December 16, 1992

Mr. David M. Keck
868 Chelsea Lane
Westerville, Ohio 43081-2716

Dear David:

I appreciate your probing fan letter and am delighted to respond. I hope you found the book format entertaining. My intention was to tell the story in an entertaining (i.e. novelistic) fashion. Few people want to part with their hard-earned cash in order to be bored. Footnotes or some variation thereof were therefore out. Nevertheless, all our sources can be easily deduced from the context of the narrative, and are listed in either the acknowledgments or bibliography. Personally, I feel that many of the books dealing with this subject that are documented in a pseudo-scholarly manner represent an attempt by their authors to bolster a weak case by snowing the reader with an academic approach, as if this were ample authentication by itself. By the way, you did see the FBI report in the appendices, right? It very definitely relates to the assassination, and speaks volumes for our case, since "Chuck" is nothing more than a nickname for "Charles." And whoever "Chuck Rogers" was, it sure is interesting reading how he made a bunch of comments regarding his love for Castro--has a familiar ring to it, doesn't it?

In answer to your questions, point-by-point:

The sculpture was done in mid-1991, when Rogers was 69. As you say, he will be 71 at the end of this year (d.b. 12-30-21, remember?) assuming he's still alive, which I do.

I am not related to Charles, so far as I know. Rogers is a fairly common surname. Neither John nor myself were "buffs" before we got into this, which, I think, adds credibility to our story. John knew that Rogers had been CIA from "Leopard," who had been a client of John's when he had a P.I. agency. He also knew the Gerharts. The other discovery, that of his role in the JFK plot and his identity as one of the "tramps," was something we literally stumbled onto after we began to investigate the murder of his parents with the intention of writing a true-crime story or book. Had you researched the JFK assassination for a hundred years, you never would have come across this. Only by way of the back door, so to speak, and an incredible amount of good luck, did we show up with this new can of worms, and become the new "buffs" on the block, which, I'm beginning to notice, has sparked a lot of hostility from some people whose own theories are incompatible with our discoveries. It's quite amusing to be accused of being a CIA

disinformation operative, let me tell you.

We did not interview Harrelson, but it really isn't necessary. I'm sure somebody will question him about this at some point. All I expect he will do is deny everything in some coy fashion. Speaking of Bob Morrow, do you remember the character "Charles Hunter" that he had in his book, *Betrayal*? This was published in 1975, before anyone outside of Texas knew of Harrelson. "Charles Hunter" was an actual alias Harrelson used in the early 1960s. Interesting, huh?

The other sources we interviewed are all in the acknowledgments, except for a very few who were afraid to go on record. People are still worried about Rogers, you know. Leopard and Dutchman were highly reliable sources, but I simply can't reveal their names. Sorry to be like Jack Anderson or Bob Woodward, but that's the way it is.

I just got an opportunity to read Weberman's book, which has been updated and reissued. You can imagine my surprise when I found out that I was a CIA disinformation agent, and that Chauncey was a bad liar. Neither of us has ever been contacted by Mr. Weberman, who relied solely on an atrocious story that was printed by the *Globe*, over which we had no control or input. His book has footnotes galore. I'm so impressed! Perhaps I'm missing something, but the core of his thesis rests solely on the photo comparisons (which is only a *part* of our evidence), and I just can't see Sturgis as the tall tramp. The bottom line is, Sturgis is obviously Latin/Italian. The tramp is as Nordic as can be. That rules it out for me. General feature similarities just don't cut it. Hunt looks a lot more like the "old" tramp, but this has also been discredited. By the way, notice how that tramp walks? Holt walks the same way. He has told me it's been a source of deep amusement to him over the years how Howard has had to fade all the heat over being a "tramp." I have verified many details of Holt's story which he could not have read, and I know he is genuine. The only question in my mind is how much more he knows than he will relate.

Weberman has a new wrinkle in his old story. Gerry Hemming (such a reliable source!) has revealed the "identity" of the other tramp. Judge for yourself. It seems laughable, to me. He doesn't even know who this guy really is. I suppose that means it could be Rogers; that is, if you buy the photo comparison.

I have not talked with Morrow. I would like to. I think he was running errands in much the same way as Chauncey, without knowing the purpose. He didn't "need to know." By the way, Chauncey said the transceivers were state-of-the-art ICOM's, provided by his control agent in California.

