

21 October 1975

Newcomb

Dear Fred,

It was good to have your letter of the 17th. Yes, I was in poor health (acute asthma) in January and again in June this year and had to be hospitalized on both occasions. However, I had a good long vacation at the seashore in July and August and have been just fine since then.

For my own reasons, (including my health (working under pressure and emotional stress seem to provoke asthma spasms) I am keeping what is known as a low profile in the current resurgence of activity on the case. There are a lot of newcomers to the field and I am most reluctant to be associated with some (or most) of them. Coup D'Etat in America--I have not read it but have heard that it is a piece of putrescent junk. I can well believe it, based on a visit I had from the main author (Weberman) some time last year. I saw a copy in a bookshop but could not bring myself to shell out \$12.00 for such garbage.

Speaking of garbage, have you seen the piece by Jacob (Mr. Warren Commission) Cohen in the current issue of COMMENTARY? He is disgusting.

I wonder if the New Jersey cabdriver who has relocated near you is one Ted Gondalfo? If so, I rejoice and sing hymns of gratitude. He is incredibly stupid, self-promoting, and mischief-making and a real embarrassment to the less demented critics.

Since you do not have copies of your manuscript readily available, I hesitate to accept your offer of a loan. I could not promise to read it in a short time because I am, as is usual at this time of the year, up to my ears in the General Assembly plus odds and ends related to the reissue of my book in paperback.

I have no great optimism that the current revival of intense interest in the JFK assassination will lead us to any final answers. But I will be happy if only it completes the destruction of the WR and forces the Government to withdraw it, leaving the ultimate question of who did it without a solution.

Very best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

