

2/7/70

Dear Howard and Dick,

Saturday I got your letters mailed the 35¢, Dick's from Clifton. Sorry that Dick couldn't get here with his family. Mary Ferrell has been here from Dallas and we've been having a very nice visit.

Oh, the clippings were interesting. I've read them all but the Time piece in between other things. I'll probably read it today.

I've not been able to go over MIII since I wrote it and, as you know, I wrote it while I was "doing" it, and in greatest haste. However, I think your 9/2 note may explain the difference between my analysis and writing and what Morgan is doing in writing, which you may remember I told you simply could not be true. However, until I have a chance to reread MIII and the letters, I'll not know and not really understand. I do hope to be able to finish up that writing soon. I am entirely without doubt that they saw much more metal than his letters admit.

If you want to write him again, under a college name, why not wait until college starts and do it there, ~~xxx~~ giving a college return address?

If your purpose in writing is for your book, then I think you should. If it is not, I'm not certain. If I had the financial backing I'd like to have for the suit, I think it would be better to confront him on the stand. That seems like a very distant possibility, however. I'd be inclined to doubt any ordering by Fisher. Sounds too conspiratorial and, I suppose, is also unnecessary. I'm not at all certain any of them would buy the bit about having spoken to someone who has seen the X-rays, although I have, on several occasions. However, he has told me nothing of what they saw. But it is entirely unlikely anyone who saw them would talk and it is likely Morgan knows their history. Aside from the Secret Service, those we know saw them before the pen, and I do mean know, include some of the members of the staff, esp. Specter, and the autopsy doctors, who saw them prior to their testimony. Despite what the Specter memos say. I'd like you to leave this for my handling, as I will, in time. My source is Tom Kelley. The last time I saw them he told me this was prior to and for this testimony. However, if Dick wants to do this, a slightly different and accurate formulation that might be more easily credited by Morgan is that ~~xx~~ Dick was spoken to someone who, in turn, was spoken to someone who had seen the X-rays. Dick has spoken to me. And I think this introduces the element of vagueness to which you refer.

Mail index: no rush. But I'm sending everything essential for completeness.

Base pic comment: noted. I'm main certain of my observation. It appears you were all written about Nichols pic when they decided they could no longer delay responding to me (I had already filed on Specter when they did) and they then wrote everyone who had corresponded on this. You have this exchange now. If you can get the new picture, excellent idea. I regard only one thing as risky in this, and that is any public use or mention. Research effort is fine. You might even want to allude to the existing pictures, but I think your formulation is good. I think, in order to get them to take another, you'll have to convince them you have a need not filled by the existing ones.

Congrats to Dick on completing the doctorate. and getting that much time back. I think the shirt picture Howard got while you were there is a replacement for one he had had and gave me so I'd not be recorded as having it. I have all the Specter permits Mour comments on the hole are as I showed Howard, and his

rather than mine, I think, is the explanation I'm satisfied is the correct one: the FBI reversed the enlarged portion. I'm not certain why and am far from certain it is an accident. I've been in correspondence with Kleindienst on this. However, on taking another look at your sketch, it appears that you are drawing something different than a reversal, a different hole. If you study these again, I suggest you study what can be more significant than the blood stains, and that is the pattern of shadow, for it is not possible to exactly duplicate the creases in the cloth once the shirt is moved. I have filed my suit on this.

I'm now in correspondence with Brown. He is working on a book and the CIA and Cuba after Bay Pigs, with 50,000 words written and 23 fronts in Florida allegedly established. Glad to get any of his writing. Silencers, yes.... Bay is said to have had plans for one on him when arrested.

Little new, Paul is screwing me. Don't know if it is deliberate or even conscious. He is the captive of a determination to breathe life into a cadaver, his shitty committee, and that is very bad and very dangerous. He is also muddled in too many conflicts. There is a serious problem for which I now have no time. I'm going to try and solve it this week. Please keep me informed of anything you hear from or about the committee, Flemons and Brogue in particular.

