4/28/69

Dear Gary,

R'c'd your 4/25 with enclosures. Large package was return of what you sent me. I had copied so I could go over carefully. You'll probably find the letter and the notes.

If you speak to Epstein's friends, try and find out about that trip to Alaska he promoted by selling shares in himself. And if anyone got paid back. What you say is true, but he was careful to hedge, awkwardly, not well.

Did you send me proof that the SDeot corrections were made by other than those testifying. Oh, yes, I remember, and I asked Barry to check Snyder's, for the reason given is ludicrous: he was in New York. He must learn to use the GPO copy and no other.

When Bolden and his wife and his lawyer fail to acknowledge receipt of a letter, I grow apprehensive. While I am aware that he was framed, for whatever reason, the decision of the court is that he was not. Galt is impressive; but what is the authentication of him? The one name Manuel Garcia Gonzalez also can cause doubts. It can be interpreted as pretty pat. I've asked for his letter to Warren.

I have set up a file on Garrett, but the problem is not the elgnth of the present book but what it will be when I make the Ray additions. Wow! I believe the Martin stuff will fit AGENT OSWALD best, but even if it doesn't, again the problem will be length. An affidavit will still be helpful, but with all the witnesses when he told me I have no misgivings about using it.

Carter

was, I think, Afro-American Book Center. Rholl did send the promised, and it is helpful and confirmed.

I do not know what the Gibbons remake is. No definite work on that film can be done outside Archives, only preliminary estimates.

I've had the Dawnay stuff since before I finished COUP. I find him undependable. He is about to go out of the publishing business.

Thanks for the letter to Vince, but it is not the kind that will accomplish anything. He has abandoned his personal responsibility. And it was December and Jan.

Interesting that when you and Paul write Arch Eckhoff answers, but Rhoads, months later, answers me. He is crazy to leave such a record of himself. I'll have my chance and I'll use it. He will not live it down if he leaves government service.

I think I have (unclassified in my files) the CAI letter on Warren threat. I think I also have another document relating to it other than the one you sent, but that may be a separate one that is similar.

Verb letter: It is my recollection Mark made no memo. If Alcock did, Louis didn't know of it. I suspect Mark was sent or borned in for the publicty only.

I'm getting nothing done, just a little exercise outside, without benefit to the legs, which slowly get weaker. Heavy correspondence.

Sincerely,

UNIVERSITY OF *Minnesota*

MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

April 25, 1969

Dear Harold,

Thanks for all of the stuff. I just had a catastrophe in my room and it ended with first an avalanche of unfiled letters and documents followed by a gust of wind. Right now I can locate everything but the letter which explained the disposition of the large package you just sent me. What can I keep and what do you want back?

Your suggestions of Epstein's government connections are interesting. I may be able to help here through some of Epstein's old friends. I will begin some checking. As you know, I mentioned that I thought we should, or rather I should, do this, but just haven't had time, just to be set to do a job on him. His new article divests itself of his usual guise of objectivity and fence sitting position. He shows his true colors, and it is interesting to note that his literary style is no where near as good in this present shit ##### as in the New Yorker. His lies surpass the believeable. The most serious one is his use of the DBS Special, despite the fact that it was torn apart in Thompson's book which he mentions having read in his article. This is reminiscent of the stuff about Ferrie's hair disease which he could only have gotten from O in NO, which I of course, means that he purposely admitted the truth about O in NO. And let us not forget who gave him his credentials as a critic--Mark in Citizen's Dissent, despite many long arguments with me during which I denied that Epstein was merely someone who"didn't know the case well."

From the carbon of your letter to Sylvia I gather that she said that it wasn't difficult to publish. This doesn't surprise me, since her emotional involvement in this thing now overwhelms her judgment and even her knowledge. She sounds like Marzani and Munsell, one of the few left wing publishers, who cut off operations a year or two ago, saying that it was now possible to publish and there was no more need for them. I feel, as I have said recently, that she is almost useless to us, despite my earlier opinions to the contrary.

I am writing Vince today about your money. That business disgusts me. I'll send you a copy of the letter or perhaps enclose one in this letter.

