Dear Phil, 7/30/84

Your 5/17/84 Mexico City memo is labelled speculation, and in the absence of established fact and sometimes as a basis for thought or analysis speculation may be all that is available, but I think there may always be the basic question, "Is this reasonable?" Devil's advocacy is a must. I suggest that if you try to destroy some of the conjectures you offer you might succeed.

There is so much I do not now remember! I do not, for example remember what Summers said about an Oswald imposter in Mexico, his ch. 19, your p. 1. On the other hand, I am inclined to believe that if I had evaluated it as you do ("a great deal of persuasive evidence") I would remember it. I am absolutely satisfied that he does include in his book what is wrong and he did not then present another existing and known version. Carolyn Arnold, for example. And there is overwriting. So, on the basis of his writing only, can we really believe that there was an Oswald imposter in Mexico City?

Is there any other source for the statement that at least on photo of the real Oswald was preserved by the CIA in Mexico City? Do you think that HSCA would have known this and suppressed it if it gave any thought to what any leak would have meant to members and staff alike? And do you really believe that if the one I take to be Angleton went down there and removed it, there would have been an existing record to point any finger at him? If Angleton wanted it, particularly if he wanted no record of his getting it, do you believe that he would have gone there himself for it?

This is not the way the spook world works. Nor is it likely that Angleton could have gone into the Mexico City files himself to "remove" the alleged photo.

If the CIA had anything it did not want to get out, it would have found its own means of placing it elsewhere or of destroying it at the outset of the first investigations.

In the last graf on p. 2 you say what I'd forgotten if I ever knew it. In any event I do not now recall that "it is known that the CIA had a picture of the real Oswald on file (Minsk)..." Can you please, no rush, give me the citation(s)?That this picture could have been on file without identification of Oswald I seem to recall. But is there evidence that the CIA had this picture on file with an Oswald ID? If this is not the fact, then no conjecture can be built upon it.

If it is not too much trouble, when you are near a copier I'd like to read PH's transcript of what Summers said on the Pacifica show. I've loaned my tape out. Again, no rush.

In the absence of any real investigation, there is so much we cannot know of believe with any certainty. But there also is much we do know and can trust, for example Oswald's political beliefs. Can you really credit, from your own interpretation of his beliefs, the conjecture that he had a knowing association with anti-Castro Cubans. By which I mean acting in concert with them for their ends? And on the other side, based on what you should know, can you really believe that there was a Castroite plot to off JFK?

Assuming for the sake of argument, however, that your theorizing survives all the kinds of examinations I have suggested, can or does it really mean that LHO was in Mexico City and conspiring with others only in connection with the assassination? ("...a possible windo onto the conspiracy..." p. 3) Could he not have been there for purposes not in any way related to the assassination?

Best regards,

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July 26, 1984

College of Arts and Sciences
Political Science Department

Dear Harold-

Enclosed is my Mexico City memo as you requested. Greg Stone's 2nd draft of the FOIA letter for the RFK-FBI documents looks much improved.

Best Regards,
Phil