5/23/69

Dear Gary,

Your two letters of 5/21 arrived today. I've just gotten back from Wilmington, was not able to contact Revel.

There is little to add on Fred. Perhaps this is repetition. While I appreciate your willingness to and intent of defending me, I recommend against it on a number of grounds. First, with Fred, nothing means anything and anything you say he is capable to distorting and misusing. I think silence is the best thing. If egregious error in his work were not enough, the dishonesty is open. How can his work then be of value, no matter what he might develop? How can it be trusted? His work can be no better, no more sound, than he. So far as the others are concerned, if they know Fred and are willing to believe such stuff, I'drather forget about them. No one but you told me of his campaign, but it was long ago clear that someonewas doing this and with some effect. When Dave Ziech stopped writing, didn't answer letters, I concluded it had to be Fred, particularly when later I found out he had been to Fred's home. So far as those who do know me is concerned, if they are willing to be influenced by such things, do not know better, then I have no interest with them. More difficult times lie ahead. It is better to know who really is a friend or, conversely, who might not be.

On the things you say of Vince and Tom, I do think it would be a good idea to let Paul know.

If I was not clear in a letter that might not have readhed you or that I might not have mailed, all I got was the dev stuff, not the King. I do want to study Louw's picture of the fallen body. I've been intending to write him Have you?

My limited experience with Katen is you think you have made him understand something because he gives that impression but when there is a measureable reflection you didn't. I've been through something with him. Without living through that experience on the Washington suit, even if you've seen or heard Vince lose control, you do not understand. He can be worse without losing control. Katen was less than no help at all.

While in Fil, I made no effort to contact Greenstine.

On Sirhan: think you should pursue the possibilities of his faking and having been prepared to.

At this moment there are no useful pictures on Dick's work. The pictures represent what might be a new beginning. Until he finishes analyzing them there is nothing that we know. They are very good pictures. He thinks Frazier had his exhibits down, or at least twisted, but that was a preliminary opinion. The dent stuff did not hold up. The copies ordered from the Archives have not arrived. We can make pictures, or copies, any time for we have the negatives. They are ours, not those of the Archives. You'll get the best understanding when he writes it up. If you still have desire or need for the pictures then, the only question is cost. Unless he comes up with something very strong, and this is quite possible, I think, they will not be a good investment. You'll know in due time.

I do have the INCA record but haven't heard it. Knowing Butler I can imagine what it is, how it sounds. But it is now clear to me that he was the major commercializer of the assassination, and that without it and that Oswald gross misrepresentation, INA today would be nothing, perhaps non-existent. That made them. I did some checking on this, from what I had, and the circumstantial case is strong.

I now note you had not mailed the King article. I went in town to x get the NYTimes after seeing the Wash. Post story of Ray's suit agsinst Hanes, Foreman and Guie for denial of civil rights and they were all gone. If you see any stories on this and the impending developments that arexat all complete, I'd like to see them.

I used three slides of the 544 stuff on TV is Balt yesterday. They are useful, better that holding the documents up. Glad they are doing you good and that your appearances are beginning to be something other than a drain. I guess I have a picture of me someplace, perhaps with geese! But on the letters written the magazine, I never had them. The magazine printed them.

I cannot find the Miami tape story, that is, the complete one Bill Barry sent me. I must have cut it up and used it in the copy of O in NO. I think it best not to use the Militear stuff, anything from COUP now. Tike enough when it can promote the book. It also leads to futilities, for the stuff is not available if people want it. Also, without the book being out, it does present a kind of hazard against which an available book would be some kind of protection but an unavailable one is not. There is so much of the available material people do not know, do not understand, we can never get to use all of it. When new books come out is the right time to use their content, not really before. Also, if the word gets around, some others will be duplicating the work and there is the chance of dulling the edge with the media, for there may at any time be developments. I appreciate your motive and purpose, but think it best not to go into any of this now.

Dick left Sunday. I do not know if he has gotten his 2 copy. We should be hearing from him soon. He is a fine guy, good mind, honest, etc.

There has not really been time to hear from Robbs. There is much for him to read. He knew nothing of the field. Hex now has seven books. He'd started COUP on the way here. And he'll soon be away for a while. By the timehe gets back I should have the addition written (that's when I'll wish there were someone here to edit as I write) and Lil may be finished working then and can be typing. But if and when I do hear from him, I'll let you know.

