

LAW OFFICES

WATT, TIEDER, KILLIAN & HOFFAR

7929 WESTPARK DRIVE

McLEAN, VIRGINIA 22102

(703) 749-1000

Sept. 6
Dear Harold,

I very much enjoyed our
phone conversation of a couple
a weeks ago. As you may remember,
I was one of Floyd's cohorts
with STIIKA back in '76-'77.
We met briefly when Floyd and
I picked you up and took you
to the King press conference set
up by the Black Caucus. I
can remember the strong french

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market coffee you brewed and
your stories of military overflights
scaring your chickens way back.
I seem to remember that you
were having some trouble with
your legs, fibritis or something.
I'm glad to hear that Floyd is
happy and content. I've often thought
about him over the years. At one
point while he was underground, he
contacted me about a possible job
for him in the Middle East. (I
had been working overseas as a Civil
Engineer since graduating Maryland

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in 1977). I am ashamed that I was so cut with him. Floyd is a complex character who, quite frankly, scared me a bit when he started spiraling downward in those years. A lot of courage to do what he did in coming back. I'm glad that you had a part in helping him. I know that Floyd always looked up to you.

I am also glad that you are doing well. As I told you, over the years every once in a while I would see your image on the screen or your name in print and wonder

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just how you have fared. I would like to know what you have learned over the last decade and what inroads you may have made. I never did get your impression of the Select Committee's conclusion and whether you had any role in the investigation. Frankly Harold, I quickly became a neophyte on the matter. However, I did become quite disillusioned with the resistance and general ambivalence encountered. I personally became a paranoid conspiratorist (the greatest danger, according to you) but was careful to keep that all within. I ended up traveling for about 5 ~~for~~ years working

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as an engineer in Israel, Saudi Arabia and the Dominican Republic before coming back to D.C. to law school. I now practice "Construction Law" at the above firm.

During law school I became disturbed about the Iran-Contra hearings. The good colonels talk of "off-the-shelf capabilities" and "ends justifying the means" really made me sick. However, I loved the scene where Senator Mitchell pointed his finger at North and told him that one could be a good American and patriot and still not support the Contras! You

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could sense North's seething hatred
at having his face rubbed in that
truism. I brought up Juan-Comandante,
Harold, because of the parallelism
of the Reagan administration's fight-
to-the-death over Nicaragua and
the late '50s early '60s anti-Castro
fanaticism that gripped some elements
of our nation. Indeed, the "Christie
Institute" has attempted to bridge
the decades with their lawsuits
against the "shadow government". These
people may be "books" Harold but
a lot of dirty business has gone on
in Central & South America in a blind
attempt to halt the "red scourge". And

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of course it all leads back to
Cuba... doesn't it?

Good God I have been
rambling. This was to have been a
short letter passing on to ^{a copy of} you the
"Press Packet" put out by the
JFK Center in Dallas on Kirby
White. You probably already have
this material. Larry Howard claims
that more material exists but hasn't
been released. You voiced some
solid criticisms about this stay.
Could you please outline them
for me? Enclosed is a check for
(over)

\$80.00 that should cover for
"Whitewash" & "Post Mortem". These
can be sent to the above address
attention: Steve Schasske.

Harold, if you get into town
I'd like to take you to lunch.
Also, if you need any help in
town, legal or otherwise, please
call me. (H) 519-3985. I tried to
contact Fensterwald after our
conversation but he was out of
town. According to Larry Howard,
Bud is behind the story. If the
story is as full of holes as you say
it is, these people should be put
on track fast.

Take care,
Steve

Steve Schlusser
Watt, Tieder, Millian & Hoffar
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McLean, VA 22102

9/16/90

Dear Steve,

That I've temporarily forgotten your last name tells you what happens to a good memo that accumulates years!

As I think I told you when I packaged and sent the books I was deep in a brief in a pro se malpractice/negligence suit when your letter came and as I read it I highlighted what I'd address when I was out from under and would still have some other time pressures. One is that as soon as Wil gets out of the tub I'm taking her out to lunch and by the time we get back the Orioles game will be on. So I may not finish now.

I remember the King press conference in part because I did poorly, in part because I was not well and in part because I ad libbed it.

