

7/15/70

Mr. Gary Short
Associated Personalities
123 E. Grant St.,
Minneapolis, Minn. 55403

Dear Gary,

Had I not taken a journalism course in high school (Wilmington, Del.) I'd probably be a decent typist. I started using a typewriter then, learning hunt and peck, got pretty swift at it, and never took the time to learn touch typing. The paper I then edited won All-America honor rating at the annual Columbia School of Journalism contest.

Beginning when a college (Univ. Del.) freshman, I wrote for the Wilmington, Del. "Morning News", simultaneously writing by-line features for the forerunner of such Sunday supplements as "This Week", the old Philadelphia "Ledger" syndicate. So, I was a syndicated, by-line writer when no more than 17.

I was a U.S. Senate editor-investigator 1938-9, at one period on loan to the Department of Justice (a switch). Then magazine writing, until WW II, where I wound up in O.S.S., doing special investigations and political analysis. My first job there is strikingly similar to my present work. A crew of volunteers, for whom almost certain death awaited in Europe, had been framed by the military police in Washington, where they were being held for transportation arrangements to be completed. Their conviction had been upheld through all the channels of military justice. Six weeks after I got the assignment, by ransacking the existing record, I had enough to get a reversal, an acquittal. My work was largely trouble-shooting, in an agency of trouble-shooters, the assignments coming from intelligence, counter-intelligence, State, and even the White House. I doped out what others didn't or couldn't. In one case, where the counter-intelligence boys used up almost all the time and with a 48-hour deadline, I prevented the return of a dozen impounded ships to the Nazi front claiming them. In another, from Washington (and by phone, from out of town, off the top of my head), I pin-pointed depots of captured stores of the most valuable documents, in Germany, when the intelligence boys on the spot swore they didn't exist.

Immediately prior to service my writing was investigative reporting, exposing Nazis internationally and taking the wraps off certel clandestine operations. I got out of Chile, by remote (through a friend in State and the pouch) secret plans for a Nazi takeover, used by FDR in that famous fireside chat. One of my exposes resulted in the levying of a \$160,000 fine prior to government takeover (not the only Nazi front taken over after my exposing). During this period I also had contact with the anti-Nazi underground, printed what they got out and to me-and was an unregistered agent of British intelligence. I mean, how "red" can one be? Some of my work was so hot even then it couldn't be printed (like the I.G. Farben-Standard Oil deal on synthetic oil-synthetic rubber, which I just blundered into), with the Nazis the official enemy. I believe I am alone in accurately predicting (pub date 9/15/41, less than three months early) the Japanese attack, forecasting everything, including Pearl Harbor, with but a single error- one they didn't pull.

So, I was a professional writer and a professional investigator when I wasn't old enough to vote, and my first investigation was of professional investigators - detective agencies, for the Senate.

If you need more on credentials, tell me.

My first book, WHITEWASH: THE REPORT ON THE WARREN REPORT, was the first on the subject. It was completed 2/15/65, under contract for 3/15/65 publication via electronic typesetting. Then the pressure began. I finally published a limited edition mid-August, to preserve my rights, and a general-distribution edition, the first "underground" book, pub date 5/9/66. My second, WHITEWASH II: THE FBI- SECRET SERVICE COVERUP, dates to the time of the first wave of other books, Lane's and Epstein's, which followed WHITEWASH. It was completed mid-September 1966 and represents the first combing of the Archives (which no writer since then has done, either), begun before WHITEWASH was printed. OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS was written independent of Garrison and still is the only book with any substantial part of the suppressed story of Oswald's history, connections and activities right before the assassination, in New Orleans. It was completed in the late winter or early Spring of 1967, only a very brief time after Garrison first made the headlines. PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH: SUPPRESSED KENNEDY-ASSASSINATION PICTURES, is to date the only substantial printing of the suppressed evidence, about 150 pages of it, dealing with the suppression and the avoidance of the existing photographic evidence, reproducing in facsimile never-before-seen FBI and Secret Service reports and such juicy items as Warren-Commission staff handwritten memos nobody ever expected anyone else ever to see.

