

Dear Paul,

12/14/83

This is a note for my own files and an FYI for you. For reasons that I think will become apparent, although I was not told what follows in confidence I think it would be best that you not mention it to anyone.

By way of background, the Enquirer used me as a consultant on its special JFK assassination anniversary issue. (And what it paid me paid for my hearing aids, which are costly these days.) Instead of something really nutty I suggested that they pose questions to a panel of experts. You will recall that I proposed you as one and you declined, so I then proposed Gary Mack, as an expert on the police broadcast tapes.

So you will know, all of the many Enquirer reporters with whom I've dealt over a long period of time have been good orthodox reporters and good people. We've become friends with some of them. What appears in the paper is another matter over which they have no control.

The reporter on the panel and a story they did not use is David Wright, who is obviously English. (The Enquirer is much like the very large British "popular press," and I presume these reporters are recruited from those British papers.)

Lil and I both like him.

When Mack went to the panel meeting in Washington he had Jack White with him and by dint of very strong representations I got Jack to skip the junk he loves when he made his slide presentation. He has a new Moorman print that is much clearer and for the first time I can say that I see a man in the enlargement quite clearly. So could Wright, Lil and Dave Wrone. The question then was what to do and under what conditions would White and Mack make this available to the Enquirer. Here again I had to intrude because White was rambling and getting nowhere. Based on what he had already indicated I proposed that the computer enhancement they wanted made be the precondition of publication and all agreed, subject to the agreement of the Enquirer editors and with the additional proviso that M and W both be present when the work was done.

The Enquirer editors were impressed and agreed and told Wright to make the arrangements. He tried and tried, and every place he tried he was turned down because of the involvement of those people with the government. Finally he tried MIT, where he dealt with a professor whose name is short but I do not recall it so I'll refer to him as Prof. Prof promised only 10 minutes if they would be there at the appointed time. He spent more than an hour and was clearly impressed. He told Wright that he could not do the initial work but sent him to a private outfit in which he has an interest for it to be done. It was put on tape and returned to Prof, who got a very impressive image, much clearer than the one I'd seen unenhanced. Also involved both at MIT and this private outfit is Professor Schreiber (phon) to whom Wright spoke in getting the picture on tape. Prof was so impressed with what he saw that he said he'd turn his class loose on it as a special rush project that would take several more days but before he did that he'd have to take it up with his superiors. But clearly he was very excited and he made no effort to hide his excitement and anticipation. He told Wright to return the next day, as on previous days at 2, and he'd tell him then. When Wright returned Prof told him he could do no more, that he would deny having seen or done anything, and that was it. Wright asked for the tape and Prof said, "What tape?" The more Wright tried the more obdurate and nonresponsive the answers he got. So, seeing what was what, he went to see Schreiber. Schreiber volunteered that he could see what others did not (I presume this meant he had greater skills) and that he is reasonably certain that he saw two men. But his hands also were tied. In short, there appears to be a reasonable certainty that a man in the Moorman picture is computer confirmed and that the officials at MIT gave specific and forceful orders not to have any connection with this and to deny everything that had

taken place. Wright returned to Lanatana and reported and was told to continue to try, as he has, but he found no place that was not connected with the government. He did check with Mack, who did refer him to Segalas, who referred him to UCLA as having no such connections, but it turns out that UCLA does. So as of now Wright is letting it cool a bit and then he'll try again.

I suggested that ^{while} this is not their field, he ask Barger, Weiss and Aschkenasy if they can refer him to anyone and I told him how to reach all three. He likes the idea but will wait for the air to settle first.

I've ~~not~~ understated what happened at MIT, where he remained for much or most of a week while these things were happening. Wright made clear that all the people involved were quite excited until they got the orders indicated above. So, if any conclusion can be drawn from that, it is that MIT does not want the government embarrassed, whether or not it consulted with anyone, and this in turn indicates the certainty with which a man shows in this clear enlargement.

This strong reaction is one of the reasons I ask that you not mention the matter to anyone. Another is not to scare anyone else off in advance or to let this get wild or irresponsible.

And, do you have any suggestions? Do you know anyone who can do this kind of thing and would not suffer the MIT reaction? If so, please let me know and I'll speak to Wright.

All Gary told me is that MIT got scared and dropped the whole thing. No more.

Wright phoned me for different reason and the told me what I've summarized. I had written him after the special edition and asked if he could send me the page or pages of the Russian book said to have identified Oswald as a low-level CIA agent. They ~~don't~~ have the book in Lanatana but it is in Russian, so he can't even give me those pages to get translated because he has no way of finding that material. When they got the book from their Moscow source he gave them in English what they used.

He also asked me if I'd heard any more about the Davison book, which nobody there had heard of. When I told him I hadn't I was reminded that this appears to be a bit unusual with a book promoted by Mailer, Schorr and Wicker (none of whom have responded to what I sent each) and with a publisher pushing it. Nobody has spoken or written to me about it, either. Strange. You have any news?

*Best
Hand*