Sorry you don't agree with the part of our story dealing with the storage of the bodies. It seemed like the only possible explanation to me. Rogers, from all accounts,

didn't think like normal people, and likewise didn't know how normal people thought. This was his only weakness. What seems obvious to us may not have been so to him. Also, I think you missed something here. Rogers had to be planning on disposing of the bodies before he left. He was going to a lot of trouble to clean up the scene. Really, had not that cousin of his come by, he probably would have succeeded. Four days had already elapsed without any problems. Does that help?

I didn't have time to run the story by all the researchers you mentioned, and in fact, to have indiscriminately done so might have been risky. As you know, this field sparks a lot of hostility; also, you never know what team the players are really on. For instance, who are you, really? No doubt, you are asking the same question. At the same time, we mustn't allow ourselves to slip into a delusional state of paranoia, like poor Mr. Weberman.

More basically, I did not know who all these people were. Remember, only after we realized what we were onto did we go on a crash course into the assassination literature. There are probably plenty of books you have read that I have not.

I don't know how to answer some of your other questions. I don't claim to have figured everything out. I do think I have found a very significant piece of the puzzle, for which we have compiled far more evidence and which is far more plausible than some other ideas floating around, such as Hunt-Sturgis, or the Corsican brothers, and so on.

The question of Oswald's true role is the ultimate mystery. I can only speculate that he was acting in some capacity as a counter-intelligence agent, which activity is assigned to the FBI, of course. Like many others, I think he was trying to keep tabs on the anti-Castro group, which was fully aware of his infiltration and was in turn using him. I think it probable the only crime he committed that day was to sneak into a movie theater without paying. One could easily go on about all this for pages and pages. Because everything about the assassination leads off into a thousand interrelated tangents, I made a conscious decision to only use material already well known that related to the story as we were telling it. Too many books, some of which you mentioned, are poorly written in large degree because they maintain no focus or organization, digressing about matters that have already been amply written of, trying to do too much and ending up an undigested mess. Don't you agree?

Regarding the problem of other guns and men running from the TSBD, I can only say that Holt says he arrived at the boxcar within seconds, and the other two had just beat him there. That would seem to rule out any other prior location for them than right behind the fence, which was closer to the boxcar than Holt's position.

Brading is certainly an interesting conundrum. Quite oddly, he had an office on Wilshire Blvd. in the same building as did Holt a few years later. Further trivia: they were both among the first members at La Costa. Of course, Chauncey's cousin Milton Holt was the treasurer of Teamster's local 805 in New York (which the infamous Johnny Dio was affiliated with), so that's not surprising. Milton is severely castigated in *The Enemy Within*, Bobby Kennedy's exposé.

I met a fellow author (she writes steamy romance novels) at a conference recently, who was the front desk receptionist at H.L. Hunt's in 1963. She recounted to me, with enchanting detail, the odd cast of characters, including Brading and Ruby, that paraded through there in the days immediately preceding November 22.

The publisher did not print some of our photos which I feel are very compelling. I am sending you some photocopies with my notations for your collection. Also, I am forwarding a copy of your letter, together with one of the bookmarks, to John, who lives far away in Houston. Hopefully, he will respond to you as well. Thank you for your interest in our book.

Sincerely,

Philip A. Rogers

Philip A. Rogers
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(409) 794-2682

P.S. If I were just out to "make a buck" off the JFK assassination as Dave Belin + his ilk often insinuate about writers on this subject, then I'm pretty dumb about it. After all, you already bought the book — yet I have far outspent any royalty I've earned from that sale in replying to you. Not complaining — just making a point. Funny how these guys can't deal with the facts, so they attack our character with lies instead.

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HARRIS

To all licensed or ordained Ministers of the Gospel, Jewish Rabbis, or Officers of religious Organizations, which Officers are duly authorized by the Organization to perform marriage ceremonies, Judges of the District and County Courts, and Justices of the Peace, Greeting:

You, or either of you, are hereby authorized to join

In the Holy Union of Matrimony

Charles Voyde Harrelson
with
Miss Diane Lou Oswald

In accordance with the Laws of the State

HEREIN FAIL NOT, that you make due return of this, your authority, to my office in the City of Houston, within sixty days thereafter, certifying in what capacity you executed the same.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, witness W. D. Miller, Clerk of the County Court in and for said County and State, and official seal at office in Houston, this 26 day of February, A. D. 195 8.

W. D. MILLER,
Clerk County Court, Harris County, Texas.
By A R Adams, Deputy

Certificates Filed 2-26-58
Examination, Man 2-25-58
Examination, Woman 2-25-58

OFFICER'S RETURN

Solemnized by the undersigned authority this 26 day of February 195 8

Rev. L. D. Morgan D.D.
Name
Baptist Minister
Title
Pasadena, Texas

No. 22967
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