

This is separate in the event you may want to show or discuss my letter with another or others.

There is another reason I believe it serves your and C & G's interest to rush this book.

I think it is not impossible for High Trash 3 to be a disaster as personally poor Harry is. I was told that he is back in Dallas or was en route a few days ago and that one of his purposes would ~~humiliate~~ humiliate a rational man.

He wants favors from Gary Mack, the man he cast as a villain in my alleged conspiracy to prevent his predicted solving of the case within three weeks, <sup>as</sup> of last October. He could not be straightforward enough to speak of Mack, which would have made no difference but would have been manly. Instead he asked Mack's friend and sometime associate, Jack White, to ask Mack to see him and to permit him to use Mack's work on what he and White call "the badgeman picture," an enlargement of <sup>part of</sup> a Mary moorman polaroid to which Mack has the rights of use. Mack will not speak to him and has refused his request to be able to use it and another film the identification of which I do not recall. I was about to leave for the ophthalmologist with the bloody eye when Gary phoned. So I did not ask questions as otherwise I would have.

Groden, by the way, told Mack what I'd heard earlier, that he settled his suit for what amounts to lawyer's fees. If as published the book is anything like what Harry said it would be, I think it will be heavily and immediately criticized, with the possibility of suits filed in Texas rather high. I almost said good.

I intend to ignore it unless the book itself makes that impossible for me.

I was visited this past Tuesday by retired Dallas intelligence sergeant Jim Leavelle and his wife, from morning through supper. He is the officer who was handcuffed to Oswald when Oswald was killed. We talked at both meals and when we were not talking here <sup>we</sup> went over some files and made some copies of what he wanted.

In our conversations he confirmed my belief that most of the garbage Harry swallowed in Dallas was from revenge-seeking Paul Rothermel, the former FBI SA who was a Hunt v.p. and chief of security. He was fired, along with others, one of whom I believe also persuaded <sup>syndes</sup> Harry that swill was manna, as comon <sup>m</sup> thieves. Old man Hunt continued to like Paul, as the old man told me in taking me into his inner inner office and asking me to phone Paul on that more private of his private lines. Which I did, the old man hearing my end of the conversation. The sons did the firing and they are both alive. With Paul wanting to hurt them. And using Harry as his means.

What Harry says Paul told him about me is exaggerated beyond recognition where it is not false. Yet Harry made no effort to check it, adapted it without question, asked no questions when I wrote him it just isn't so, and it is the sole means by which he makes me party to the conspiracy to kill. <sup>He has</sup> His having me part of the related <sup>conspiracy</sup> in his sick mind, ~~part~~ of ~~the~~ ~~time~~ and then the leader of the imaging conspiracy against him. Of course I have

no way of knowing whether it remains in High Trash 3. Yet without some such gobblegabble-gobbledegook I do not see much of a book other than some rehashing of earlier trash. But I can see many problems for the book and the possibility that there may be a kickback that could hurt it quite much.

I have not told you anything more about my asking the local states attorney to consider felony charges against him under the Maryland code. On reading that article of the code, which I gave her, the assistant did not even suggest that it is not relevant. In skimming some of Harry's letters she did say there seemed to be federal violations and she did say that she would likely be in touch with the postal inspectors over some of it. She led me to believe as on my own I had believed, that he is in trouble there.

She also was quite specific in saying that she would go over what I gave her and would raise it with the states attorney within a few days and that I'd then hear from her. I have not. I believe this means that they have not decided against taking a case. I believe it can indicate that they may see some problems in a case against a writer. I also believe that it can be because they consulted with others, like the federals and the Baltimore City Police Department. I have my own way of knowing that <sup>(the police)</sup> it would have done something long ago and <sup>was</sup> as deterred by the probability that it would result in another considerable embarrassment for it.

Long after the internal-affairs investigation <sup>of</sup> began and quite long after Harry knew about it he reflected the maturity of his judgement and his wisdom by actually writing a complaining letter on a police letterhead! It was, with hopes that <sup>my</sup> vision lets me get <sup>his</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>name</sup> correct, to the administrator of the Baltimore Union Memorial Hospital, Mike Kneff. It complained about what one of his emergency room <sup>doctors</sup> physicians, Artwohl, wrote in a later JAMA. Artwohl is my source. Kneff showed him the letter before giving it to the police.

I now do not recall my source and I have no confirmation for it but I was told that based on what Harry wrote the FBI has some kind of investigation going.

I've made no effort and I do not intend making any effort to learn more. As I told you early on, my purpose was to defend myself and Mary Ferrell, against whom Harry was truly abominable and vicious. What is most evil I do have in confidence I will respect.

I think I need not <sup>search</sup> ~~check~~ memory for more to indicate the possibility of serious trouble for the book. I do not in any sense mean this as a threat. Absent s need not to be I intend to be publicly silent about it as I was about the two earlier High Trashes.

But in the event something like this eventuates, or Graf has some checking done and has any problems from that, they may well want a substitute if not in fact at least for public attention- and to save face.

