

Dear Walter,

3/19/89

Yesterday I got a proposal I won't accept but it has been on my mind since. It was from a man who wants to act as my agent in getting me an agent for an additional 10 percent and the prospect of 25% for both. His interest was largely in a book on the King assassination.

It happens that in the recent past I had other interests expressed in just ~~xxxx~~ ~~this~~ but nothing came of them. A couple may still be hanging fire. It also happens that for some years this has been on my mind. At about the time I was even more reduced in physical capabilities an old friend who has some kind of foundation offered to pay the costs of my own continued publication with the sole condition that if there were to be a profit half be returned to the foundation so it could be used to help other writers. If I were physically more able and had the space to store the printing and the capability of bringing the books up from the basement to mail them out I'd have finished the book long ago. I don't and I'm not even able to search the files that are in the basement and return them so that this archive that I leave will be in the usable condition in which it now is.

So, I need an agent who will be willing to consider a few things out of the ordinary for current agency, which is the real reason I write you. In return I will be making offers that also are not normal and can be quite worthwhile.

After my book on the King assassination was published by timid publishers who in effect killed it in the womb, I became Ray's investigator and got him counsel, all without any direct contact with him. Although his previous efforts failed, my habeas corpus investigation, and I mean mine alone, succeeded and he was granted an evidentiary hearing to determine whether or not he'd get the trial he never had. My investigation, and again mine alone, for that evidentiary hearing actually exculpated him. After an inordinate delay - it was a year before the trial transcripts were prepared - the judge finally held that guilt or innocence then were immaterial. By these means he bypassed the exceptional actuality, that the man alleged to have killed this truly great man of such great promise for the nation, was in fact innocent and to spend the rest of his life in jail and innocent.

Chief counsel was on vacation abroad when Jim Mesar, who you may remember meeting, junior counsel who then had never taken a case to trial, and I exercised discovery and prepared for the hearing. It fell to me to conceive and prepare our approach. How, indeed, does one allege in a federal court that a defendant represented by the most famous and successful criminal lawyer had ineffective assistance of counsel? I conceived the idea of trying the case on the evidence and, perhaps because they had nothing else in mind, counsel agreed. And we did this, opposed openly by the state and local governments and under the table by DJ and the FBI. They could not lay a finger on the exculpation we presented, the witnesses and their testimony.

As soon as the hearing was over and my other work permitted I began writing a first-person book based on these investigations and what we adduced in court. As usual, given the conditions of our lives, I'd be retyping the draft while I was drafting it. I've not seen it since. I think it was more or less completed when I filed suit under the Freedom of Information Act for the DJ and FBI records. That was in 1975. The stonewalling was such that incredible as it may seem, after several trips to the appeals court, it is still in court. The sole issue now is counsel fees I'm to get.

During the active course of this litigation I felt it would be wrong to complete the book with the new materials I got, and I think I'm the only one who can really understand them for the most part, until the litigation was over. Then, in 1980, the complications following successful arterial surgery, enfeebled me. I could have written a short book off the top of the head but for various reasons important to me I would not. One is the opposition the book is certain to get and the other is the value I place on my record - in all the ~~xxxx~~ controversial writing I've churned out, and you can't begin to visualize ~~presenter~~ under oath and subject to the penalties of perjury with my adversary also the

to volume

prosecutor and the FBI, there is no significant error of any kind. There are only perhaps two or three in my seven books and all from faithful reproduction of sources, and not a single one in multitudinous affidavits. Until we defeated all six of them plus their visible assistants before the judge now sitting on the North case, DJ had a "get Weisberg" crew of six lawyers assigned to "getting" me. I have no idea how many FBI agents were involved but knew of several. This is to say that all my books have survived the most severe testing any writer can face and they deal with a major turning point in our history, the political assassinations that were in effect a coup d'etat.

In three weeks I'll be 76, I've been on borrowed time for almost 15 years and I do not know and can't really reliably estimate what I'm up to now. I do know what this book can mean and can do and for what my work is worth to you I believe it is virtually without precedent. I think this is one of the reasons I decided against a short and hasty book without the documentation I have, and that alone is a writer's dream. To encapsulate this in what I hope is a meaningful way, what I got from the suppressed government records entirely supports my personal investigations already on paper, however rough it may be, and on a crime of this magnitude and against such opposition!

(I digress to tell you that I think I have other valuable literary properties that will be available if I am not able to use them.)