It looks like Barry is doing some good work. For once I thought of something useful for someone to do--I ususally have to wait until you think up projects. He is very useful in this capacity at his present state of knowledge, and will learn a great deal about careful investigating in the process. I agree with what I assume your views on Cragg are--he is a liar, perhaps meaning well and not conscious, but he makes things up. The same may be true of Carr. By the way, I still want to know how car could have seen anything of that window or a man in it from his position a full 2 blocks away, and with the sun on the building so that someone down at street level might have a better view at that distance. Don't forget that I have proof, which I am sure I sent you, that the State Dept alterations were done by persons other than those who testified.

On Coup: some more suggestions--

1. Add more on Bolden--for example, add the sentences in Galt's letter in which he described the kind of a guy Bolden is and the injustices to him. Galt's letter was very well put and will make your account of it more down to earth and seem to be better documented. Secondly, you have the stuff on Spagnoli's trial, which proves that he claims that a government attorney subborned perjury. Finally, on his wife, remember that I too have sent unanswered letters, including a certified one (and I have a letter from the postmaster verifying the fact that it arrived). I definitely feel that the Bolden story is important, even though we can't prove what he says, because of the implications of his story if it is true, the pressure on him which is suggestive

of at least some federal interest in him, and more important the fact that it appears that the govt. framed him and put him away. As you use him now, I think that you lose a potentially important source of stuff, since I think in this case we can tell what he tells us and then show the federal record and let people decide for themselves whether or not it isn't significant.

2. Although the book is already long, one of the best examples I have found of federal failure to investigate was in the Garrett case. I sent you the 4 or 5 pages of FBI reports, which had only one paragraph apiece in them. Remember, the guy was of nazi orientation, was agitated a few days prior to the assassination and watching his mail, left before the assassination (from Laredo, Texas), etc. His wife said he was in Mexico but the officials at Neuvo Laredo said no, not within 6 months. The next thing was when his wife called them around May of 1964 to say that her husband was dead. You asked me to send you the originals, I think, so that you could make good copies for possible use in coup. I agreed with this idea since the affair was so short, so clear, and so hard to explain on the FBI's part.
3. One other possibility would be the Martin film. I can pin him down and make time to get an affadavit as soon as possible. I use that, without name, when I speak since it is a clearcut example of the FBI withholding data dealing with N.O., of their duplicity (giving him back a copy, perhaps editied), and the incident dealt with the literature distribution. The only reason I suggest this is that if you want it in one of your books, it might go better here than in Agent Oswald. I don't feel that it is that important, but only a new example of FBI coverup which defenders of the FBI, who I have faced, cannot deny.

On McCabe, the name is definitely familiar, but I will have to get that mess in my room cleaned up before I can answer. I am absolutely certain you sent me a carbon of a letter to him. There was one guy, Arnold Rholl, who had promised you something from Dell but I have a feeling that this thing had to do with one of your books too. The only other thing I have is from the Challenge Book Center (Afro American books) but the only name on the card you sent me was Clarence S. Carter.

Enclosed are the results of an attempt by Mrs. Lenore Burgard to get some info for me. The Archives came through with almost nothing. They have continually failed to get me info on these things. I will get her to continue her prodding of them. Also enclosed is a copy of my recent letter to Hal Verb.

Keep this quiet, but Fred says he is gettinga copy of the 8mm Z film from Mark and will make copies. Mark still has the Gibbons remake of the Z film, but Gibbons has written to him and asked for it back. Mark is apparently in the LA area about now.

Next week I have got to get the investigating committee rolling again. There have been some breakdowns and some have finished their research but not written memos. Our number is still growing and we now have a woman who is an expert on the volumes and another housewife who has read most of the books. I am training two of the guys to give slide presentations, and both of them right now are teaching the lecture on the Shaw trial in my assassination class. Both are very well versed on it from getting, clipping, and summarizing the NO newspppers. Have you gotten the San Diego AIC newsletter--it has stuff in there from Dawnay.

Take it easy. If your wife has a chance, see if she can dig out from her records how much I owe you for the books you sent me. I have sold some of them and can send you some money right now which might help. Best wishes.

