

Dear Dick,

12/8/92

My too-short sleeping was further shortened last night by a call from a wise, well-educated, mature (grandmother) woman who was seriously disturbed and spoke to me for about an hour and a half. It then found it difficult to return to sleep so I thought about it for a while and during my resting and thinking on waking and then during my early-morning walking I thought about it further. Without being certain that I reached the correct decision. Except for me. For me it is the correct decision because doing what friendship requires is more important than embarrassing a friend or having him feel that you are intruding. My thinking was further complicated by your not reacting to the perhaps too brief a note I'd sent you about Harry Livingstone and the indication he is targeting me, too.

If some time ago and on repetition he told me the truth, you may well have triggered the utter irrationality by which he is entirely consumed and the terrible evils from it.

He says you told him to go to the FBI and that in Baltimore he did that. Then I learn from him that he is dealing with the Dallas FBI assassination case agent, Faris Bookstool III, and a former FBI agent who was H.L.Hunt's chief of security, Paul Rothermel. He actually believes that they are helping him! It is clear that they have been feeding him and I think it is a not unreasonable assumption that they sized him up correctly and have been using him for their purposes, one of which is to cause the enormous turmoil and personal stresses for which with complete insanity he is responsible.

He told me, by the way, that you told him he has cases of criminal slander. The information I got last night is that he has written quite a few threatening letters in at least some of which he says he is going to sue the addressees. If they were not such a conspiracy-theory ninny they'd have had him arrested in October, during the ASK nuttatch, and not having done that, with his subsequent excesses they'd have sought a peace bond on him and made it impossible for him to return there to harass them again, as he did a week ago yesterday. Taking Richard Waybright, a Baltimore policeman who's worked for him before. Richard phoned me before they left seeking some information. He then told me he thought he was to be Harry's bodyguard. Since then I've heard that he is also doing background checks on those with whom Harry picked fights.

He is obsessed with delusions of grandeur and omniscience and he is actually demanding what he regards as a result his rights. David told me last time we spoke, which was during the ASK nuttiness, that Harry had been thrown out. I presume Harry said that. It is not so. He went there looking for a fight and he began it before going there, in part by demanding that he be the keynote speaker and by demanding of the elderly woman who was that she turn it over to him. Perhaps he was a bit more forceful, making some accusations at the same time. Her name is Mary Ferrell. Lil and I know her well. She has visited us and I have stayed with her and her husband, Buck. Who has been in terminal illness for quite some time. She is and has been ill. She suffered two serious accidents earlier and cannot

have full recovery from the first. She is a small woman, not very strong physically, and merely caring for Buck is exhausting with some of the accidents they've had with him. Harry actually told me that she is part of the conspiracy to kill JFK and part of a second conspiracy to ruin him and his work that he actually said would "solve" the case within a couple of weeks. He was so persuaded that he is the real Dick ~~Daring~~ / Sherlock Holmes / Hercule ~~Poirot~~ Poirot that he took a reporter from the Baltimore City Paper with him to the ASK convention. The result was a devastating and lengthy account of the absolute insanity Harry was up to. Harry says it is all wrong. Every word I've heard confirms it as an understated version of his incredible behavior and statements.

I understand, second-hand knowledge, that he has threatened Gary Shaw and Gary Mack, among others, including with suing them. God knows what else he has done and is up to!

Mary and Buck Ferrell are right-wingers. We are friends. But I think their right-wing suspicions about those who do not believe as they do kept Mary from informing me about what Harry did to her and is doing. She did, however, have a long, tearful conversation with the woman who phoned me. I think Harry told this ~~woman~~ woman that Harry has also threatened to sue the people who staged ASK.