Thanks for everything. Gotta get to bed. On the distractions and dotractors: do not waste time, Gary. There is worthwhile use for it. And there is little defense against slander. If the cause is mental illness, there is perhaps less you can do about that. If dishonesty, then it is even more futile. The damage is already done anyway, and I do fear that anything you say will be twisted or in some way misused. Of the laternatives, I think your idea of just keeping in touch may be best. I do try and discourage any effort at reasoning for it is doomed. Gotta get to bed. Best regards,

UNIVERSITY OF Minnesota

MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

May 21, 1969

Dear Harold,

Just received your letters of the 17th & 19th. Check on Young's piece and the info from Ivon. The Nagell story was also public. I will send them a copy of the memo and ask Vince to ask. Check also on Hobbs--glad you got on well.

I hope to have a full inventory of my slides so I can send a copy to Dick to see which ones he wants copies of.

Agreed on Fred. If we ever have time to bullshit, I would be interested in what Marlynn misinterpreted out of interest as a psychologist. That's why I asked the question in that fashion. You are one of the people of whom I could not believe such a thing, and for Fred to suddenly come up with that, suggested that either Fred was exaggerating, or he himself had not believed it orginally. I suspect that may be the case. I have never for one minute, as I think my letter indicated, thought that it might be true. I have not always agreed with you or your judgment, although I generally do, but what Fred alleged was outlandish.

Thanks for taking time to give me info on things Fred brought up, and I apologize for having caused to to waste valuble time. It was a toss up and I felt that you should know of the vilification. I will extract the details and send Fred a letter, with carbons to some of the younger critics who are working hard, but often influenced by Fred.

Fred was being facetious about Bradley and Jaffe.

I have no illusions about Fred although I did have some hopes, based on his letters and behavior towards me during most of the time I have known him. He has apparently hidden his views, from me at least, until recently. I should have made you a copy of my letter to him. I dissected him through logic alone, and threw back his earlier views on Garrison etc. The work on 133A and B, however, is useful. He did at least get the Z film and will get blowups which will be useful. I have decided, and had decided before your letter, to do little more than exchange letters with Fred and try to keep up on what they are doing out there. I cannot tolerate his attitudes and cannot cope with his craziness, although I do hope to try to get him to keep it out of print, as in PROBE.

Right now the finances are looking up, although everything depends on me finding money for the summer, especially since my car needs much repairing and I depend on it heavily. I think that I can get around the hospital bill.

The envelope I sent with the De Vosjoli stuff, which is yours to keep, along with the King thing which is on its way, was one I used to store clippings from the personal column. I was working on a book on personal columns in college newspapers previously, and that one must have stayed in the envelope.

Your points on Uris are well taken. I will write Paul about 1330. Jaffe has left and gone to Law school, after having said goodbye to only a few people, so I will have to write him. He may be home with his father now.

On Vince, my statement dealt with the papers and what he should have known. Vince gets and reads all the papers. I have faced Vince when he got out of control--i.e. on the phone in the 3 way conversation with Ray. After he had led me to believe that he was on my side, and then wasted everyone's time by siding with Ray in a 3 man gangup which I could have won had they given me a chance to talk, and actually yelling at me.

Katen was way out and even talking about Paul Hoch being an agent. Katen is bright but erratic, and I talked him out of Hoch in 5 minutes, but to even think of it was far out.

Check on Gibbons. I guess you're right. It is 16mm anyway and such projectors are not in most peoples homes.

I think I may have given you the wrong idea as to what I trust Fred with. I do not send him things which I assume that the other side doesn't know of or which can't be leaked, and certainly nothing of a security nature. Most of what I sent him dealt with Boxley and Turner and crew, hoping that he and others out there would back away from Turner, Rose, etc. He works in areas in which I have done nothing, so there is nothing I could send. I have filled him in on Nagell, etc., and many of the old and worn out issues in the case.

WEll, I'd better go. Take it easy.

Gary

UNIVERSITY OF *Minnesota*

MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

May 21, 1969

Dear Harold,

I will send copies of Vince's letters when I remember--I haven't had time to dig them out. No word yet on the clippings I asked ofhim.

Received your letters of 5/16. On the psychological stuff in the Sirhan trial, I am still interested in pursuing the possibility that he was faking, and also the possibility that he might have been coached in how to fake. These possibilities cannot be overlooked. What I need is more information on the test results and the exact testimony given. I agree with your decision not to belabor this stuff in Coup.

Marlynn's note to you is steange, since she didn't send one to Gibbons or Olson. As you know by now, I agree with your views of the PROBE articee. It is incredibly bad and dangerous in what it does. Something has to be done to pull Fred into line. We cannot simply ignore him and criticize his bad judgment, or try to work with him as I have done. I want to find someone out there who can calm him down. He can command a fair amount of publicity and could easily pull a few Spragues. My hopes for his changed approach and increasing rationality were dashed by that article plus his last letter to me which I mentioned in my last letter. Although I realized the potential for this, I felt that between myself, Marlynn (who often agreed with me in what I wrote criticizing many of his arguments), and even Dave Lifton, he would be kept in line. I do believe in the train--I think that the Nix anaylysis proves that. But I am troubled by just about everything else as you are. His slide set as I examined it and reasoned from it was far better than his article which briefly summarized the lengthy set of 85 slides. What kills me is that he has something, and using the Nix analysis has discovered something interesting, and has the equipment to explore it, and then he does off with wild conclusions and some poor arguments. And then, his responses to constructive criticism and me playing the devil's advocate are ones of anger.

