12/30/69

Dear Gary,

Began reading your letter of the 28th (with tape, without stamps!) while waiting for Hal at the bus station. When the bus arrived without him I came home-by cab- my first Frederick cab ever. My car got hung in the driveway as I was leaving, I hitched a ride into town, walked through the various things I had to do, got to the station soaking wet, and the Hal-less bus arrived. Meanwhile, unwilling to leave the mail in the box with kids home from school, I had it with me. After I got home, Hal phoned from Baltimore. His bus, from up where the trains are supposed to run on time (and never do) was 1½ hours late starting! So, he Finally got to Baltimore about 3 hours late. The buses from Baltimore here are on time, no doubt because we had the heavy snow, not they. Much of our road is still single lane, with the plowed drifts high as the car where cut through. He should be here on about an hour and a half. I told him to take a cab from Frederick. If the rain continues, I'll be able to take him back to the bus tomorrow. What a way to spend much of a day!

Should have told you not to spend postage on the tape, for I made it only so you could hear it. I am satisfied she is off her rocker, but I am also satisfied some of the things she says are fact, such as her former husband having been CIA.

On the radical black and COUP - I'm going to prove you and Hal both wrong, and I think I've started. It is too illogical, and I think I've begun the right approach, through the one white I know they trust. He is very interested. I sent Hal to him and I'll know more when Hal is here. Remember, one of them is charged with threatening to assassinate the President when he did use "a figure of speech". All I have of those others never charged, in COUP, in my files? They need it, can use it effectively in court, to their benefit and ours. Especially after we file the suit. Bud was to have come Saturday on this, but when speaking to him I forgot I'll have to take Jim to the dentist then.

We'll see about Bell. I've got that thought out and I'm going to give him the one chance he'll have to save his rep. I doubt he'll do it, if he does see me, but it just may work. And it will represent no compromise for either of us. I'm going to ask him to do what the law should, see to it that there is the presentation of the other side. In arranging for it, he cleans himself, no? And as you know, if he looks at what I'll show him, he'll flip. As you go through COUP, it is okay to make a marginal mark on that copy. Also, where I use Negro and should sue black, please mark that also. It'll take time to correct, but they'll fit the same space.

It is possible John does recall this new business from COUP. But at some point I'm going to have to end his pirating, properly cloaked in his high principle. What I do not want him to do is use it in his suit, for I am and I have the context he hasn't. If I do not hear from him on this I'm going to have to raise the question, forcefully. I can't let him fuck everything up, and I resent the great labor I had to do only because he is off on an ego trip. I told him in 1968 I was going to sue, asked when he said he was to have me in it, and he wants to hog it? Unuh. He also declined collaboration with Dick and me is his look thing, if it ever comes off. And I do have his letter returning FM, after asking to keep it longer so he could read it again. If he uses this, I'll do something, if only to prevent the endless feeling of being both robbed and emasculated by my own tolerance of it.

He not only did not make the discovery independently, but as the files I sent you show, this was produced in response to my pressures, even though I did not immediately recognize it. He cannot find it "independently" once I show it to him and he then was unaware of it. I also showed him the xeroxes-loaned them to him. And he is worried about me stealing from him?

He has yet to send me his breif, so I assume it to be incomplete. Therefore, I have no news on his suit. He has to file a response before he can get into court. Remember that long thing I did for him so long ago? That was so he and his lawyers would understand what they were responding to and suggestions on how to (you recall Lifton's crap on this?).

Stan is Primmer, once a member of Paul's and Hal's group, a fellow who did some very fine work with some leads I gave him back in the late months of 1966 and early 1967.

I can do nothing about the pirating of my title. If a title can be copyrighted, I own it. But can I begin to sue? Now I need a good title, and that one was perfect.

As I've been annotating the appendix to COUP, I've been cutting it down. Man, if I could only use some of what I have for the second half! What I deal with through analysis I can now deal with through documents byt may not. There is no error in the analysis, for I now have the suppressed fact which says precisely what I said it has to say! No false modesty. And when I consider I did it while ill, I feel even better.

Thanks for the copies of the letters to Mary and the TV guy. I went all the way to Calif once to do a show that was cancelled. The total cost was anout $500. I was stuck.

If you haven't seen the pictures of Ray going into court yesterday, you haven't really been shaken. Doesn't look at all like the same guy, or like any previous pictures. I've been on the horn to Bud to get him to get the transcript. Important. State alleges possible conspiracy, as I also said in end COUPII, as one of reasons for solitary. He gave snippy but correct responses: if the govt wants to talk of conspiracy, let them do it in a trial. He again refused to day he was the murdered, saying instead he was framed by his lawyers. I was working early in the am when I heard it and was not set up to tape. Lil taped what may have been a rerun when I was in town but I've not had time to listen.

