2/9/70

Dear Dick,

Your letter to Howard and note to me of the 4th arrived today.

As the enclosures reflect, I anticipated your business. I had already asked whether your finances, interests and other commitments would permit your coming here during your spring break. If you know for sure you will not, let me know, for I intend putting an end to the 399 question, as I can with pictures. I intend doing two things if, with no further prompting from me, I do not get what I ask: I will go there and supervise the taking of new pictures for me and I will also take my own (and very good) Polaroid, with closeup lenses, and get them to take additional ones with that. If I take a roll of pix of various angles, with different lighting conditions, that should do it.

One thing in the Howard letter interests me very much. He has not mentioned it to me. Under N.O. testimony you say, "I do not intend to go for Lifton's offer, for the cost is too much..." To what does this refer? As I should have told you, I want to know everything about what Lifton is up to. Gary has indidation he is actually making money on supplying copies of what he gets free and of other people's materials.

I also told Howard not to fret about the 399 flake, telling him at the same time to learn from the experience.

While I haven't your knowledge of the behavior of bullets of various sorts, I have tried to learn, and what you told Howard, except for the newer weapons and projectiles, is exactly what I told him, but I also told him to learn from you, not me, because I could be wrong. There should be no dust-like particles from a military load of the kind alleged, not, certainly, in that number - else why the convention?

I asked the Archives for 8x10 glossys of the picture Curry used (p.88) and another, so, naturally, I got xeroxes today! No pix. But I am satisfied that even if there is reason to wonder about some of the Tippit work, Paul and Howard are right about that being a button.

No word from John yet.

Sincerely,