Pls return for Russo file.

5/31/72

Dear Lou,

It was good to talk to you again. Hope it didn't louse up a busy late afternoon or make you late for supper.

The hint I was trying to make when I told you the Douglas Jones story, the identification of pictures, is one I'd like to keep between the two of us. If and when I can get there again, if you have the interest, I'll work on it in ways still possible.

Jones and Myra made positive identifications of Thornley as the man who picked up the literature. Whether accurate or not you can evaluate as well as I. Because we pulled no tricks and gave each the same pictures to examine separately, when neither knew which the other was identifying, it was persuasive.

There was at least one other with Oswald the time he picketed the Trade Mart. I have this from numerous witnesses and over and over again from the FBI stuff I have. No possible doubt about it. I can now pinpoint when the WDSU footage was edited to eliminate this man and I now have the pre-editing description of that film which is specific in saying there was a third man (I say at least). More than this man was edited out. You and Jim know a man who has become a friend of mine who was edited outmtoo, and I have confirmation of this from him and one who does not like Jim who saw the film before editing.

I suggest two possibilities and I do not now suggest more than possibility: Russo was in on that deal; Russo could have been mistaken for Thornley in pictures.

My suspicions about Russo are not new. You will find them in OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS. Sal Panzeca did and discussed it with me. Sal had and never used witnesses of the Oswald literature distributions, at least one of whom is afraid to surface but talked to him. I have others unknown and an entire episode unknown before.

Perry admitted to me that he must have met Oswald. He was astounded that I knew he had some of Oswald's literature. And I find it a bit too much of a coincidence that, when Thornley was in N.O. with Lane Caplinger taking him around as his public relations agent, of all the cabs in the city they just happened to find Perry's. He admitted to me when I picked that up, too.

As you know, I'm not a lawyer. But I think that what I have for the Shaw civil suit will not only win it but result in airtight criminal charges against more than one person. The one hint I'll give you is that I did not find it in New Orleans and did not find the witnesses there. Again, I spoke to each separately and got stories so consistent I welcomed the very minor differences in details. There is no doubt in my mind that separate confirmation will be available, documentary and unassailable. I have deliberately stayed away from it.

Best regards,