

Dear Tony,

12/11/90

Thanks for the Lobster with ~~your~~ your interesting Shaw piece. It is an interesting and worthwhile tracing of his British connections. I had just about finished about 7,500 words of reminiscences when the mail came and I read as soon as I finished that rough draft. When I was a little tired. Although you said you phone soon it seems to me that if I can get this to you before you phone we could then discuss it with your having had a chance to read my comments first.

First what you do not realize and have little or no way of knowing, most of the available sources, including some who enjoy good reputations, are not always dependable and some can't be trusted at all. Moreover, some who are generally dependable are wrong when they trust others they believe are dependable and are not. I think I'll have a specific or two. So, some fictions have achieved a high degree of acceptance when they are trusted and quoted, even quoted accurately. I'll begin on this in your Oswald introduction.

It was widely believed that Oswald was in Ferrie's of the two CAP units in New Orleans and that Ferrie was then in charge of it. Oswald was in the CAP when Ferrie was inactive in it. What may be hard to believe is that John Mitchell directed the FBI to disclose to me Ferrie records that had been withheld and I did not get in its New Orleans records when I sued for them.

I do not know your source on Marina suggesting to Oswald that he look for work in N.O. but I believe it is not accurate.

Oswald's one-man FPCC chapter was ~~based~~ at 544 Camp... an improvisation on my work that is often cribbed and rarely credit, and is not correct. He may have used a room there briefly without authorization but his "operation" was not based there. He had that address stamped on only one or a few leaflets, and obviously did not expect to be reached at that address. He had his correct address on almost all of what he distributed.

I do not believe it is correct to say that Ferrie is one of the first people Banister employed when he opened his agency. Ferrie was then an Eastern Airlines pilot. He spent much time in Banister's office but I know of no real reason to believe he was an employee.

I was virtually a second editor on Henry Hurt's book. He sent me chapters as he wrote them and I annotated and returned them. He listened to me in the first half of the book but he imposed his own political beliefs and desires on the second half, which I dignify in describing it as crap. He is not the only one who trusted Delphine Roberts, who has no dependability at all and who would not even talk to anyone until she got into a scrap with Banister's widow over his files. You say Oswald's association with Banister and Roberts seeing him in the office often is "confirmed elsewhere." I'm curious about by whom because I simply do not believe it and have no reason to believe it. I know of no credible source for it. I am likewise certain that she invented Oswald's use of that room for storage of his placard and leaflets and he had no need to. That in any event would have been inconvenient, not convenient, if you knew what his activities really were with them. He picketed much more often than the Commission reported and why should he have to leave home, where he could have kept them, and have to make another stop before handing them out? And he assuredly never "rented" that room, which was actually a pair of rooms. My source is the man who owned the building.

While I am the first to write that Oswald's activities in New Orleans are consistent only with what in intelligence is called establishing a cover, I know of no support for his creation of ~~in~~ his non-existent FPCC there was "part of the FBI's Cointelpro operations against the American left."

In the next column, about Ferrie, you say he was in the courtroom with Marcello. On 11/22/63 he wasn't. He was in the witness room. The rumor, which may when put correctly be true, is not that Ferrie flew Marcello back from Mexico but as I recall, from Guatemala. I am aware that my memory can be faulty, especially after years of not thinking about some of these things, but it was not Mexico, I'm sure.

I know of no source for and have no reason to believe that LBJ "phoned" then acting AG Clark to ask for details on Ferrie's death. LBJ was close to the FBI and Clark's info would have come from it so he'd have asked the FBI, if he asked anyone at all, which I have no reason to believe he did. Have you a source on this?

At the bottom of this column, where you refer to the confusion about or between Shaw



*Bertrand*  
 and ~~reale~~, the truth is that it was the day of Clark's confirmation hearing on his appointment, outside the hearing room, when he left. Based on what he said the FBI had told him he actually said that Shaw and Bertrand were one. When the FBI realized that this meant trouble, it started saying it had told him no such thing. I think you can see that this is consistent with its never giving the Warren Commission the record + got and you quote, on Shaw's homosexuality and sado-masochism.

Perhaps there is some truth (14) in saying that Garrison put the Commission on trial in the Shaw case and that hastened its demise but aside from error and irresponsibility he added nothing to what critics had already published and the number of people he influenced to change their opinions, according to the polls, was not great. Of course there were some.

I think it is not correct, in the next column, to say that although his friends knew Shaw as gay "New Orleans did not." Many if not most of those who knew him were well aware of this. It was not regarded in New Orleans as in most other places and it was not held against him.

(15) On the post-office box numbers: I think you have confused between Oswald's New Orleans and Dallas box numbers. He made a mistake and transposed two of the numbers of his N.O. box number on occasion, as I now recall.

Robin Ramsey is rather imaginative (16 and later) and can't separate wheat from chaff with regard to the totally false Ricky White story and that fine and only infrequently right and accurate person, Gary Shaw. "Nobody who knows the fact, by which I mean also is not corrupted by the conspiracy theorizing or is not himself such a dedicated theorizer, as Shaw and those supporting White all are, has to know that when he gets to the details White is 100% impossible and is also a plagiarist, from three books, one of which is a successful novel, one a fake book and the other essentially a review of three earlier books.

Mae Brusdeell was an exceptionally intelligence woman who visualized what seemed reasonable to her and sometimes was and almost never had any real connection with the known fact of the JFK assassination.

Michael Milan's book isn't real nonfiction, whatever it may be and I am certain that neither he nor anyone else was ever recruited by Hoover into a covert FBI assassination squad" and I know of no reason to believe there ever was any such by the FBI. There also was no reason for Hoover to send him to Dallas to murder any cab driver and the one who did die was killed in a headon collision when struck by a car driven by an 80 year old man who was driving the wrong way on a divided highway. *50 year old Hamilton?*

I'm interested in any reports, no matter how unsubstantiated they may be, that Shaw served in the OSS. (17) Below this you note that Tennessee Williams name was not in Shaw's addressbook. ~~Yodp~~ elsewhere say he had only 200-some names in it. That can't possibly be his entire addressbook. He must have known more people he might at some time want to get in touch with, and I mean personally, not only for his work.

~~Nizze~~ ~~Mised~~ did continue to enrich the public but after he and I went head-to-head for four hours on a New York City talk show I recall no mention he ever made again of the JFK assassination. I think he saw business benefit, or other benefit, too, in his sycophancy. His next was "The Implosion Conspiracy," on the Rosenberg case, Wretched man! He and Catton were sycophants from the first and I think Catton was in the LBJ White House, a motive if so.

Also on 23, John Dairs, a real bastard, and one convinced that what he wants to have been factual and true was even though it wasn't and couldn't have been. I am sure he changed the book contracted for into an assassination book rather than one on Marcello *Marcello*. Nothing of what he says about Marcello and the JFK assassination is true, even reasonable. From my experience with him he is not to be trusted.

The Shaw address for Layton Martens is of Martens' college days.

I'm not rereading Ramsey's excerpts from Dean Andrews testimony. What he says about Hoover being a homosexual is without factual support. It is a widespread suspicion that may be based on his lack of any sexual interest. ~~He~~ hated homosexuals, and that is subject to other interpretations. I know of no "anecdotal evidence" that Ruby was gay. Rumors only. He was more interested in his dog Sheba. He called her his wife. The SPCA was concerned. None that Oswald was gay either, and I saw and heard Marina refute what McMillan said when they appeared jointly on TV....Please excuse the haste and typing, which can't be better. Hope you can carry this worthwhile effort farther. Good luck!

*Harold*