Verb letter (1)

UNIVERSITY OF Minnesota

MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

April 25, 1969

Dear Hal,

My files, notes, etc. contain nothing on Gargeu or Georgiou or anything like that. I checked with Fran Galt, my Bolden informant, at some lengths, but he could not recall such a name. The only name Bolden mentioned to him was Garcia Gonzales. An associate is sending me copies of Mark Lane's press conference in Springfield, Missouri, from when Lane got in to see Bolden, and knowing Mark, he may very well have mentioned the name at the press conference, especially since it is something which should have been kept confidential. Vince has promised to get a copy of Garrison's Bolden file, but unless Vince goes down there again, and I don't expect him to, it will take a while. It is my understanding that Mark never wrote a memo on what he got from Bolden, although I suspect that Alcock, who was also there, did. Of course, Mark probably got nothing from Bolden on his own anyway, so Alcock was the appropriate one to write the memo. Please pardon my digression and sarcasm about Mark, but my opinion of him has dropped steadily since he got me started on the case in 1964. Back in the Fall of 1966 I asked Mark about Bolden and he said that he knew absolutely nothing about him. This disturbed me since Mark had mentioned him in ####### Rush to J. and I therefore assumed that he had done everything in his power to contact him. Bolden could be an important man and just judging from what we know of the treatment he received should have been contacted and helped if possible. These people are somewhat our responsibility since their lives are more dangerous with the critics around.

Fran has no continuing contact with Abe Bolden. Another contact inside the prison who was also a close friend of Bolden and is still in there has not contacted me. Both Fran and I sent Abe Christmas cards (with messages) and they were both opened, and returned, marked "not at this address." (You should have a copy of mine) This would jive with what Fran has heard: that Bolden is no longer there. Barbara Bolden has not answered letters from either Harold or me, including my second letter which was sent certified and which I can prove arrived. Her phone number is unlisted. So although I do have a good contact in Springfield, it may do us no good any more. By the way, I will check this out with Dave Kroman since he sometimes supplies OK info, althoggh everything he says must be checked out. His reactions are sometimes helpful, however, as with the McNabb-Rose thing.

On Bud, he is strangely very poor at evaluating evidence and often jumps to some very big conclusions from virtually no evidence at all. Last summer I spent many hours with him and he foisted a lot of people he felt were involved and in Dealy Plaza on me: i.e. Crisman, Bradley, Lawrence, etc. We went through them one by one and he had to back off of each one. He then defended Turner, despite the fact that he knew the evidence of Turner's extraordinarily bad judgment and how close his actions, combined with those of Boxley and others, had brought Jim to doing something which would destroy criticism of the WR and Jim in particular. Bud is probably quite sincere but for a lawyer is weak in the one place one might expect him to be strong. For instance, he claims to have interviewed Sylvia Odio in Chicago, although she now has a different name and during the"interview" she never said one word and only nodded her head a few times! That is perhaps the most unusual interview ever reported in this case, and I wouldn't have believed it except that I saw the memo and then Bud described it to me. Well, it turns out that it was the "wrong Sylvia Odio." If you like, and if Paul doesn't have it, I will send you a copy of the memo--it is a classic Sam,from my experience Bud must be pinned down completely on things in order to be useful.

(2)

UNIVERSITY OF Minnesota

On Cecil or Sesal, there is a type of plantation which raises a plant which produces Sessal, or sessile, I have forgotten. It is a fiber product so that would jive with what you know. Sessile is a general botanical term which applies to certain types of attachment between leaf and branch, and can also mean sedentary, so sessal or something like that may be correct. But I definitely remember reading about such a plantation in South America or the Orient many years ago and know that it is a fiber product. I used to be a student of geology and don't know of any similar geological term.

In any event, sorry I can't offer more help. You are working in an interesting, and I think important area here, and sound like you're on to something. If you need some help and have a project, I can assign a researcher to it--just send instructions. DeMohrenschildt and Haiti are quite interesting, especially in light of the info that Harold had that suggested that the CIA camps were now aiming towards there, the connections between DeMohrenschildt and there just after the Bay of Pigs, and the relatively recent arrests of 10 Haitians, an American, and Dempsy (the Canadian in Larry Howard's photos of the guerilla instructors) near Tampa,Florida. By the way, I have the Miami Herald's account of those radds and can make a copy for you and Paul if you want one. The coverage is much better than elsewhere.

Back on Bolden for a second, I don't know what to think of his lawyer. Fran Galt says that Bolden didn't know anything about him, and ended up with him because he came forward (reminiscent of the NSRP lawyer in the Ray case). Bolden would appear to have an open and shut appeal for a new trial since Spagnoli confessed at his own trial to perjury at Boldens, and even added that the perjury was subborned by a government attorney.

Well, I'd better go. Let me know if I can help. Best wishes for a happy spring.

Gary

PS: I sent Paul a copy of this letter and some other items (since he has access to a cheap xerox which may interest you. I assume that anything I send to one of you gets to the other.