Again thanks for your presents. Have a good year.

Best,

Dear Harold, 12/28/69

I listened to that tape. I know of no "method" by the name she mentions. If she did read about it it was probably in something like TRUE. I have no doubt that both sides are attempting to

Journal Of Experimental Research In Personality

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develope mind control methods and that they will eventually succeed, but at present I know of only one such approach which might work: long-term hypnotic training with an exceptionally good subject. It is possible but would be impossible to prove unless someone up top confessed. It could apply to the Sirhan thing, but that would not tell you who did it. It would not surprise me in the least if Sirhan was a Manchurian candidate of sorts for some force within our government. The fact that he allegedly hypnotized himself in no way detracts from this theory, because if he did hypnotize himself then it strongly supports such a possibility. What laymen don't realize is that a good hypnotist who is trying to treat a problem, etc., teaches the patient to hypnotize himself. It is a teacher student relationship. So if Sirhan did hypnotize himself, and of that I am not yet convinced, then it would be relevent to know when and how he learned how to do it. I think that the woman is a nut, but that doesn't invalidate any of her info. It was a group of absolute nuts, some religious sect out here, which told me of Jackie's going to Onassis' Island years before she married him--but, the interpretation they placed on it, namely that JFK was living as a vegetable on that Island, caused me to reject the whole thing. Well, their info was right, their interpretation wrong. She does strike me, however, as someone who is a real time waster. I was interested in the Year of the Rat business and the stuff about the man in Calif--Dunry or Slade, Slay? How did she come buy such info, or better yet, how could she have come by such info.

On the subject of the blacks and Coup, I have no doubt that Hal is right that the radical blacks would not be interested. But what about the SCLC types and Abernathy. It would seem that if you could get inside to them, they would love it because it would be an opportunity for them to assert their value to the blacks. In other words, it would seem that such a book is just what they need for an issue to focus spotlight on themselves and away from the Panthers. They could really exploit it. Do you have any contacts with either Abernathy or Jesse Jackson?

Ball's letter is an encouraging one, especially given the wording. I think that he may be correct in not having defamed you directly and I have heard that he said that he thought you were honest but wrong. If he decides to come across and be honest, and is more concerned about the truth than about being afraid of it, then some other avenues may open up through contact with him specifically. If you can just get one Commission attorney going, then it can lead to others. But, more important, Ball holds a very prestigious position in the state in which Sirhan was tried in an incredible fashion.

I got a very short letter from Vince. As with the last one, it was unusually short and from it I assume that he is still down in the dumps.

Am starting the Coup add today and will send corrections as soon as possible.

The Nichols thing startled me. I assume that he refers to that copy of the autopsy you got with the Burkley note on it which you showed me two years ago. I have never mentioned it to John in a letter and am certain I never did so in person because we did not discuss your work, save for my assuring him that you would not use anything he gave you and asked to be kept secret. Most of the time was spent touring Kansas City and discussing his work, which he did hurriedly so I had trouble keeping track of it, and with him continually telling me that it was copywritten etc. I wouldn't worry about this particular item in one respect, however, and that is that his whole writing idea (article in LOOK and then a book) will follow, by necessity, his court suit, and therefore yours should be out much in advance. I sincerely doubt that he made a discovery independently of that since he would have no reason to be reordering it. In other words, it would have been one of the first documents for him to get and one of the ones he would never have had reason to reorder. I suspect that he learned of it from Post Mortem. The wording of his letter, which is reminiscent of some of his conversation when I was in Kansas City, I find dis-

disturbing for a reason which is very hard to verbalize. Basically, for some reason I feel that he is out to get as much from everyone as he can. In this case I assume that it came from PM since I know that you lent him that and much more. Maybe even he's forgotten where he first got the idea. I would just forget it and keep working. You will be into print years before he will with any luck at all.

By the way, how is John's suit going. I haven't heard a thing. He should be in court by now.

Who is Stan? I don't know of him.

I have a copy of Coup D'E#tat in paperback. That is its exact title. It is both hardbound and paperback and is a model plan for taking over a country.

You and Lil should get a package from me which I sent yesterday by first class mail. Tell me if it does not arrive.

Best wishes to you and Lil for the coming year.

Gary

December 28, 1969

Dear Mary,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I sent to Dick Williams the other day. I feel bad that I couldn't do it for him a month or so ago, but I had expected to have some help from those more knowledgeable about the literature than myself. It is amazing that even with the help of a few others I couldn't think of more books for the layman. Had it been for graduate students I could have sent him many pages of bibliography. I think a hell of a lot of him although I spent little time with him when I was in Dallas, and would like to help in areas such as this in which I have more expertise or ready access to those who do.

