

Dear Gerry,

9/28/97

Thanks for the ad for the Stone book. It happens that I'd caught part of a segment with him on a DS TV station. It also was favorable to his book. Which may in fact not be bad. Or truthful.

Jerry was here briefly yesterday to make a few more copies of what he can use in ExSess. I showed him your 9/23. He agrees that in what I have given him there may well be what you and Dennis can use and that you should get together as determine that.

I felt as you did about the silence of the dean of the law school. I wonder if it would do any good if he heard from other educators. I've also not heard from the ARRB or Houghton Mifflin, but I'd not expected to hear from them. Or from Hall.

With some of your faculty, as well as with faculties in general, I think there has been and there remains a fear of seeming not to accredit the official mythology. Jerry is the only member of the Hood faculty who has any contact with me and the materials I have are rich for some of them, as polisci and prolaw and Journalism. Dave has the same experience, has had for years. While I do hear from a few educators, they are relatively few.

I'm sure you are right about the repetition of "subject-matter ignoramus" in Bogus but that was intended for Hall, ARRB and the law school dean in particular. For other reasons I'm sure it was too much. But glad that on balance you liked it. (To submit it.)

There is an epilogue to the Newman ms. that has not been retyped. When the mother-in-law of the young woman who is supposed to be retyping the lost and then found first epilogue to Waketh was here yesterday she had no idea of what progress if any has been made. She'll let us know.

Hope you and Dennis can get started and get here and make copies of anything you can use.

Ward & Paul were the Commission's official reporters. What Jerry copied yesterday included their records relevant to what he'll do and the Commission's reflecting the last ^{date} they used a reporter was 9/15. You may want copies of them and of some of the Russell file. It includes his talking paper of five pages and a few letters and what I think you may want, a Cooper oral history for it. You can get a good dig in at Feinstein and what he represents when you see the two pages of Inquest that were my lead, I think 149-50, and see that he never followed up on what he learned and never spoke to Russell. Or asked Cooper or McCloy the right questions.

If either you or Dennis would like to borrow the Bogus appendix, I'll mail it.

Thanks and best to you all,

Harold

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Sept. 23, 1997

Dear Harold,

Sorry to hear about the stony silence from the Maryland Law Review and specifically Dean Gifford. I can understand Hall's reluctance and inability to respond in any meaningful way, ala Posner and Random House, but you would expect the Law Review would have had the decency of some sort of acknowledgment. This deafening silence has been somewhat frustrating for me of late. That visiting history professor last Spring, with whom I had a pretty decent conversation at the end of last semester, has not said anything about "Senator Russell Dissents", which I gave him a copy of after our conversation. And the head of the Wofford College history department who also requested copies of the paper Dennis and I did as well as "Senator Russell Dissents" has not said a word, and it has been five or six weeks since I sent him those items.

I finished reading "Bogus" this past weekend and found it a highly readable and devastating at times. Perhaps the only minor flaw was in the redundancy in referring to Hall as a "subject matter ignoramus" too often, even though it is a label he richly deserves. I can see the possibility of drawing parallels between ARRB, the Warren Commission, and perhaps even more so to the House Assassins -- all beginning with a built-in verdict, skirting around crucial issues, and elevating the irrelevant and trivial to the level of crucial disclosures. Not to mention, the media eating it all up.

Last week I happened to bump into the history professor at a small college nearby whose class I spoke to a few years ago. He has maintained his interest in the assassination -- he said he has been reading more on the background of the WC members, especially McCloy. But he confessed he has not kept up with the ARRB disclosures, such as they are. I sent him a copy of the Postscript to "Bogus" and promised him a copy of the whole manuscript at some future date. I also sent him a copy of the Max Holland article in the Washington Spectator you sent me, along with some information on McCloy. He is a decent guy and always grateful for anything I send him. He says he usually takes time out of his normal lesson plan around the anniversary to talk about the JFK assassination in all his classes.

Regarding the Newman manuscript, I have had it sitting on my desk since Bill Neichter sent me the shrink-wrapped copy several months ago. I plan to get into it soon, but I also feel the need to begin writing an introduction to that book Dennis and I need to get working on seriously. I believe if I can get a couple chapters done in rough draft, I may get some money for further research from the college which will at least free me from summerschool teaching as well as allow me to travel. At some point, the appendix to "Bogus" might be useful, but there is no hurry. There is even an outside chance I may be able to make it up to Frederick sometime before Christmas and retrieve some of those things.

Please give my regards to Lillian.

Best,



P.s. I thought you might appreciate some of the blurbs for Stone's "novel".