Agreed on INCA. Don't forget the statement that Thornley tried to join after the assassination in the Butler article. That record is really well worth having for the commentary besides the debate. I recommend it strongly to all investigators. You simply have to hear Butlers commentayry, Bogg's statements, and Ossner.

On Dick's work, if you could pick out some key pictures which would help understand it and provide proof, just for my personal knowledge and use, and for briefing when he and/or you use it publicly, then I would be only too glad to pay all expenses. The hospital bill may work itself out finally, I may have money for this summer, and I just got money from personal appearances to the tune of $200 and will get another $200 tonight.

I have also heard that Greetings is a big success. It was canned by the critics in New York, and then an underground film maker wrote a long letter to the Times which was very complimentary, and they are using that to push the film.

Coming in the mail is a copy of the King thing which is yours to keep. I spent a few hours and dug up many old LIFE copies, among them an extra copy of this, in a book store.

The 544 Camp stuff, which you should have slides of now, is going over big when I get chances to show it. I preceed it with a slide of your book, of which I sent you a copy. I will wait on a slide of Coup until you get it published and it has a cover I think. Do you have any photos of yourself? It may sound frivolous, but I give a very dramatic (I am told) type of presentation and make it very life like. I preceed mention of Coup and the Miami tape and the Milteer file with a mention of your background, and describe how you discovered the stuff. I would like to make a slide of a photo of you. In addition, I would like to make slides of letters of commendation from congressmen, Hoover, etc., and perhaps a magazine piece done by you on the Nazis. Could you possibly, when you get a chance, sand me copies of such items? Ideally, here is how I would like

The section of the Report dealing with the PRS files (I use this now) it #to go: The Miami tape story in the papers
My letter from the Archives saying that they don't have the tape
The ask the question: Will we ever know the story of this, since the FBI is concealing it? Answer: Well, perhaps we wouldn't except for Weisberg, etc.

Then, photo of you, photo of cover of Coup, background material on you--all to serve a far more important purpose than just plugging your work and giving people an idea of what to read next: to emphasize that although the critics are now attacked as everything bad under the sun, the principle critic, you, has an excellent public record, and at one time was not considered a villian--quite the opposite. Then to emphasize your ability and qualifications to emphasize, not that some of us are pretty close to being professionals, but, more important, that the FBI did a damn good job of hiding this stuff, and it took a good man to# uncover it. If I don't do this, then all of the careful research which has been necessary to analyze this thing gets lost, and the dignficance of the coverup is lost because it no longer looks like a coverup. Mark so often makes the discoveries in this case sound easy, and in the process of making himself into James Bond, convinces the audience, who knows he isn't James Bond, that there must be some other explanation, otherwise the critics wouldn't have discovered so much. I don't think that this is frivolous. I carefully monitor reactions to my talks, and try to get continual feedback. I have been trying to improve them and to improve the quality of the communication, so that my exact views are reaching the audience in the most powerful fashion. Both myself and those whose opinions I trust feel that the several minutes extra the additions I am proposing would take would be well worth the time for the overall effect. This could be more important in terms of pointing out the more overriding issues of the sociology of the defense of the WR than the evidence would be.

Please think this over, and if you agree, try to make copies of some letters of commendation. (I could use a number of them and shoot through them, and then send you copies of the slides, perhaps for use if you are ever on TV.) Also, the one item I don't have is the Miami newspaper story of the tape--especially the headline. If you have a copy for the Miami papers, or some other paper, I would greatly appreciate a copy from which I could make a slide.

I am reaching more and more people every day, and an increasing number of influential ones. And more important, people who see even m;y abreviated 2 hr. slide presentation, come away shaken, convinced, and interested in informing themselves and doing something about the situation. This is far better than newspaper or magazine articles I could write in that time. Last night I really shook up some journalists in a professional society of newspaper and industrial journalists. On to Clint Hill, HHH, etc.

Does Dick, if he is still there, have a copy of the Z film yet? I told him to write Fred but he may have forgotten. I also told Fred to write him.

Best of luck in your endeavors. Give my regards to Dick if he is still there. Best wishes to you and your wife.

Gary

What happened w/ Hobbs?