I haven't written in a while and so assume that I haven't mentioned much about the two volunteer agencies which I am working for. If I have, please pardon the redundancy. Enclosed are two pages on Y.E.S.,a telephone referral service designed to help kids in trouble--especially those (most of them fit into this category anyway) who can't go to their parents or the authorities, who are on bad trips, etc. The other group I work for is one I helped found and then got out of touch with: the walk-in counseling service of the free Teenage Medical Center. It is staffed by psychologists who volunteer their time to try to help solve community problems and provide professional services free of charge to those who can't normally afford them. Both groups are doing well.

Harold is still at it day and night and still amazes me with the new and important stuff he can turn up from the archives. I know the medical stuff pretty well given that I have a pretty good layman's knowledge of medicine and a good knowledge of anatomy of the upper part of the body, but Harold still manages things new to me.

I sent some stuff to Marguerite some time ago, and also sent her a Christmas card, but haven't heard from her. She may be worried that I will sell her autograph, especially since I have stayed in that den of iniquity--your home. I plan to write her again in hopes of getting some sort of communication going.

I am gradually getting caught up on my professional duties and getting back into the swing of the case. Have you been able to follow up that Ahler thing with Mrs. Jackson. I really would like to keep that one hot, especially given those far out but tantalizing possibilities. Have you contacted Kaiser to find out about the Jack Lawrence affair? Anything more on Puterbaugh or the military? or the IRS man? Those things present fascinating and important possibilities and should be followed up completely. As soon as I can get all the unfinished business from the Dallas trip cleaned up, and memos done, I will be doing some memos on some of the stuff on the military which I dug up but which was purposely kept out of the article Vince, Tom, and I did.

Well, I'd better be going. Best wishes.

Gary

December 28, 1969

Mr. Bob Jordan
KCMT-TV
720 Hawthorne
Alexandria, Minn.

Dear Mr. Jordan:

I had hoped to write to you some time ago but have been quite busy lately. Mr. Harvey Kidman at the U. of Minn. at Morris informed me some time ago that the 15 min. program on the Assassination of President Kennedy which I taped in your studios on November 21 of this year was never shown on the 22nd as anticipated. To the best of his understanding it was because someone decided that it was "too controversial." If the program was in fact never aired, and given the amount of effort on my part required to spend all that time rushing to and from Alexandria to tape it, I would greatly appreciate as full an explanation as possible as to why it was not shown. For instance, was this a local decision or was the network consulted? What was the exact reason, or reasons. I assume that this precludes any future appearances on your station despite your expressed interest in further exploration of the topic while I was there.

You may recall that I was caught totally unawares when I reached your station and found, much to my surprise, that you were serious about giving me so much time. This was the first time that anyone had allowed any more than a few minutes, and many stations avoid it entirely, even in the face of popular demand.

Troubles in getting this type of material before the public have plagued serious investigators like myself from the very beginning. For the first three years it was virtually impossible to appear on network radio or TV and the Canadian Broadcasting Company had to broadcast a veritable Radio Free America into the Northern United States. Ironically, it was covered in depth in Europe. To this day I am the only critic of the Warren Commission who is not a regular columnist and yet who has published ina major newspaper. At the beginning of a series on the subject published by the Minneapolis Star from Feb. 27 to March 3, 1967, an accompanying editorial about my work ended:

> "Nevertheless, we are far from certain that all of the necessary questions about John F. Kennedy's assassination have been answered. And until greater certainty is possible, the questions raised by honest critics such as Schoener cannot be arbitrarily sloughed off."

Then followed my 5 article series which the Star had received accompanyed by full documentation for every statement made for their lawyers or anyone else to check. Yet within two days of that editorial they contacted me to let me know that they never wanted to hear from me again under any circumstances. To this date they have never taken me up on one single offer to brief their staff, fill them in on the Garrison investigation, get them exclusive interviews,etc. After the CBS Special on the Warren Report, for which I was a background consultant, they were very interested in an interview which I offered them with the chief LIFE Magazine consultant on the case, Josiah Thompson Jr., until the "higher ups" decided that the Star couldn't print it because it was National news and then the Tribune couldn't print it because it was local news.

And the same editor told me both things! It is not wonder that the part of my presentation which most astounds people is the fact that they have never seen any of this material before, and yet it is all available to those who will print it or speak of it on the radio or show it to a camera at any time. There can be little question as to what happened in Dealy Plaza when 22 people filmed the actual shots and many more recorded on film what happened before and after, and when there is so much physical evidence and there are 300 eyewitnesses.