You ask, "I'd like to know what you have learned in the last decade." Impossible! I've gotten about a third of a million pages via FOIA litigation alone. If you come up you can see and ramble through them and other things. *King was 1/2 of what I have.*

Re HSCA, to which I've always referred as The House Assassins: I had nothing to do with them or their conclusions after my first few contacts. Except that John Ray asked me to appear with him so I sat at the counsel table with him and Jim Mesar and handed Jim notes that helped make a record. One was to get permission to file a statement addressing the records they were pulling on him/us by surprise for the record and then Jim asked me to do it. They delayed providing copies until past the last minute and never did provide all, so when I could delay no longer I started dictating, with Wil transcribing while I dictated. She finished in the wee hours of the morning of the last day of their hearings, when it had to be delivered, we made two copies, one for Jim and one for me, and we handed it in. It appeared in facsimile and to this day I've not read it. Could not read it in draft because I was writing it while Wil was typing it, every word. It is in Volume 8 of the King book they published.

What disturbed you of the Iran/Contra hearings should have disturbed you but what you do not mention also should have - the cowardice of the legislators. They pulled all their punches and took some awful crap, which meant the people were subjected to that same crap and were thereby deceived and misled. They let North make a hero of himself and they took terrible abuse from his lawyer. In my day on the Hill that would not have been accepted and Sullivan would have been put in his place instead of converting the hearings into North's defense and an attack on the Congress and advertising for the worst bastards in the world to flock to his firm.

One could sense North's hatred but what was not widely perceived is his hatred for the system whose constitution he claims to be devoted to upholding. He doesn't even understand it.

You refer to the Christie Institutes suit for Tony Avrigan. When I was sent a copy of the top honcho's lengthy conspiracy affidavit I wrote him immediately, and not for the first time unanswered, and encouraged him to correct it. He had it loaded with second-hand irrelevancies culled from the nuts on assassination who believe the world is flat and that all conspiracies are linked, for which they have and need no evidence. He got clobbered on that affidavit by the Florida court, which had given him wide latitude. That judge won't be as considerate to the next cause lawyer before him after that experience, I fear.

You are correct in saying that much terrible stuff had gone on in Central and South America in opposition to what is perceived as the Red scourge but it has been US policy going back to the remarkable Jefferson, who was also an imperialist. I was a Latin Americanist in intelligence in World War II. *I would like to see what you have.*

You say that Harry Howard claims there is more material that hasn't been released,

to which + respond by ~~st~~ saying that no matter how much more of it you pile on, shit remains shit no matter how high it is stacked. There isn't a word of truth in anything they and White have said and nothing can make it truthful, whatever they claim not to have disclosed. I can't go into all the details but believe me, there is not a single truthful word about the assassination and very little, none that is relevant, in the so-called coincidences those nuts have gone for. Some do not even exist. Like the lie that Tippit and Roscoe were close ~~fix~~ friends who lived across the street from each other. They didn't - they didn't even live on the same street, and the Howard nuttery even included proof of it in their press kit. How stupid can you get? And uncritical or dishonest or both?

I can't really take time to go into it. But I do tell you that the phony explanation of the Tippit killing, which you should know is impossible from unquestionable established fact, is cribbed from the novel Promises to Keep, by Bernau, the ~~name~~ of the alleged assassin Saul and his location are both cribbed from McDonald's fabrication, Appointment in Dallas, and because it is a complete fabrication, you know that White did crib it. The Red Bird airport bit, which is refuted by where Tippit was killed, not on the route to that little airport, comes from a dubious footnote from a dubious source in Popkin's The Second Oswald.

Thanks for the invitation to ~~lunch~~ lunch but it has not been safe for me to drive out of Frederick since 1977 so I haven't and if what is impossible, suddenly it would not be unsafe, I'd be terrified by the traffic, all of which would be strange to me now. However, it is no greater a distance coming here than going there, so you are invited.

I'm sure, as you quote Larry Howard as saying, that Bud is behind the White concoction. He was friends with Popkin and with McDonald, for example, too. But Larry Howard can't avoid his personal responsibilities and his personal failings and transgressions by saying that Bud was "behind it." He and other also trusted Howard to check it out and I think he said that in public. If he was an investigator, to be unoriginal ^{by did} and once told Les Payne of Newsday about Mark Lane, "As an investigator he could not find pubic hair in an overworked and undercleaned whorehouse." To which Les laughed and added, "At rush hour."

No matter how well intended, those people have done and are doing awful things. They deceive and mislead trusting people and they undermine all credibility because they never have anything worthwhile and then never get it straight and because there is ~~nothing~~ nothing too extreme or irrational for them and they they try to publicize. Their attitude is that if it criticizes the government it can't be bad. Bull!

Excuse the haste and best wishes,

Handwritten signature