In this regard I do think that those who have published such awful books on the sole basis of their promise of profit might give some thought of how they will be regarded, if not spoken and written about. Or, I think their selfish interest is ser served by having a solid, entirely factual and credible book available rapidly

*there is also*  
~~aside~~ from the number of enemies Harry has gone out of his way to make. Without pretending any knowledge of what other publishers may do my mail and phone calls indicate a swing in public opinion against the books of ~~convoluted~~ theories present as fact and truth when it requires no subject-matter knowledge <sup>ed</sup> of know they are not.

Just last evening I declined again the request of three men of different professions that I ~~wrote~~ an autobiography. One of them teaches history.

Then there are the competitive books and publishers. I've made no effort to keep track of them. Two of which I've heard are by those who now regard Harry as an enemy. Groden is to do a coffee-table job for Macmillan, he told Gary Mack. He has a proclivity for using what he has no right to use. I have no knowledge of what developed during the depositions in his suit, but some of this should have been developed. And I was told that Harry was his own worst ~~the~~ enemy in it..

I've heard of at least two books on Oswald and I know of the coming PBS special with him as the subject.

Lifton's planned book has been set back a year. In the meanwhile he is fighting all he can find to fight and he will in all probability get attention for his expectable criticism of Edgingstone's book. While that may not get much major-media attention, it can influence the nuts who are a large part of the expectable market. Whatever he does, if he does anything, it also will be strongly condemned-factually. I know of an almost completed work.

The in-fighting among these characters will undermine the credibility of all and, I think, market acceptability of such trash. That is a market, I am inclined to believe, that may already be glutted. People have come to understand that if any one <sup>is</sup> ~~is~~ correct, all the others are wrong, and many have taken the next step, they are all trash.

I do not suggest that there is not still a market for trash. I ~~we~~ believe it is now much smaller, may have been glutted, and that there will be an outpouring of books all but one of which will be some kind of trash and that thus should indicate a good situation for that one book in the market and in the minds of serious people, if reviewers and reporters can be considered to be of serious mind.

I believe also that ~~side~~ from my personal reasons for wanting the fastest possible publication the flood of trash may interfere with and discourage the sales of the individual trash books.

Those who hyped them in the past may be less willing to now. For example, Harry and Graf have been successful with the first two High ~~Trash~~es despite their postulating contradictory "solutions." Now comes High Trash 3 with still a different one? Unless Harry lied to me or did the <sup>my</sup> most extensive rewriting.

In the foregoing I also intended <sup>N</sup> to say that I believe the availability of a non-trash, serious and thoroughly documented book can be <sup>an</sup> ~~appealing~~ <sup>alternative</sup> to responsible and mature reviewers

and reporters as well as commentators. In its own right and by contrast to the others.

I think also that unless it is out as fast as possible the attention to the trash books can discourage attention to it. How much time and space can be devoted to books on the assassinations, of all books published?

All the little waves rolling <sup>and</sup> endlessly in my eyes tells me to stop.

But before doing that I note that what can be properly said about me and my work is unique and should if called to attention help grab the market. I think that because I am 80 and had many handicaps in writing this book that is legitimate news or what in my day was called features <sup>and</sup> public interest stories. Emotional, too. Resumed 6/7. I do not presume that you can control when the book appears. I do not assume that High Trash 3 will disappoint C & G, although I am inclined to believe it. I do assume the possibility. That is one aspect of what I tried to address yesterday, what if, and where does C & G's interest then lie. This led <sup>to</sup> me think a bit more about the book as Harry described it to me.

As a result I believe that if Harry had that crazy "solution" cribbed from the fake French spook book in the manuscript, Graf would at the <sup>least</sup> be leery. With names is it libellous as hell. Without names it means nothing. I'm not even trying to guess what of that or relating to it remains.

Of what remains of what he outlined to me he has what will be regarded as sour grapes on the other critics. I do not believe there is a good market for that, not even if credible, as largely it cannot be.

If it says what so many of Harry's letters say, I believe trouble is indicated.

It is with this in mind that I say I believe that C & G's personal interest favors the fastest possible appearance of Never Again! Plus the probability of its being more profitable with the earliest possible appearance.

I'm sorry I failed to observe that the letter was from Peter. I'm sorry also that he is not going to be the editor. And I'm a bit uneasy that the one who is, is, in Peter's words, familiar with the assassination literature. If he believes almost any of it he has no understanding of the realities. And if the understanding he has from them has the remotest influence on his editing that, too, can mean real trouble. I believe it is essential that whatever of those books lingers in his mind <sup>not</sup> influence his editing in any way. If he has any questions of fact or accuracy I hope <sup>he</sup> will ask me.

I do <sup>hope</sup> ~~see~~ that some thought is given to what I believe very strongly, the benefit to all interests by the fastest possible publication of Never Again!

With regard to High Trash 3, ~~absent~~ anything personal <sup>or</sup> professional/intolerable to me I intend no public comment on it. The others can, and I am confident will, speak for themselves. If as I do not have reason to believe, C & G wants an opinion on whether any of it is of possibly troubling content to them and would like an opinion, I'll provide it. Best,

Harry