Best to both,

2 Sept. 70
Clifton, N.J.

Dear Harold —

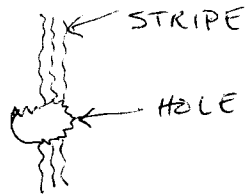
Sorry to have delayed so long in writing to you, but several things got in the way that made it difficult. I have spent the past few weeks frantically writing and preparing the final copies of my dissertation for their final submission to the Graduate School at Cornell. That is finally out of the way — all the work is complete, thesis accepted and approved. I'll be awarded a Ph.D. from Cornell in September. This will not mean an immediate raise in pay, since I am now being paid at the highest level for my position as Lecturer, but I shall be promoted to Assistant Professor — raise will follow later. The most satisfying thing is just to have the damned thing over with.

I received some mail from you to which I have not yet replied. I'll do that when I get back to Kingston (I'm in Clifton, ^{N.J.} now, visiting my in-laws with my family.) I got the shirt pictures, the package of clippings on EMK, and some letters.

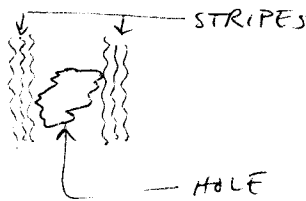
I visited Howard for a day in Philadelphia yesterday. He will write and describe ~~the~~ in detail something exceedingly interesting about the shirt pictures. The ones that you sent to me don't seem to contain anything overly suspicious, but Howard yesterday received a shirt picture that differs in a fascinating way from the pictures you sent. It is very odd, and probably a fault of photography, but the hole in Howard's pictures appears to be in a slightly different place than the hole shown in your picture. Indeed, you may already have the photo that Howard got, or you may

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be getting it. when you do, compare the position of the hole in the two pictures (your hole blow-up, and the picture that Howard got). The hole in your picture completely cuts ~~the~~ one of the black stripes in the shirt, like this:



In the picture that Howard got, the hole appears between two stripes, like this:



It's very crazy, in a way, for the shirt appears to be the same in both pictures, with the identical pattern of blood stains.

My day with Howard was mostly social. Although we discussed the assassinations, I was mainly interested merely in talking with him and seeing him face-to-face. Everything went well — he impressed me as much in the flesh as ~~the~~ he did in letters.

Our mail situation in Canada has been tricky, and lately I have avoided using it. Rotating strikes are taking place in various locations at unpredictable times.

I'm presently in a state of languor after giving much time and hard work in finishing my Ph.D. I don't know what to do with myself regarding the assassinations. I

reviewed much of the testimony bearing on areas of investigation that you are now interested in, but came up with nothing important. I'll probably drift in this way until I strike something that seems hot, but in the mean time I feel aimlessly driven.

When I get back to Kingstar I'll send you a copy of a letter from Archives admitting that the 399-base photo was taken for you, not for Nichols. They sent a similar letter to Howard.

Howard will pass to you the Time article re CIA and Haiti. I said I would send it, but could not locate it among my things. I found a copy among some magazines belonging to my brother-in-law in Trenton.

I'll also send you an article by Capt Bob Brown recently published in the magazine Shooting Times. It's not very important, except as a piece of typical Brownismo. It deals with gun sales and trading among GI's in Vietnam. It has a few excellent pictures of Brown. I had not seen pictures of him before. He's really a handsome bastard — all that a Green Beret would want to look like.

Are you interested in an article dealing with the use of ~~the~~ silencers on firearms in Vietnam? I have a good one. It was my impression that ~~the~~ silencers were another item ~~the~~ whose use is forbidden by international agreements (The Hague convention, I think), but I am not sure. It doesn't have anything to do with the assassinations, but I believe that previously you had shown interest in such things as this.

My kids and dog are screaming all about me as I write this, and I find it difficult to concentrate. I'll stop now and write again when I get back to Kingston.

Hope your summer is going good. Mine was fine.

Bill

Dick