

Dear Jim,

10/29/80

Back in 1970 you got copies of some of my correspondence with a man who used the name James Gochenaur, 135 Harvard, Seattle. He then moved around some and then fell silent.

Just as we were getting ready to leave for a visit and lunch with friends yesterday I got a call from a man who used the name Gary Gochnour. He said he was and for some time had been in New Orleans. I asked him to spell the name. He told me a fanciful story that, in essence, repeat. He was discharged from the Army, Ft. Benning, Ga., after a career as a marksman, in 9/63. He was driving to Seattle, with \$800 in his pocket, when he picked up three hitchhikers, pin-stripe types, who said they were going to LA. They stopped off in New Orleans, where one of them made a call, and he then took them to a restaurant, Town & Country - Marcello property. I am not now clear whether he drove them to Dallas and dropped them there or separated from them in N.O. But he said they spoke anti-JFK and felt him out re JFK and, on getting a few adverse comments, said something to the effect that they had something in common or would make him some kind of proposition. In his version they - and Marcello through Town & Country - have something to do with the assassination. He told me that he reported the story on tape to a number of interviewers he named. I recall Leon Hubert, when G says he was in Tulane law school, and N.O. FBI SA West, after speaking to SA Mullen. He says he has several FOIA cases in which he represents himself, one on appeal 5th district now, and that he has not gotten the tape back. He has gotten some records and he promised to send me copies. I asked if he recalled the file numbers and he said he doesn't.

He said that he returned to the military and was in intelligence, Army, including VN. This is consistent with the acts and information reported to me by the man using the name Jim Gochenaur. And Seattle also is quite a coincidence.

He claims to have owned a hotel he bought from Rouselle, too.

He has all the right names. This is just a memo in the event I hear further from him. I have no recollection of any such records in any N.O. JFK file.

I'm not going over the old file, of which I have sufficient recollection. He claimed then to have spoken to a number of people in government re JFK, including SS SA Elmer Moore. And to have had a neighbor who was a former FBISA who had been at the Kansas City F.O. with Hosty, giving that name, as I recall, as Carter. I believe that I checked this when I could in the directory of the association of former FBI SAs and found Carter in it.

He also claims that there is a campaign against him to have him regarded as nuts. Sounds paranoid enough, but he did not run on about it or go into any great detail, as I'd expect a paranoid to do.

If I hear from him, if he writes, his handwriting is distinctive enough. I checked the file to see. If he is the same guy. Oh, yes, he also claims that his desire to make a record because he believes those hitchhikers were connected with the assassination has been costly, even costing him his legal education, in which he claims to have gotten good grades.

If the same guy, he this time asked me if I am the one who was at Hyattstown, Coq d'Or Press, but our first contact of the past was not until long after I had moved here. I never incorporated and, in fact, except for a letterhead, never used that business name. So unless I used a letterhead in writing him, as I used any old kind of paper laying around, I have no idea how he got that name. Or, I can see no reason for a stranger being able to seek and identify me that way.

In haste,