Since then (that took 28 days from the time I wrote the foreword until delivery of the first 100 bound copies, complete with index!), 5/67, I have conducted my most extensive investigations, those written up being in four books that exist in limited editions only, with enough remaining for at least four more books, this many being started. One is about to be contracted for commercial publication. It is untitled (the title having twice been copped after copyrighting) and deals with the Ray/King case. Here I forced production of the suppressed DJ evidence against Ray, confiscated from the British court, sworn to me to be non-existent by Richard Kleindienst, Barry Goldwater's contribution to Justice and integrity in government. This was the first successful "Freedom of Information" law action for suppressed evidence on the assassinations (I am about ready to file a number more). I have the hairiest letters to show! This work establishes the deliberate, official denial of Ray's most basic legal rights and as open a violation of Supreme Court decisions as possible. My work is now the basis for the effort to get Ray a trial-not a "new" trial, but a first trial. There never was one. I think there is no doubt I have proven he didn't fire the shot-and more. But I think he was part of the conspiracy. This, too, I can prove beyond reasonable doubt.

I suggest the good audiences Gary gets for his presentations is not typical, because they are small and do not come from those you intend approaching. My own belief is that Garrison struck the most serious blow to credibility and the willingness of those who engage speakers for large, especially collegiate and professional audiences, to believe there is anything to "our side". However, with the ~~my~~ approach I am suggesting, one that can ultimately include the reproduction of some of what I have rescued from oblivion, this can be overcome. I am not trying to discourage you as much as I am to prepare you for buyer resistance. And I am suggesting, especially because it is pristine, emphasis on Ray/King, where the enclosed, understated Washington Post story can be helpful (please keep it for it is my original). Here I can also produce secret or once-secret official documents- once the book is out, which should be soon. Boy, what I can (and will) do to all the lawyers, including Percy Foreman, all from documents in my possession, is what you'd be unwilling to believe in a work of fiction. I have his letters bribing Ray to adhere to the deal, little goodies like that.

This is a kind of hasty bit, today having been taken up with a visit from my friendly IRS agent, who is conducting a full-field audit. And it is FULL. But it is not sinister. He's not out to get me. It just ~~was~~ happened. I'll make a trip to town and get this in the mail. Tomorrow I have to be in Washington. But tonight if I can, otherwise day after tomorrow, I'll get together what pictures I can, the letters I can think of (I've never had that kind of ego, so I have no such files), and I'll try and get them in Thursday's outgoing mail. You should have them, without special attention, by Monday. If the pictures are not satisfactory, I'll have some taken. Please save and return, for I cannot afford to replace them.

If you think it would be a good gimmick (and it is also quite legit), if you offer me where there is a former Commission staff member, we can issue a challenge to him, or an invitation to be there for full opportunity at rebuttal. Gary can tell you where they are, most of them. I can think of NYC, DC, ~~PA~~LA, Chicago, LA, San Francisco, Atlanta, Denver, New Orleans.

New Orleans reminds me: You could offer me to LA schools as the only man who did his own LA investigation, whose work is independent of Garrison and Shaw, and can present what is completely unknown to these audiences, with suppressed FBI reports, statements from officially-uninterviewed witnesses, including some now dead, their statements being on tape. Lane made one appearance at Tulane, but aside from that there has been nothing there. If you did this, I'd make a special presentation of an enormous ^{of} suppressed FBI reports, which should be as impressive as hell. You could safely offer at least a hundred, with an incredible story. Before you can do this, I'll have a suit filed for some of what is still suppressed. The complaint is drafted. I'll be my own lawyer. It is now being read for bugs by a lawyer. And I'll produce some of what is suppressed, having gotten some of it despite the suppression. It could be NOW in New Orleans, despite the Garrison debacle. I must, in this connection, remember to send you a review of my work by a lit prof there (not for use--last time I saw him, the first being after he wrote this review, he was writing a novel about me!), saying mine is the definitive writing, regularly plagiarized.

Sorry to ramble so, and for the errors, but I do want to get this in tonight's mail, to save a day.

Good to hear from you. Looking forward to what we may be able to do together and for each other.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg