

Dear George,

2/7/78

Here is the tape of Gandolfo's conversation with Lane of 2/4, as promised.

There is no doubt in my mind that Lane, who has cultivated them, has inside committee sources. Very little of this is new to me, as you may recall. A few details, like the firing of Lehner, I had not heard earlier.

I have difficulty believing Lane always because he lies and because he twists and distorts even when the truth is more suitable for his professed purposes. So I do have trouble believing that the committee would have had the NAA tests completed and still be going back to the House for money to have them done - when it has turned back some \$400,000, which would have more than paid for it.

On the other hand I've had independent confirmation of some of the rest. Besides, I predicted it months ago, to you.

From another source I hear that the record Blakey sent to the CIA is not as hot as Mark represents. But also that letting it out could have endangered a staffer's life.

And all of these people are still talking theory, not basic facts of a homicide, except for the NAA tests, if made.

What he says of the coming report is also what I'd heard and figured, both, long ago. We discussed this some time ago. No report of any substance after spending all that tax-payer's money?

Having heard nothing from Art Kevin I believe Lane's press conference was not much. From what Gandolfo told me, based on a conversation with April Ferguson, I see little that would make a story other than in the underground sheets. Except for the unusual switch of an FBI agent joining up with Mark.

If I have doubts about any retired agent's willingness to do that I also do not have doubts that many of those who participated in the FBI's so called investigation were not dissatisfied. They all knew better. And it was the assassination of a President. And there never was any investigation of the crime. There is no such thing as an agent who could sweat out 25 years and be an incompetent investigator.

It is possible I'll be hearing more about Lane because of his incredible ego. He played a dirty trick on Gandolfo, who went to much trouble and some expense - and without sleep - to give Lane the Richard A. Sprague quotes he wanted and used at the press conference. Ted asked only that Lane credit the show. Ted keeps it going by small contributions he receives. After promising this Lane did not do it.

There is a stalwart young man here who can put this in my box for the morning collection. When I have no need to risk slipping and falling I don't go onto the ice because of the danger of internal bleeding that can be triggered by the high level of anti-coagulant. If you want more details, ask. If I have time I'll call you later.

One of the causes of staff discontent my sources have not been able to confirm until recently is Blakey's refusal to confront Helms with his false swearing to the Warren Commission. That he swore falsely is beyond question because his testimony is printed and the CIA disclosed the proof of the falsity.

Felicoff, who bought skis to get home from work yesterday and skied into work today, believes that despite his claims to staff leaks Lane is more likely getting what he has second and third hand, possibly including from Tannenbaum. He was going to get the Blakey affidavit in a mailbox today, whether or not it can be collected.

If you can replace this tapes from the Post's supply I would appreciate. I sent a supply to Gandolfo that I had to buy and there is no paycheck here with which to pay for them.

Sincerely,