I am sorry that you were not able to see this material and judge it for yourself, or even see the Zapruder film alone. Several congressmen have seen it and have greatly encouraged us, saying that there is little they dare do unless we can break it wide open or reach enough people to bring about a large movement in those directions. Enclosed is a copy of one of my early letters to Senator Mondale on this subject. He has been most interested and helpful, and even sent his chief legislative counsel to one of myassociates for a briefing in Washington. But he, like Don Fraser, and other congressmen all say that they can't tackle it in some public fashion. Enclosed with the letter to Mondale is a copy of the document I sent him concerning the successful demonstration in a Federal Court in Washington, DC, that the president was killed by shots from more than one direction--that is to say, as the result of a conspiracy. Most people know of that sudden release of the previously secret followup to the official autopsy on the President by the Justice Department--what they do not know is that the Justice Department lost that case and that report which garnered so many headlines as refuting the critics was torn to pieces. The shame of that report and the Justice Department's continued claims in this manner were compounded a short time later in the trial of Clay Shaw in New Orleans when an Army pathologist, one of the men who performed the autopsy, admitted that it was not a competent one and would not have been accepted as a real autopsy by the American Board of Examiners. We now know that the president of the United States not only did not receive an autopsy befitting a bowery bum, or as good a one as Oswald, but that he did not receive a real autopsy, and that this came about due to direct orders given the attending surgeons by the top brass in the military. So although there are now available a sufficient number of photos to show what happened anyway, from the very beginning, on the 22nd of November, things were done which could only obscure the truth and which would have made an exhuming of the president's body inevitable had Oswald lived to face trial. Ironically, it is critics of the Warren Commission who are accused of wanting the body exhumed, although none have ever suggested it to my knowledge, nor do any of us want it. What we do want, however, is an open public investigation into the assassination, with all of the evidence available, and all questions susceptible to answer finally answered.

Also enclosed is a bibliography which is, alas, wasy out of date. On it I have marked the two best books. Although there are 50 more books which should be on it, until the publication of Harold Weisberg's Coup D'Etat and Post Mortem (if they ever find an American publisher, about which it is possible to have doubts given their contents in terms of documentary material), there are no key books missing from this list.

I hope that you will find time to write and answer the question with which I began this letter. If you are ever in this area, or any of your friends are, give me a call and perhaps I can find time to show you some of the photographic material, or at least the films.

Both myself and the many others working on this project will continue working until it is solved. We all have things which would be more profittable personally, and make no money from this work. It continues only with the support of countless individuals around the world. There will be further research, investigation, public appearances, articles, books, and even lawsuits. One lawsuit is underway in Kansas City right now and others will follow. Our hope is best voiced by Weisberg in Oswald in New Orleans:

"We do not have the right to demand or expect infallibility of public servants, from the President down. Our courts presuppose fallibility and error, and provide the mechanism for their correction.

"The day can now be seen when, willingly or unwillingly, the government may say, 'We did wrong. To the degree that we now can, we will rectify that wrong.'

"Then it will have earned the respect of men, hereand abroad, and it will have begun to face the crisis in credibility that it made for itself. Then, perhaps more than would otherwise be possible, it will be worthy of respect and belief."

As many congressmen have come to realize, what is at stake hereis not only who killed the President of the United States, something which by itself should be sufficient to justify an exhaustive investigation by the government and the news media, but the credibility gap. To believe the Warren Report one must disregard Newton's laws of motion and basic common sense. It is not believeable and the polls all show that over 2/3 of the population doesn't believe it. But even beyond that it raises serious questions about the functioning of the large networks, the wire services, and numerous federal agencies, each for very different reasons. For some reason, during the Warren Commission's investigation, unprecedented misfeasance, malfeasance, and non-feasance surfaced all over the place with everyone running to cover his own mistakes or vulnerabilities.

So, I again invite you or any of your associates to come and see some or all of this material. I suggest to you that this is an issue so serious to the continuance of the well-being of our society that it is never old news, and point out that it isn't old news anyway because the American people at large have never seen it. I hope that you will at least do me the courtesy of explaining why that show was never shown on your station, or at least wasn't shown at the time promised. Within the limits of my time and resources, I am at your disposal.

Best wishes in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Gary Schoener

Gary Richard Schoener
Box 392 Mayo Hospital
Minneapolis, Minnesota
55455

1080 15th Ave. SE
Minneapolis, Minn.
55414

PS: Please pardon the typing. My secretary is off for the holidays.