9/6/69

Mr. Ralph Schoenman
The Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation
156 Fifth Ave., #1003
New York, N.Y. 10010

Dear Ralph,

In your letter of the 3rd you say Fensterwald told your colleague, Arthur Eelberbaum, that he "has enough for a trial and can name those who fired on Kennedy". You sak, "What do you think?"

Baloney, on both counts.

But I wonder if Felberbaum misunderstood. Bud is about to take the case of which I spoke to you to court, a limited case, against the government, on suppressions.

Let me tell you a ltle story, though. Last summer, before he went abroad, I saw Bud. I was then planning a trip to California for several speeches. I had planned to return through New Orleans. Bud had just returned from there. He was excited, said he'd never seen Garrison in better shape, and was optimistic about the trial, whenever it was held. I was stunned and told him forthrightly my contrary opinion and why I held it. Bud is predisposed to believe the Garrison propaganda anyway. While I was in his office I phoned my travel agent, who told me the amount of the extra cost of returning via New Orleans. I told him to cancel that, for I just didn t have the money. Bud insisted I got to New Orleans, reached into his pocket and gave me a $100 traveller's check to pay for the extra fare, for he wanted me to pursue what I was planning. He also asked me to go to N.O. the first two weeks of December with him, to work independently with him. I agreed. Now it happens that on this trip to New Orleans, mwhere I got the Friday before the election, entirely by accident but not through lack of suspicion, I blundered into what would have been even more ruinous than what happened, the fantastic contrivance by Boxley and Turner, a complete fabrication, that Garrison was about to use to commemorate the 11/22 aniversary of the assassination. What a job it was to talk him out of that, especially when, if I see day, he sees night. I'll tell you the whole story sometime, show you, if you'd like, what was manufactured. Suffice it to say that his own staff admitted I not only saved him and them but probably frustrated the seizing of the Shaw case by the Supreme Court on the ground Garrison was irrational and Shaw could not have any rights in N.O., with the added probability Garrison would have been dramatically disbarred But this stuff is what persuaded Bub Garrison was in tip-top form. I got him to go to N.O. when we straightened this out, the first week of December (he changed his mind about his own investigation). He was privy to the entire thing. He couldn't stand it, it was that bad, and left before the end. But he still maintains his faith in and friendship with Turner. He'll go for almost any conppiracy formulation. I just do not argue these things with him.

Sorry you haven't been able to get here, as I think you will be. I've finished the about 150,000 words of the addition to COUP D'ETAT on the Ray case. have corrected about 75% of it and about 20% is retyped.

Sincerely,

The
Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation

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September 3, 1969

Harold Weisberg
Route #8, Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Harold:

I am truly sorry about the delay. I had to go to California.

Fensterwald came into the office in my absence and saw my colleague Arthur Felberbaum. He says he has enough for a trial and can name those who fired on Kennedy. What do you think?

Best regards,

Ralph

Ralph

RS:ilh

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