Harry seems to have been gulled into going for the fakery of the French CIA, then SDECE, and to have adopted it as his personal solution to the crime. There are a number of indications of this and I presume Bookstool and Rothermel fed it to him. For Rothermel it is a natural because any attention to it gets him a bit more even with the sons of H.L. Hunt, who fired him and filed charges against him. A long and fascinating story but Rothermel and the others won, Rothermel got some kind of settlement and the brothers were lucky not to have been jailed. That French fake, retitled by Garrison to Farewell America, has to be the most libellous book ever written. When I wanted help in breaking it up during the period before the Shaw trial, Garrison's chief investigator had a copy of the ms. xeroxed for me and I took it to Rothermel. It turned out I did not need help on that end because I was soon able to accomplish my objectives without any assistance. All my subsequent relations with Rothermel had to do with his using me to get the information he needed to talk the old man Hunt out of giving money to right-wing groups whose actions could have hurt him. As Harry has no glimmer of. In writing and by ~~what~~ ^{phony} he has actually insisted that I was "helping" Hunt! And consistent with the SDECE fabrication, he has Hunt as one of the Texas rich ~~and~~ he has as the JFK conspirators. Straight from Farewell America! So, I also become a kind of conspirator to him, more so when I respond by disproving what he wants to believe when he asks me.

Mary Ferrell becomes, and he has used these words, a conspirator, to kill conspirator, because she worked for years for a major, right-wing law firm as a legal secretary. They are part of this imagined conspiracy and therefore she is. To make her more compatible, he told me she is independently wealthy. This is really crazy! You should see how they

live, the house ^{and neighbor} in which they live! Buck has not been able to work for years. Twenty years at least. Mary could not even keep him in a nursing home in Dallas. For some time she had him in one some distance away. As I remember it she returned to work while not fully recovered from the ^{first} accident that left her immobile for some time. Because she was rich?

In addition to this incredible behavior in Dallas and his insane self-concept, Harry is carrying on a number of other feuds, most prominently with David Lifton and Robert Groden. Undoubtedly with others of which I've not heard or do not remember.

He told me he was the object of a vicious campaign at ASK in which a Baltimore police mug shot of him was shown along with the allegation that he had been arrested for an offense or offenses against a minor or minors. He told me, as I recall, that he had been arrested on suspicion of drunken driving, a reaction ~~from~~ from some medication, and that the charges were dismissed. I never heard of taking mug shots on DWI suspicions. He also sent me some short, incompetent hand-written affidavits denying he bothered minors, rather any such thing in Dallas. I paid little attention to them. The story I hear is that he offered a boy \$20 to go to bed with him down there and then when the word got around gave him \$100 or so to deny it. Independently I have no reason to suspect any such thing about him and have seen him make a peep for a girl, little more than a girl, for whom when she was in jail he also left \$20 and some of his novels.

I don't know if Harry gave any thought to how anyone could have gotten a Baltimore police mug shot of him but the most apparent means is through a policeman and the most obvious possibility is the one he paid and is paying, Waybright. Waybright came here for him a number of times and went through the files that interested him. He was interested in my Lifton file because years ago he and Harry were feuding. Instead of using our copier ^{Waybright} said he'd like to take a couple of files back to Baltimore to xerox then where that would cost ~~nothing~~ nothing. Next time he was back he said he refiled them. They are not here and what he refiled he refiled where ^{a third file} it would never be found. When I learned these things were missing, which was when Harry finally decided he wanted copies of them, perhaps wanted to go over them with me, - learned they ^{were} missing and a real search has not disclosed them. One is the lengthy and detailed analysis I made of so-called Best Evidence and the other is a duplicate of the information Lifton got from the Military District of Washington. Each separately utterly destroys Lifton's concoction. Then I learned from a friend of Harry's that Waybright was also working for Lifton! The only person in the world who had any reason to steal my files. When Harry learned that Waybright had given Lifton some of Harry's taped interviews he still did not really suspect Waybright and he did take him to Texas last week. ^{got} I ~~got~~ a greeting from Waybright in a phone call from someone else in Dallas Friday or Saturday.

Or, Harry is both an authentic paranoid and is either an incompetent in justified suspicions or he is so overwhelmed by himself that he ^{can't} ~~can't~~ conceive of anyone testing his

genius by double-crossing him. But I assure you that nobody ^{else} here ever had any interest in those Lifton records, which I'd done nothing about, other than Harry and his policeman. Who denies to me that he stole them. Nobody else ~~never~~ asked to see them. That policeman has not been back since when he used to come often. and he wrote me a letter apologizing for breaching my trust.

