

3 May 68

Dear Mrs Meagher,

Your 29 April (the letter) just arrived, 24 hours after the arrival of your 15 CD pages (which are on # the way back to you now with a reply).

The St Petersburg library would be unable to produce a full-frame copy of the microfilm, I have just learned. For viewing, yes, but not for copying. So some day pretty soon I'll muster up the courage to stand in front of the Thermofax for a half hour & run off a copy for them. In answer to a question of mine, they have 5 copies of the WR and they get a very good circulation. But there is hardly any activity at all in the 26 vols. What shook me up most was in hearing her (the Reference Librarian) refer to the WR as the "condensed version" of the other 26 vols. When I tried to point out to her that it simply wasn't so, she seemed to have not the faintest idea of what I was talking about. So I didn't pursue it. The word sure is slow in getting around.

About the microfilm, I think the most sensible thing I could do would be to turn it over to you. It will go out in the same mail with this letter. I won't know what the # cost of the NYPL copy was until getting my cancelled check back in another 3 weeks - but at least the film will make it possible for one to avoid the extra cost of this in-between step in the production of a paper copy. Maybe you will find yourself returning the film to the NYPL. Anyway, the film is your.

As for Thermofaxing of the Index, it is a thing I would not recommend for the reason that Thermofax paper just too flimsy, and it specializes in wanting to curl up all the time. But thanks to the 2-pages-per-frame microfilm, the cost of re-producing it from the film ought not be too great. Especially once the film is available in the first place.

OK, my curiosity is whetted & I have just ordered the Hog story. I don't know anything about this JBK. Me, I always figured Alonzo (CE 2878) was one of the kingpins. At least there is a better case against Alonzo than there was against Oswald, and that's something. Progress. As for it suggesting that Mark Lane is an agent for the Warren Commission - these days I'm ready to believe anything. Shucks (now don't get mad), you might be one yourself. After all, look at the "best" #### among the leading UFO researchers. Same difference. Maybe when the book arrives I'll believe every word it says! Sometimes I think we are indeed actually free to print just simply anything we want to print - so long as it is presented in such a way that it can be easily "discredited" by those who need to do the discrediting.

A thing I should mention (and I will send a copy of this to Mrs Hartmann): Helen has recently been in more or less regular mail contact with Weisberg. And I have had a couple or three exchanges myself (usually in which I insulted the man & was sorry later). I mention this because of it seeming that WR critics are always at odds with certain other WR critics - in the style of UFO critics, say. Sometimes I get the idea that there might even be "groups" bent on manufacturing chisms ##### among those who are classed as Critics in one thing or another. It would certainly be a useful strategy, & not hard at all to accomplish for any group having the resources. Eh?

Your delayed letter had been opened & resealed - probably by yourself in order to include the Hog note.

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I don't dig the Black Ink mystery either. But you have my tfx copies of both things, & now you know just as much as I do.

What you were saying about updating the Index wasn't a lousy idea at all - even though I probably wouldn't be participating in it at all. I signed off my last ship with some 375 lbs of luggage, in Honolulu, and I said "Never again...". And I'm not about to lug any 27 heavy volumes with me next time. As for Helen, she is now involved in that CD thing and, I think, perhaps doing other time consuming stuff along with it. But if she ever survives what she is doing, she might possibly be a candidate. Anyway, will send a copy of your 29 April letter to her along with this one & she can sleep on it. Incidentally, I send Helen copies of our correspondence, both ways. An only exception would be in the event of your declaring a letter to be private - but there wouldn't ordinarily be any such letter from you, and I would not especially want one, any more than you would want one such from me. In any case, Helen would never quote you from any letters I have passed to her.

What you say about finding a publisher for a limited market is no doubt true, but this is something in which I have had zero experience. But still there would always be a few hundred or a thousand willing & able to pay the price of a Xerox or something - even if it should not profit these who compiled the work. If it is a labor of love (to coin a new phrase...), then that's what it is. I would guess that if your Index netted you anything at all it probably would not have exceeded 5¢ per hour of work!

Let me leave all this in Helen's hands. Maybe in a couple of months she'll be getting her second wind, in which case she might (or might not) write you about what a great idea you had. (Helen, where are you?)

It might turn out that this is the best idea you've had since 11/22/63. If you count me out, that is. As for people sometimes winding up hating one another, it seems to be an inescapable thing so often. A nice thing about Helen is that no matter how outrageous I ever get in some of my letters to her, she simply ignores things she chooses to ignore. I don't understand women anyway, which probably contributes to my still being a batchelor at 44!

A letter from Helen, on the day of receipt of the tfx of your Index, has her already sitting behind the typewriter & inserting the errata in their right places. What energy, my gawd.

Well, I guess that's it, & thanks for listening.

Regards,

*Steffen Sorensen*

Steffen Sorensen

Just think: If you left W 12th St & transplanted yourself in Tudor City you would, essentially, be finding yourself with a 25 or a 25 ### 1/2 hour day. And on rainy & snowy days, they would turn out to be 26 or 28 hour days. Just think!

Naw, don't mention it. Glad to give advice any time. It's the thing I do best.

cc Helen