

6 March 1969

Dear Harold,

I am laid up with acute bronchitis so this will be brief, but I did wish to thank you for your letter of 2/28/69 and the copies of your letters to Rhoads, Wecht, and Halleck (which I will treat as confidential). I do want to say that you have made an invaluable contribution, towards the expose of the real nature and meaning of the 1968 panel report on the autopsy photos and X-rays and the eliciting of highly compromising testimony from Dr. Finck. I think you deserve the greatest credit for this.

Of course I am sorry that we do not, after all, agree completely on the word "disaster" or the other implications of events in New Orleans. Let us agree that we do not see eye to eye and perhaps never will, on that issue, and that it remains to be seen if the ultimate effects will be in any way positive rather than negative. My position is not based, as you keep saying, on "blind hatred." It is based on an analysis made almost two years ago, which has certainly been borne out by events. Since I have set forth my reasoning in great detail, on many occasions, I really cannot accept any characterization of my convictions as "blind hatred."

Over the same two years, I have been urged time and again to suspend judgment until Garrison presented his case in court, to allow the process of justice to run its course, etc., etc. Now there has been a trial and the jury has reached a verdict. I accept it and I completely agree with it, but on all sides I am now urged to disregard the outcome and told that Shaw is Clay Bertrand, with all the implications that flow from that, although the prosecution was unable to convince the jury. If that is "justice," then more than ever I want no part of it.

The re-indictment of Shaw on perjury charges is one of the most shocking and infamous acts I have ever observed. The analogy with the case of Alger Hiss is self-evident. If I do not comment further on this, it is because I am not well at the moment, not because I am not able or willing to comment.

I will be glad to read your book after Dr. Wecht has finished it, and will read it as rapidly as humanly possible—in one day, if I can.

Sincerely,