

4640 NOBLE AVENUE
SHERMAN OAKS, CALIFORNIA
91403

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Dear Sylvia,

It is indeed a pleasure to receive your letters and we agree with your summary of thoughts, re: David and the freeze.

A few comments on your letter - the paragraph from Dave's Feb. 12th letter only puts in writing what he often told us - that he needed you to read his manuscript. We urged that you and Mary read it - just in case if it was batty and way off base you could help in making it a good book.

The second comment may strengthen your ideas on our "present plan of silence" against Dave. He told us, if LBJ ran again, he would go to any magazine and publish his work just to insure his defeat. When LBJ didn't run - Dave then returned to his original plans of publishing a book. The thing that disturbs us most is that he might have helped in some unexplained way to prevent Bobby's assassination - by bringing his book out sooner.

If I could try to explain one thing - and this goes to the heart of this whole matter - you asked why various Commission lawyers did nothing when informed of David's alleged "find". I think I can understand why they did not. If this crime involved Oswald and two or three accomplices or a bunch of low level right wing or left wing kooks, then I would expect these men to expose this even though it would mean a terrible admission of error or oversight on their part. Let's suppose, however, that this plot involved the White House detail of the Secret Service, Chief Rowley, several high ranking military people and some aides to LBJ.

Now, what would it take to expose a plot of this magnitude? This would mean that ~~xxxxxx~~ some institutions of government, the office of the ~~President~~ new President could be considered illegitimate. I mean, what if exposing this plot would mean you would have to destroy the government? David put it very well one time when he said, if a man has cancer of the arm you could amputate the limb and save the rest of the body. But if a man has cancer of the heart what do you do? A transplant? Not possible without destroying the credibility of this government forever. That's what holds this thing together.

When LBJ said recently - in an interview with Walter Cronkite - that he asked Chief Justice Earl Warren to take this job (W.C.) to "save the country" I don't think he was overstating the problem a bit. That was an odd remark of LBJ to make if we are dealing with a crime that is worth solving without endangering the national interest.

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I feel that the main reason this crime is unsolved is because it is politically unacceptable to solve it --unacceptable even to Robert Kennedy. Of course, if the Oswald cover story, patsy, planted evidence - had fallen apart in those first crucial hours then great chaos would have ensued and we would have had our solution -- at great expense to our naive concepts of democracy. Protecting the institutions of our government from great scandal - from the charge of murder - would immediately be the first problem faced by the Warren Commission. I don't say all of the commission members knew this, however, I do feel that Warren, Dulles, Rankin, and Specter had to know the problem.

Leibler on the other hand reacted quite dramatically when David showed him his "kernel". He reportedly said to David, "Why, those bastards!" And promptly got up, paced up and down his office drinking one scotch after another. It frightened him. He's still screwed up as reflected in his recent arrest for driving while drunk, and kneeling the arresting officer, etc. I think this plot was designed first, so that it would preclude disclosure. Arnoni discussed this in a Minority of One issue way back. If enough high ranking officers in this government are involved, you practically guarantee that it will not be exposed - at least in this country.

I happen to think Rusk is involved, altho I can't pin this down. He's the one who arranged for the "Kennedy cabinet" to be out over the Pacific on one plane at 12:30 Dallas time - without a code book.

The Warren Commission (those who knew) took one look at this situation and backed off. I don't know what I would have done if I were in their shoes. I probably would have participated in exposing the plot and shaking the foundations of this government. I don't know, I really don't.

I think we had a coup involving the palace guard -- it's an ~~o~~ old trite story, I know, but when I read the volumes with this in mind it just jumps out at me page after page.

For instance, Rowley sends a self-serving statement made by S.S. Agent Bennett over to Rankin. Bennett allegedly wrote this while on AF#1 enroute to Andrews from Dallas. He said he heard a shot, looked at the boss and saw a bullet strike him about 4' down from the shoulder in the back. How perfect. How perfectly ridiculous for anyone to see a bullet hit someone in the back on a coat!

Other agents say this same thing. Most of them write their reports on November 29th - did you notice that? And Kellerman tells Siebert and O'Neil on the 22nd that JFK reached around with his left hand and grabbed the back of his right shoulder when he was first hit! That stinks. They (SS) stink.

Of course, there's enough stuff in the volumes to give a person "evidence" for a plot involving almost any scenario you can think of, however, when I look for evidence of a high level plot involving planting of evidence, control of the investigation, the body, the films, the patsy - I find enough to convince me where it's at.

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I am attempting to write all of this up and do something with it - publish it - refuse money for it - and go back to my regular work. I'll send you a copy of whatever it looks like when I finish this - in a month or so - to get your thinking. I don't think I can write worth a damn but if I don't set all of this down somewhere even if only for my own sake, it will bother me.

Onward,

FRED

P.S. If there is any way you could swing it we would love to have you come out and spend some time with us. Perhaps Mary could fly up from Dallas and we could really have a talk session - and I could explain all my ~~theories~~ "theories" to both of you at the same time.