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November 29, 1968

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Old Receiver Road
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland
21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Thank you for your letter of 24 November. One of my great regrets during the past several years, has been my inability to devote more time to this matter. Having to work and attend evening classes prevents me from giving more of my time to research. Therefore, most of my work is carried out through the mails. However, one contributes whatever he can and hopes that investigators such as yourself will be more successful.

I have enclosed copies of several pieces of correspondence. The first set concerns the American Cryptogram Association and the second set, the National Security Agency. You will note, that in the reply from NSA, they state that they are well aware of the Grille Cipher technique, of which CE-111 seems to be an example, however, they do not consider it likely that CE-111 has any cryptographic implication. It really restores confidence in one to know that the people who coordinate American intelligence have been doing their homework doesn't it? The last set represents another fruitless request to the Dallas Police Department for some information about the several suspects that were apprehended near the scene of the assassination on November 22, 1963.

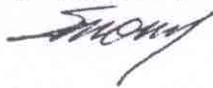
My interest in the photographic aspect of the assassination was greatly enhanced after reading the literature supplied to me by Mr. Sprague. I would like to obtain pictures of three "tramps" arrested behind the knoll area, along with photos of Florer and Braden (see Decker Exhibits 5323, pages 469 and 476 of Volume XIX) who were taken into custody after leaving the Dal-Tex building. Seems as though they both went up to the third floor to make a phone call, and the residence of the building singled them out to the cops as they left. Also, I would like photos of the "two" other rifles found in the area, besides the one that is said to have been owned by Oswald. I have no definite plans for these pictures at the moment, except to make blow-ups from them and maybe use them in some future endeavor. I have several sets of the Willis series and I have sent inquiries about obtaining others. However, I have a feeling that there is not going to be a reply.

In closing, I would like to tell you of an amusing experiment I carried out this past October.

Since taking an interest in this matter, a number of pieces of my mail has been "damaged in handling" and I have wondered if it was accidental or not. As you may know, the pink Copymate paper will retain any message exposed to it, until it is developed onto one of the white sheets by the heat process. I typed up a cipher message and after transferring it to the pink sheet, typed a fake letter over the undeveloped cipher. Then, after sealing a micro-dot under the postage stamp I sent it to a fake address so that it would be returned to me. When it came back, the micro-dot had been removed and the pink sheet did not show my cipher when it was developed, which seems to indicate that someone else worked on it before it was returned to me. Since you often use Copymate pink sheets when writing me, I have often wondered if perhaps a message was on them but none developed any.

If you are able to publish the book you mentioned in your letter of August 5, this year, I would very much like to buy a copy of it. With the material available to me at this time, the work on the cryptographic bit doesn't look very promising. No further developments at this time so I'll say goodbye and wish you success in your work.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S. M. O. W. N.', written in a cursive style.

Enclosures, 10