesting item. I just received a call from Welsh. When somebody calls like that, ~~KKKK~~ I always have my ears pulled back and my mind racing to see just what it is they want---especially when he was so courteously inquiring about my health, my status at school etc. Well guess what? He asked me if I "knew where Sylvia's manuscript was". I said I thought it was in a certain room up there which is in a rather chaotic condition. Then he (curiously) asked me if I had been paid for the last week up there. And I answered no, but that I was expecting my check in the mail. He assured me it would come.

Anyway, the point is that it would have been much smarter on my part to simply have yanked your crucial material, ~~KKKK~~ rather than whisk everything out but what's done is done. It goes without saying that the subject is taboo, no matter who you think you can trust. And I just have that feeling in my bones that I have not heard the end of this subject.

Why did he ask for your manuscript? I didn't think it would happen so soon, but I had intended to write this anyway in response to your letter. Your manuscript, Sylvia, would have been the starting point for any "research" and writeup of anything on Tippitt, Oswald, and a half a dozen other topics. For that reason, I took my Dialogue back too. The material on the sign still has not been run, ~~KKKK~~ and, besides, there ~~are~~ so many changes up there they might decide to suddenly do something in that format (if a Dialogue).

What is both amusing and depressing is that your Index, if properly and intelligently used, could be the legitimate starting point for any article their heart desired. Your index and Maggie's panoplies are quite sufficient. But that, of course, still requires time, thoughtfulness, etc.

Regarding your manuscript, besides your chapter on the autopsy, the only other one I read in detail was the one on Tippitt and, I think, on Oswald. I was very much impressed with ~~KKKK~~ the large amount of material you were able to put together to show that Oswald was not some sort of monster but, in fact, was a human being with ideals of his own. I really do bristle at the callousness with which Cook, Epstein, etc. accept his guilt not merely for the sake of argument, but because it is the thing to do if you want to get quick acceptance by the Establishment.

Paul Hoch went east this summer mainly to see his parents and

family. Naturally, his own interest in the case will draw him to the National Archives. He promised to call in to Ramparts every so often in case there were any documents they wanted to look at.

As you have rightly assessed, there is no one ~~there~~ ^{at Ramparts} who really has any meaningful and directed "research grasp" on the case--- so as I understood it, Paul ~~will~~ merely be fishing around. Paul knows the case very well.

I did ask him to look up the documents that appear in Epstein's book vis-avis the Allan Sweat and Lonnie Hudkins business. Just before I left, Paul called in and said those documents had been withdrawn and were ~~XXXX~~ among those "not available".

There are two photographs available at the Archives that I am very much interested in. If you ever go down there, I would pay whatever are the fees to get good glossies of

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and Holland Exhibit B AND C.

I don't know if it will be at all possible, but I'd like to go to Dallas towards the end of this summer; just before the fall quarter begins. I also would like to come to New York.

I have the name and address of the fellow who took Gerald Hill Exhibits A, B, and C. I am trying to locate him. It seems he has a whole series of 35mm color slides covering the arrest; if I can ever contact him, I'll try to get a set.

I am slowly continuing my work with ~~XXX~~ photographs. My latest gain is that I now have in my possession the actual negative received by ~~wrote~~ photo at the San Francisco office of A.P. (the Moorman photo). I am doing enlargements with it and am making some progress. They will soon be screaming ~~at~~ me to mail it back to them.

My latest find concerns two photos taken Friday and Saturday Nov. 22 and 23 respectively, from positions on Dealey Plaza facing the depository.

This is not the time to go into the details, but I am now way past the point where I would bet my life that Kennedy was shot from the trees. This work, I realize, is not particularly publishable, but if I ~~XXXX~~ am barking up the right tree (punnyeh?), then it simply has to be done.

I am not ~~XXX~~ looking for any images of people in this line of pursuit; what I am trying to do is to gather "before" and after photos which show that the very structure of the tree changes dramatically from Nov. 22 to Nov 23. Things like that. You'll be hearing more about this from me, but rest assured that I won't do anything with it which would embarrass the critics.

Regards,

David
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