

You may keep
if you return Zevox

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

POST OFFICE BOX 222
TACOMA, WASHINGTON 98401

EDD A. JEFFORDS, State Chairman

Klamath Falls, Oregon
January 23, 1969

Dear Fred:

I hope and pray that this letter reaches you in time to be of some help. My job has kept me unusually busy this week, with as much as twelve hours of work a day, so my time has been limited until now to sit down and write a half decent letter. It is just as well, in a sense, that I didn't write until now, since I just got a response from Bill Turner to my last two letters to him. The full text of the letter is enclosed. My first letter to him, written last month, puts forth a theory that Lee Harvey Oswald's Marine unit took part in a naval operation supporting a CIA-backed revolt in Indonesia in March 1958 (the evidence in the twenty-six volumes is quite persuasive, and I'll fill you in on the theory in a separate letter). The second letter, sent earlier this month, explained my discovery that Fred Lee Chrisman was one of the perpetrators of the "Maury Island Hoax," one of the most famous flying saucer hoaxes of all time, which took place at Tacoma in June 1947.

In my dealings with Turner, a couple of things have seemed a bit odd, so I'll mention them here for whatever they're worth. Wes Hughes, the reporter for the Redding "Record Searchlight" whom I've been working most closely with on the assassination case, talked to Turner in mid-May 1968. Wes' memo on the conversation, typed in early June 1968, states: "turner also said may be some connection between wheats and a group in Oregon known as 'committee to obtain justice for crew of the thresher,' a mysterious, apparently ultraright group." When George Rennar and I talked to Turner at Turner's home in Mill Valley, October 19, 1968, Turner said that he was sure he had never mentioned a possible connection between Clinton Wheat and the Committee for Justice for the Crew of the Thresher. Wes Hughes is still positive that Turner did mention such a thing, and can think of no other place that he could have picked up such an idea. Turner did, however, suggest that I talk to the man who dreamt up the theory that the Committee for Justice for the Crew of the Thresher was responsible for the assassination. The man, Edward P. Bray of North Bend, Oregon, had sent some material to Turner, who gave it to me during our conversation. Later in the day, George and I talked to Hal Verb, who said that he had personally talked to Bray, and that his impression was that the guy was way out in left field and didn't seem to have a shred of evidence of any sort. Needless to say, I never went to see Bray.

Second odd thing: telephone conversation between myself and Turner on December 5, 1968. I called to ask about Colonel Lowry, of Offutt A.F.B., Nebraska, an alleged business partner of Thomas Bekcham. I had heard about Lowry from Edd Jeffords,

and had traced the story back to Turner. Turner said that he knew very little about Lowry, but had heard about him from a reporter in Sacramento, who in turn knew of the reporter in Omaha who originally researched Lowry's connection with Beckham. Talking about Lowry got us on the subject of Major Edgar Bundy, another (ex) Air Force officer, well known as a right-winger. After speculating for a while on possible involvement of military types in the assassination conspiracy, Turner said that "maybe it wasn't the CIA after all" that was involved. This statement seemed a bit strange coming from Turner.

If anyone wants to infer that Turner has tried in these instances to throw me off the track or send me on a "wild goose chase," they're welcome to try. I personally don't know for sure.

In only one case that I can think of have I felt that I was getting a run-around from Steve Burton, and this was in connection with Joe Carey. As I'm sure you remember, I gave you a call about Carey, and you passed on the information to Burton and friends, only to be met by a flurry of excitement at the mention of the name, with the statement that Carey was in Dallas "when money changed hands" being made. Then, when I talked to Burton about Carey, Burton told me that while they were very interested in Carey, but not in connection with the assassination case, since Carey took no part at all in the conspiracy. Burton has since said that if he were to learn where Carey is, he could "exchange" Carey for Clinton Wheat. Besides a general reluctance on Burton's part to fill me in on whatever it is that he knows, I have never run into anything else worthy of mention.

To tell the truth, this is everything I know of that might help you. If there is anyone I know of in the whole movement that I would level with, it is you, since I have complete confidence in your sincerity, integrity, and ability. I might add that I received the latest material from you (reference the above subject) in today's mail, and thank you for the information with all possible gratitude. It is the first comprehensive body of information I have received on this particular subject, and appreciate being informed. I assure you that I'll watch my dealings with Burton and Turner, or even discontinue them, in the future.

As soon as I can get around to it, I'll send you some new ideas I've come up with (Oswald in Indonesia, etc.) If I may, I'd like to ask you for one thing: information on the "Colonel White" who's supposed to be a rancher or something in Oregon, and is supposed to be connected with Bradley and/or Crisman. If there is such an animal as "Colonel White," I'd like to know the details, since I've found a Colonel Ellis A. White living in Ontario, Ore., where Crisman was arrested in 1958 for drunken driving, disorderly conduct, and pulling a gun on a cop.

Sincerely yours,

Larry Haapanen

Larry Haapanen
P.O. Box 3146
Kingsley Field, Ore. 97601

P.S.--note the address. I no longer live at 2660 Shasta Way, and mail sent to the above address will reach me fastest, since mail deliveries are made to it three times a day.