

Dear <sup>Clay</sup> Bill,

Bastille Day, 1998

Before returning to a Twyman chapter I'll have to make into two, hasty thanks for and response to your 7/11.

Stop apologizing. You have nothing for which to apologize. I have not misinterpreted your suggestions and I've lived with criticism all my life and long ago learned how helpful it can be. Some of the arguments on this subject have been pretty intense and there are disagreement, but decent people can disagree and be friends, ~~with~~ strong friendships.

But do not waste your time on word processors and computers. I learned long ago that they are not for me. The last effort was with a friend who is in that line, makes his living that way. We decided that the only way I might be able to use a computer would be one-finger typing, using one hand. And that would slow me down enormously, would be only if there was no alternative.

I appreciate what you say and what you have done and, <sup>math</sup> no little how little the time that I could spend writing that I do not, it means much to me. There is much of this ahead. When Lil writes The Last Hurrah, as she needs to, she will get me as bad a book as Twyman's, or worse, by Fetzer. I'm hearing about others I'll not get and there have been many in the past <sup>^</sup> did not get.

I agree with your improving on my paraphrasing of Che on a writer's duty.

We did feel about Roffman as a son. He started spending his summers here when he was in high school and did much of that when he was a Penn undergraduate. In law school he was here every summer but not nearly as long. When he was with the Washington office of a big <sup>Philadelph</sup> Philadelphia law firm we also saw him often. It was ~~when~~ <sup>that</sup> when Lucas drafted him ~~that~~ he developed other interests. I think he ~~also~~ <sup>also</sup> wants to ~~forget~~ the assassination as a futility. But he does have many other interests now besides being a Lucas executive. Last time I heard from him it was of six divisions. <sup>he headed.</sup>

Glad you ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> the Weichters will be at the Red Horse and here together. I knew <sup>G</sup>inocchio wanted to come up but if he told me when I forgot it and I usually write that down not to forget.

~~McKnight~~ McKnight was here. <sup>H</sup>He could not find the box of Wrono books but has some and will send one of give me ~~op~~ <sup>op</sup> to send you. <sup>H</sup>He sent you his address today, as he told me when <sup>^</sup> phoned to ask for it.

I've never <sup>^</sup> taken the time to make a list of the manuscripts but I think there are more and <sup>^</sup> one is in both forms. Case Open was butchered into a small book. The incomplete original text is close to 800 pages. ExSess and Honorable Men I've turned over the <sup>^</sup> night, who will work during his sabbatical. And <sup>^</sup> The Dark Side of Sy Hersh became Faking Kennedy: With Hersh-It journalism. Back to work, and tanks,

<sup>^</sup>  
Hawley

Dear Harold:

11 July 1998

Got your 7/7 letter last night; that was a three days or less transit time! It was a relatively long letter compared to the short notes I have been receiving lately. The subject may have precipitated such a lengthy response: how I perceive your comfort level with those offering praise or criticism. Let me start out in response to your letter that I hope you will keep this in mind: I am your ally and supporter. You have performed an incredible feat with your FOIA work, writings, and general perseverance in the face of adversity to get the word out about our government's "missteps" in regard to the assassinations of JFK and MLK.

I have read all your published works over the last few years and have retyped three and a half manuscripts to date and I have the following observation to offer:

1. You have documented your allegations with facts all along the line. Some of those facts, the majority, have come from the official record and the few remaining instances from public non-governmental sources.
2. You have diligently resisted the temptation to speculate.
3. Of late your manuscripts have had the tendency to dignify your critics as worthy of being characterized as "shysters," academic frauds," and "malicious slanderers." Your illumination of these authors' literary "flaws" has been laser precise. The impact of your laser-like precision has been lost by the fog (which diffuses the laser light) you create with your characterizations. Your message is too powerful to be diffused by the attacks.
4. Your last Posner manuscript has multiple themes which has the effect of broadcasting your message over three very closely aligned FM frequencies that are to be heard on a cheap transistor radio: the result is that the three messages come in and out of tuning with intermittent static. While outlining is preferable method of writing, I would not advocate it for you as we have exchanged that view in recent letters. However, post-initial drafting of the manuscript may be the time to consider formatting your messages to achieve maximum impact. With the manuscript in a word processor on a computer this would take very little of your precious time. Leaving it to an editor, other than yourself, would introduce the inevitable distortion and error.

I agree with your paraphrase of Ché Guevara's words with one small tweak: the duty of a writer is to *communicate* in writing! Any one with a word processor, pen, pencil or charcoaled stick and a writing surface can write. A "writer" is one that has a message to communicate and reaches into the hearts and mind of the recipient to move them out of their own inertial spaces. You have done just that for many people in American and around the world. That is why you get so many letters and are sought out by so many of your challengers. You may be one man in a



crowd, but you are the one man who is giving positive direction to the aimless: hold your government responsible for their actions and take back the writing of our history by preserving the facts.

Having read your anecdote about your writing/editing a manuscript while awaiting medical treatment left me awed by your constitution.

I got a letter from Bill Neichter yesterday as well. He indicated that Roffman was a protégée of yours and you two drifted apart. What happened? Bill acknowledged the receipt of the three diskettes with your retyped manuscripts and claims digital (computer) illiteracy. I look forward to meeting him. I am scheduled to be in Frederick between 24-30 July and will be staying at The Red Horse during the same period. I will fly out of Salt Lake City at 11:50 PM and arrive in Baltimore about 9:00 am. I will leave Baltimore on the late on the 30<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to meeting Ginnocchio, Neichter and reestablishing my acquaintance with McKnight.

I finished Chapter 22 late last night. I will start Chapter 25 today and expect to have another package in the mail for you by next weekend.

Please don't forget that I am your ally and not your adversary. I offer observations and suggestions and I don't offer them as criticism. I simply offer them in a spirit of constructive partnership: you write and I re-type and ponder continuous improvement. Sometimes I find myself concerned that you may misinterpret my comments as a personal attack of challenge. Nothing could be farther from the desired affect. If I should generate such a feeling in you I wish you would point it out and let me know. I value your insights and my relationship with you.

I will be stopping this note here to get it into the mail. I hope you an Lil' are doing well.

Sincerely,

Clay



P.S. I have generated this list of your books and manuscripts to date; how accurate am I?

Whitewash: The Report on the Warren Report, 1966  
Whitewash II: The FBI-Secret Service Cover-up, 1967  
Photographic Whiteash: Suppressed Kennedy Assassination Pictures, 1967  
Oswald in New Orleans: Case For Conspiracy With the CIA, 1967  
Frame-Up, 1969, 1971  
Whitewash IV: JFK Top Secret Assassination Transcript, 1974  
Post Mortem: JFK Assassination Cover-up Smashed, 1975

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Case Open, 1994  
Never Again, 1995  
Hosty's Pudding (manuscript)  
Case Open (manuscript)  
Travesty and Tragedy (manuscript)  
Waketh The Watchman (manuscript)  
Honorable Men (manuscript)  
Inside the JFK Assassination Industry (manuscript)  
ExSess (manuscript)  
Dark Side Of Sy Hersh (manuscript)  
The JFK Assassination: Phony Scholars, Phony Scholarship (manuscript)  
The Lousiest Book On The JFK Assassination (manuscript)  
Whoring With History: How the Gerald Posners Protect the King Assassins (manuscript)