

5/25/72

Dear Harold:

How is everything? I haven't heard from you in a long time.

I'll be in Washington this June and I'm looking forward to meeting you.

In the meantime ponder over these questions.

* The picture of the James Earl Ray bundle outside Canipe's was moved prior to the time the picture printed in Frame-up (p. 432) was taken. In the Gerald Frank book, picture 11 shows the bundle by the big crack in the cement, your Justice Department picture shows it farther away from the crack (in the doorway). Further, the clock in the picture you printed reads 6:30 which is $\frac{1}{2}$ hour after the crime. I'm sure the Justice Department has better pictures than the one you printed

* I agree with your conclusions concerning Ray's movements ~~at~~^{before} the crime. However on page 279, you've made an error. It is correct

That while King went to Atlanta on March 23, ~~Ray~~
Ray went to Birmingham. Yet Ray spent
the night of the 23 in Atlanta also. This
is what Ray told Huie and also what Garner
says. Your point ^{however} is well taken that Ray's
Movements make no sense unless of course he
was directed by someone else.

• On page 142, you say it is your un-
confirmed information that Ray came to a hotel
20 miles outside Memphis; checked in, then
seeing it was the wrong hotel checked out and
went to the Rebel. I am interested in finding
out about this. Incidentally do you believe
Ray/Balt was in Florence and Cornith or
Atlanta (as Huie and Garner have it) at the beginning
of April.

• Huie contradicts himself, on page 103 (He
Slew The Dreamer) he quotes Ray as saying that
Raoul visited him at the Rebel, April 3. Yet
on page 115 He says Ray told him the hotel
Raoul visited him at was the "uncomfortable hotel
near Memphis," April 2. Which do you believe
it is - April 2 or 3. (From Frame-up You

mention that the Rexal store was in White Haven, notice that Nolie doesn't tell his readers about that one [p. 117]. Nolie is a master at taking events out of context)

- Concerning Heathrow Airport, Ray had come from Portugal to London May 7. If Ray had bought a ticket from Portugal-London-Belgium at that time (May 7, when he left Lisbon), and used only part of it ^(stopping at London) would he be in transit when he tried to use the unused $\frac{1}{2}$ of his May 7 ticket. If the answer is yes then part of the Heathrow incident is cleared up.

[Other parts of the story are of course unsettled such as the syringe in Ray's room, and the time of his departure from the hotel. Yet in Ray's printed account he says he was in London]

- What happened to the man in the second Mustang? Jowers sees the car ^{parked} at 4:00, yet Mrs. Copeland, Mrs. Horley see it pull up to the curb at 4:30. Jowers doesn't see ^a man in the car at 4:00, the man is in the car at 4:30, gone again at 5:00 (for Donald Wood) and back again

at 5:30 for Mr. Hurley?

• You seem to brush off the Raul Esquivel incident, and I agree - there is no proof of Esquivel associating with Ray. Yet, ~~you have~~ ^{You have} overlooked the main point. The main point is - why would Ray, an escaped convict, call the Louisiana State Police, ~~to report a sighting~~ ~~of a person who had~~

Also why did he call them long distance. Was it so important an incident that it couldn't wait until he got to New Orleans. This phone call is important.

• Who picked up the Galt Driver's ~~license~~ ^{license at} Peter Cherpe's residence? Who ever it was must have known that Ray lost his wallet (hence his license) in the L.A. bar schuffle. (Another significant fact, is of course, that Ray needed a duplicate key after his ^{key} got stolen in LA, despite the fact that Paisley gave him 2 sets of keys.)

• Finally, Gerald Frank was on a local TV Show, getting publicity for his book. He ~~was~~ maintained that Ray killed King ~~for~~ because

he wanted to get caught. Later on, the announcer asked him 'why Ray ~~did~~ went to Europe', Frank replied "to avoid getting captured" - Good logic!

Sincerely,

Ross Ralston

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Minnesota

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P.S. I'll be in Washington

working with Bud - starting

June 5. I'll be there for

2-4 weeks. I'm looking

forward to meeting you.

So if you're not in DC

I'll probably drop by

Fredrick while I'm nearby.

Best of luck,

~~_____~~

5/27/72

Dear Ross,

You'll be welcome, but phone first. You'll only be an hour away, but we also expect others in June. Sometimes Jim comes up and if you have no car, you might come with him. He is a great young man.

Most of the things you raise we can talk about when you are here. I haven't time. The official picture was posed. I have the real ones now. 5/2 Ray was at the De Soto Motel. I'd forgotten that he told Luie he'd met Kaul at this other motel. I was there and confirmed that he was there and interviewed the two maids interviewed by the FBI. It is not necessarily a conflict to say that he met Kaul twice. I suspect he did both times. The drug store is on a direct line between both motels. Again, I was there.

If the Heathrow stuff is confused, and if the question of a counterfeit Ray is unresolved, I think we'll not be able to do more now and don't think these are the essential directions for current work.

Cars: they are reversed in the official fiction. I've interviewed a number, including Jowers.

Do you have or can you get a tape of the Frank appearance to which you refer? If you can't, it might at some time be helpful if you made a more complete note, including what you can recall of the show and the date, station, etc.

Best,