

December 10, 1986

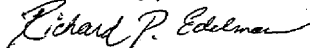
Thank you for your card. "Pessimistic, but not hopeless" just about sums up my attitude, too. At times, it seems that too many people are dead or unlocatable for the truth ever to come out, but, every now and then, something happens which makes me wonder. Just last week I spoke to Gary Schoener for the first time since 1970, and he told me something which could be significant. According to Gary, Mary Ferrell (whom I do not know) has been suspicious of a certain Colonel "Wedemeyer", who is said to have ridden in the motorcade, and may have had links to military intelligence. I wouldn't consider that very significant, except for that name: Wedemeyer. Did you ever hear of General Albert Coady Wedemeyer, who commanded troops in China during World War II, was closely linked to Chiang Kai-shek, and became an outspoken critic of US Far East policy? He was--at least in the early 1960's, as I recall--a member of the governing board of the John Birch Society. He was born in 1896, so I doubt if he is still alive today, but could "Colonel" Wedemeyer of the motorcade have been his son, brother, etc.? I want to stay away from Mc Carthyist "guilt by association," but perhaps this ought to be looked into more carefully, if it has not already been done.

I don't want to burden you with an endless series of questions. I know that by now you must be fed up with explaining to less knowledgeable critics why their theses are untenable. And I know you must be more than exasperated with the deliberate lies that have been put forth to mislead investigators--some with amazing cleverness. (For example, I was for a while falling for Morrow's "reconstruction" in Betrayal. It seemed so convincing! But how could Oswald have written to the Russian embassy in November, and mentioned his trip to Mexico, if, as Morrow maintains, that trip was really made by the "double", and Oswald was never in Mexico at all? He would never have known of it!) Given the course of events, it is amazing that all the critics have not given up in total gloom.

I'm still thinking about your suggestion that a re-capitulation of the evidence for and against Oswald be put forth. It seems to me that one of the key matters we'll have to deal with is his (allegedly) leaving behind his ring and the cash for Marina on Nov. 22. If he did indeed do this, it would seem that he knew something was going to happen that day--although it by no means proves that he acted alone. (He could have been asked to do something, and feared that he would be set up, etc.) But is the whole story a fabrication by Marina? Why has she lied and been so evasive for all these ~~years~~ years on so many topics? Who is she trying to protect or cover for, if anyone? Or is she just a confused, unstable person who simply has been overwhelmed by what she has been through? Finally, is there any evidence to support Michael Kurtz's claim on page 203 of Crime of the Century that Oswald was involved in right-wing activities in the New Orleans area? (I have written to Kurtz, but have received no response.) If this could be confirmed, the simplistic notion that Oswald was simply trying to build documentation for his credentials as a leftist (to present to the Cuban embassy) will be shattered.

Well, I said I wouldn't burden you with questions, and I will stop here. The above questions were more rhetorical than interrogatory--they are my way of mulling over the obstacles which present themselves to anyone trying to prove that Oswald was framed. ...Anyway...I do appreciate your card, and your help in dealing with the incredible frustration. May you, too, have a happy and healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,



Richard P. Edelman

P.S. - ONE LESS PESSIMISTIC POSSIBILITY: PERHAPS SOME DAY, SOMEONE WHO WAS INVOLVED, AND WHO HAS MORE CREDIBILITY THAN ROBERT EASTERLING, WILL COME FORTH WITH A CONFESSION BROUGHT ON BY AN ATTACK OF CONSCIENCE. IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKELY NOW, BUT NEITHER DID IT SEEM LIKELY IN 1946 THAT ALBERT SPEER WOULD EVER WRITE A BOOK ON THE EVILS OF THE THIRD REICH. TWENTY-THREE YEARS LATER, HIS MEMOIRS WERE PUBLISHED. AND IT HAS NOW BEEN 23 YEARS SINCE THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. . . .