There will be problems with my writing largely because I am not to sit still for more than about 20 minutes at a time because if I do the blood does not return from my legs and thighs and I don't have enough elsewhere in the body. I'd have to sit with my legs elevated when I'm not talking since 1975. I get wound up and forget to move around a bit and that hurts and when I do I sometimes lose my concentration and I sometimes rush to complete a thought when I'm aware that I should be moving around. But I am entirely without question about my accuracy and the significance of the content. All of my multitudinous affidavits were executed after my first thrombosis. I had a few more after the successful arterial surgery and many more 1/86 when I had a prostate operation performed by an apprentice plumber who thought he was a urologist. (I am not kidding.)

What I need to be able to return to the book "The King Conspiracies" is an intelligent more-than gofer. I can't pay for one and I can't provide housing for one. Where you and Agnes slept is now Lil's office, no longer the spare bedroom. (We can provide food)

While The King Conspiracies is about the conspiracy to kill him it is really a book about government, the FBI in particular and almost without exception the extensive documentation I'd want to include in facsimile is FBI records I got by suing the bastards. (Remember the small caricature statue a college-student fan gave me, "Sue The Bastards?") This includes documentary proof that the crime was not committed as the FBI and prosecution alleged and proof from their files exculpating Ray. (This, by the way, is not an objective of The King Conspiracies as such but will be the inevitable consequence of any real attention to it. Some is quite sensational.)

One of the reasons my work stacks is that I have refused to engage in idle theorizing about any assassination. I would not in this instance either. But I do have two very solid leads to a solution, one I got on my own and found duplicated in what the FBI suppressed and the other only a suspicion I was astounded to find in these records. If I avoid specification it is not to burden you with what only one other person knows and I want to keep secret until I should not - there can be some danger in this - and when it is time to share this I of course will. I'll give you two generalizations instead. One is in effect a confession of advance knowledge by someone involved in the matters leading up to the assassination and the other is a fairly solid case of FBI involvement. Not at all like the crap Mark Lane dreamed up and Dick Gregory coauthored with him. (Dick is to be in town today but I don't think he'll have time to phone and I can't attend his lecture because I can't sit that long with my legs down.)

I think that my being alive when the book appears will be very important to its success and I think that my record with the books I published myself without a penny for

advertising and promotions bears this out. If anyone wants to know more about this I'm quite willing to address it but nobody can support what the book will say as I can and there is no combination of federal, state of local agents and lawyers who will dare confront me on what I will say in the book, including about them.

I don't know what contacts you now have but I've taken this time for both of us on the chance you still have some. Washington might be better than New York, I don't know.

Remember the beginning of a rough draft you like when you were at Bantam, finding even its roughness an asset? I've not even looked at that since but not only does it stack I've new documentation for it. The title was "Agent Oswald." This could be a small book. His Marine's service records does not record his actual assignments. Not to be bruted about, he had no assignment that was not connected with the CIA and in at least one instance related to an effort to overthrow a ruler Washington did not like. They also do not include his security clearances that I have established without question from other official records. He was both Top Secret and Crypto. Add, as I mentioned only briefly in Post Mortem, the KGB suspected him as a U.S. "sleeper" agent. He was, again without question, both anti-Communist and anti-USSR. I have separated from the records I've gotten through FOIA litigation a fair part of a file drawer of his writings. The CIA almost killed the USSR defector who tried to tell it the truth and has memory-holed a major part of its large Oswald files.

I've been getting Hood students to work for others when they want records from my records and I'm hoping to be able to make some such arrangement for myself, but my problem, when we live on Social Security and have no real financial resources, is being able to pay. I'm making inquiries, aided by a student who is being paid to do such work for another right now. She knows how much she is learning from the experience and how interesting she is finding it and she has some ideas.

Hood, by the way, is one of the very finest small colleges, once entirely and now largely a women's college. All my records will be deposited there and aside from multitudinous boxes some of which I've already given them they come to about 60 file cabinets, mostly full. They are to build a new library and the plans include a special and separate area for this deposit.

By and large Tida and Eddie are OK. She is somewhat limited from injuries from an auto accident and he injured his back. His mother died a couple of weeks ago and their son, Harry, has as bright a little girl as I can remember. Fine child now about three. This reminds me how long it has been since you boasted of yours.

Thanks and all our best,

*Harold*