Harry is so sick that when he made the study of the Zapruder film I suggested when he asked me what to look for in it and he learned that all his writing about the back of the head being blown out was wrong, he thanked me, admitted without prompting that his writing ~~as~~ was wrong, and before long he was telling me that both the Zapruder and the Bronson films, you perhaps know nothing about the latter, ~~give~~ have been doctored. That doctoring, of course, is indispensable for Harry's nightmares he regards as proof. *And impossible.*

I do not want to take any more of your time or mine on this but I want you to be ^{somewhat} aware of what he has done and is doing and of the apparent beginning of the most completely insane parts of his sick adventures with you, if he told me the truth.

With C & G his publisher and you asking me nothing about him I assumed they knew who they were dealing with and continued to deal with him because it had been profitable. You can't deal with Harry for long without getting some kind of reaction on him. I believed after publication that there was no reason for me to say anything and that if I did I'd be butting in where I had no business to. When he told me that you told him to go to the FBI I believed that you would not have done that without being satisfied it was the right thing for him to do and I gave ^{that} it no further thought. Even after I learned that he had lied to me about his renewed interest in the JMW case the facts of which he remains ignorant of, I had no reason for any new suspicions. He had told me he was working on a TV documentary with someone on New York. I knew he'd had such interests in the past and assumed he had no reason to lie, that what he said was true. Then he sent me a copy of a preface, asking my opinion of part of it. Preface for a documentary? I took that to mean that he wanted to keep ^{secret} the fact that he was working on another book ~~secret~~.

Whether or not ~~xxx~~ he is being used, as I believe, he faces a certain and a great frustration if he is writing the book based on the pap he told me about his monster Texas richest conspiracy. Nobody would dare publish that after reading it, which is not the same as hearing about it from him. Then his entire world is likely to crush him and again all others will have conspired to ruin him. He believes ^{so} that now so I believe that later he will believe it even more. I fear that then he may be capable of anything and will be entirely out of control. (He admitted to me that he was "a bit crazy" in Dallas.) He may well seek vengeance on his imagined enemies. This is why I want no word of anything I've told him you to reach him. I am even ^{weaker} ~~weaker~~ and he is close enough so that he might come here on impulse.

By any measure he is a potentially dangerous man. He is more dangerous because of his sick suspicions in which he has absolute confidence. And if he is caught up in anything he is likely to blame it all on others without any reason and by making reasons up. I've indicated a few he has already indicated he believes of me. If you told him to go to the FBI and that is the cause of any problems he may recognize for what they are he may hold you in his sick mind responsible. If he lied and you did not suggest that he go to the FBI - and he told others that he did that, many others - he has already involved you in the really terrible things he is doing to innocent people. What he has done to Mary Ferrell alone is truly despicable. *(He has threatened to kill.)*

I am not indicating that those people intend going to court. But I do believe that to get him off their backs and to end what he has done and is doing to them they'd be fools not to try and learn more about him and why he does what he does. I can't see ~~it~~ ^{that} going anywhere but perhaps they can come up with what can be a publishable story. If they do, that also can drive him to some ⁵ desperate act.

He really does ^{believe} believe that his is a unique genius and that he has solved the case and that any even slight criticism of his "solution" is part of a big conspiracy against him. He told many that he had solved the case and demanded much for it from all the others at ASK. *Published in City Paper*

However he deceives himself he does know that his prior books are trash and he ~~will~~ will not let that interfere with his present evaluation of his probably suggested theft of the basic idea of Farewell America. He believes ~~it~~ ^{it} is the real, the only truth. He is certain, I am confident, to hold any and all others responsible if it cannot be published or even if it is debunked. I fear that he then may be widely dangerous. Including to me and to you.

HE ALSO TOLD ME THAT YOU TOLD HIM I (sorry) am writing a book on the media. If you did tell him that you are under a misapprehension. It is a much, much broader book, in the ^{area} areas with which it deals, rather encompassing. It does deal with the media, most of all with JAMA, but that only as the skeleton if it fleshes out. With only the conclusions to do to complete the draft, and that I'd expected to be doing now, I believe the book does do what I told you I intended to do with it, and that is much more than addressing JAMA.

I hope, of course, that what I fear does not come to pass but I felt I had to inform you more than I had. I am apologize ~~from~~ for not having done so earlier. I hope you can understand why I didn't.

Best to you all,

Harold