

January 12, 1970

Dear Harold, Paul & Gary:

Regarding the picture on page 88 of Curry's book... Arch was most interested in that picture from the minute he saw the thing. The "piece" taken from Gov. Connally's arm or leg is out of proportion to the other items pictured. Arch has been trying to get to Curry ever since and did write but got no answer. Arch said it was his guess that they were about to turn over the items to Washington and spread them out and took a picture of them first. Arch doesn't think the picture itself was given to Washington. The interesting item is, I believe, Q-9 and seems to be the only one Hoover doesn't give the weight of in the letter which follows. We do hear of some people who have no trouble getting to see Curry at his job but we haven't had such good luck.

The name "Drittall" was used by LHO on the order for the gun. I believe that is the only time he uses it.

Our Xerox is out of commission this morning. If we get it fixed before I mail this, I'll send you copies of the NSRP flyer re Garrison and Robinson and also the postcard. Otherwise, I'll send them later.

Penn's book still isn't out. I sent someone to Midlothian Saturday because it was supposed to be out the 10th but Penn is still working on it. I'll get several the minute they are available and I'll send you one, Harold, and also to Gary and Paul, if they'd like me to. I have about decided to buy them through a book store instead of directly from Penn. My friend asked Penn Saturday if he was going to continue to print articles on the assassination in the Mirror and Penn said, "Tell Mary Ferrell that I was in business a long time before I ever heard of her." I don't know whether I was only given one side of the conversation... or what prompted that remark but perhaps he thinks he has some reason to be angry with me so I'll stay at "arms length" from him if that's what he wants.

We talked to Judy Bonner over the weekend and she says her book on the Dallas Police involvement will be out any day now. She says she has seen the jacket so it's ready. I'll also send you a copy of it, Harold... and Paul and Gary, if you want me xx to...

I'm inclosing a "way out" theory which you can all probably tear to pieces but that's what I want you ~~xxxx~~ to do. I wrote it to Fred Newcomb (so far the only one I've sent it to) but I haven't had any comments from him.

Harold, the thing about the O'Leary documents that interested me aside from the fact that they didn't want O'Leary to know what they were doing and then on the next page stated that O'Leary died in New Zealand and was ~~xxxx~~ buried in Dallas a few days before the assassination is that there are nine pages of testimony in volume 20 ~~xxx~~ by the same O'Leary, I am almost certain, who was in Dallas from 11/22 through 11/30/63... ???

THEORY # 9,999...

In 1952, Harry Truman's popularity was at a terribly low ebb... He had just taken over the railroads to keep them from striking and he was threatening to bring McArthur home... then the Puerto Ricans shot at him at Blair House in Washington, in March, killing one of his guards, and his popularity shot up... the American people rallied around him.

WHAT IF the Kennedys knew that Jack was going to have a hard time getting back into office in 1964, after all the problems he'd been faced with... starting with the Bay of Pigs.

Now, just suppose that Bobby Kennedy thought that if there was an assassination ATTEMPT against JFK just before campaigning started for the '64 election, it would assure Jack of another term.

If the "attempt" took place in the South, it would secure the Southern vote which had been perilously close in '60... Since the American people (at least some of them) were beginning to think Jack was "soft on Communism", if the attempt were made by a Communist, they would immediately think Jack posed a threat to the Communists or they would not have wanted him out of the way... If the South would vote for Jack to assure themselves that they hadn't wanted anything to happen to him, this would eliminate the need for Johnson on the ticket.

Now, suppose Bobby used some of his "friends" in the FBI (probably a few dissenters who disagreed with Hoover) and the plan was put into operation. They first thought of using Webster but decided LHO was a much better bet and started the process of getting him home. This could account for Bobby overriding Mr. Holland in San Antonio who hadn't wanted to let Marina in.

After "setting up" LHO, Lee had to go to New Orleans to have the little altercation with the Cubans. If that episode had occurred in the Dallas area, Lee would surely have been under surveillance on Nov. 22, 1963. But, he established his Communistic leanings in New Orleans for future use... and when he was arrested, instead of asking for a lawyer, he asked for the FBI. (And Quigley's report of the interview could have been better done by my granddaughter.)

Now, suppose that some other branch of the government, CIA for instance, learned of the planned "attempt" and decided to put real ammunition behind the picket fence.

When you read the testimony of all the witnesses, most of them say what they first heard sounded like "a burst of gunfire", "a volley of gunfire" or "a string of firecrackers"... If the first thing they heard was actually a string of firecrackers or blanks being fired, this could explain that.

If there is merit to this theory, when Lee reached the street, he probably thought his "job" had been carried out quite well and the "attempt" had looked very real. He was sure that the President

had actually been taken to a place of safety somewhere. This would also explain why, at the news conference late that night, he was so surprised when he realized that the President had really been assassinated. He said, "Nobody's said anything about that to me. I'm just a patsy."

But, he was still calm, cool and collected with his family and advised them that they shouldn't believe everything they heard. He continued to "follow instructions" by demanding John Abt instead of accepting the assistance of the American Bar Association.

This could all explain why Bobby remained so quiet through the years.

If MacBird had been distributed before Lyndon became President, it might have hurt him... but since it came out afterwards, it didn't harm him any. If Bobby had reached the Presidency, he could have reopened the whole thing and punished those he most assuredly knew were responsible. If talk had then been put out about a fake assassination attempt prompted by Bobby, after he was President, the American people wouldn't have believed it about their President and revelation of the whole scheme would have been too late to affect him... which may also explain why Bobby had to be eliminated before getting into power.

If there were any truth to the rumors about the General Walker shooting episode, that LHO was picked up that night but Bobby Kennedy called down here and had him released... (this might have made Lee useless... being jailed at the wrong time for shooting at a right winger) Marina said Lee came home that night "wild-eyed and excited"... Strange that he would be so upset over just shooting at Walker and then be so extremely composed when charged with the assassination of the President.

George DeM. knew some of the Kennedys. On April 24, 1963, when LHO left Dallas, supposedly for New Orleans, George left too and went to Washington or "~~xxxx~~ "up East"... never quite clear where... LHO didn't make it to New Orleans for five days, according to Mrs. Murrett. What if George took Lee to some of the Kennedys to finish the instructions and firm up the "deal"?

Either side could have wanted LHO out of the way as he was a danger to both sides, the fake assassins and the real plotters. It is a toss-up as to who sent Tippitt... but either side could have. Whoever sent him could have placed Helen Markham and the cab driver Scoggins to witness the heroism of the policeman as he got rid of the assassin. Scoggins had just deposited a "fare" at the home of Harry Olson's girlfriend and then went and parked "at the right spot." After the wrong ~~wa~~ one was killed and Markham went off her rocker and made all those wild statements about Tippitt trying to talk to her, etc., they still had to use her testimony because she had been placed there in order to testify.

It is possible JFK might have known about the "attempt"... as far as I can tell, he had never before been surmising how easy it would be to kill him until he got to the South... then he started planting the idea that someone could get on a high building, etc.

It is possible that the man from San Antonio who left the Carcano in the Terre Haute, Indiana, motel right after the assassination was supposed to make an "attempt" in San Antonio the night before the 22nd but got cold feet and left the state rather than be implicated... so it had to be called off in San Antonio and carried through in Dallas. Do you remember, that young man had a Communist background, too.

It is possible the FBI had been instructed how to react had there been only an "attempt" but after it turned out to be an assassination, they didn't get corrected instructions in time... for instance, Hosty's remark to Reville about Lee's being "capable"...

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As I stated earlier, this is only a "way out theory"... please take it apart for me when you have the time.