Jerome Agel
2 Peter Cooper Road
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4/13/95

Dear Jerry,

Thanks for the info on Mailer. If you see any more I'll appreciate copies.

I'm sorry these 22 fires still burn because as I told you then your theory is not possible. If so much had not been butchered out of Case Open you'd have seen the official evidence. Worse, the Commission and the FBI knew it was impossible. Not your theory of the shooting but any shooting by Oswald. This is beyond question in the official evidence itself.

This illustrates the problem with all the theories that are so attractive and can be made persuasive: they are conceived without regard for the existing official evidence.

I do not remember any Marina obsession but it makes no difference because the evidence is overwhelming and entirely unrefuted.

The New Yorker and Vogue are both Newhouse properties.

Mailer has always assumed Oswald was the assassin. That way he had no work to do and nothing to decorize what oozed from his mind. The only question he ever expressed is was Oswald alone.

As I recall, and I've not yet checked my file, Schiller was involved with Mailer over Gary Gilmore, the Utah killer. Schiller got in on that ground floor.

He did not own Jack Ruby. He was for a while his agent, for which he took a mere 35%.

I know nothing about the McMillan angle. I've had no interest in her.

I'd never known Schiller to do any writing but the news on TV was that he wrote OJ's book. I've not gotten it. My interest in that case is the faithful duplication by LA authorities of all that was wrong in the JFK investigation. As though they used it as a text. I'm surprised there has been no media interest or even curiosity about that.

If Oswald had fired any shots, as he did not, and if they were as you quote Frazier as saying high and to the right, they'd have been to JFK's right and Jackie was to his left.

Best, to Walter and Agnes too,

Harold

4/11/95

Harold:

Publishers Weekly called the Mailer ponderous.

I found only one illuminating new fact in the New Yorker excerpt: during their first week of marriage, the Oswalds talked about the Kennedys; they were obsessed with the Kennedys. As you know, I believe that Marina's obsession led Oswald to try to shoot Jackie, the bullets flying high and to the right from the misaligned rifle (as F.B.I. agent Frazier testified before the W.C.).

Mailer has published several books with Random House as part of a several-million dollar deal. I believe this is his fourth, and last, book with Random House.

The New Yorker is owned by the company that owns Random House -- I guess The New Yorker excerpt is being used to promote the Mailer, which should be in bookstores this month (April).

I have no knowledge of the $300,000 you say Mailer owes/owed Little Brown.

I've talked with several people about the Mailer; they had no interest in his article.

Mailer, in his book (according to PW), says he believes that Oswald may have been the gunman or one of the gunmen.

I'll be glad to send you anything I read about the Mailer.

He knifed one of his early wives at least 30 years ago. The Washington Post librarian could tell you the date.

What is Larry Schiller's involvement with Mailer? He owned Jack Ruby, didn't he? And O.J. Simpson?

Patricia McMillan, I believe, was paid by Mailer for some material (or Mailer at least offered to pay her).