

7/23/70

Dear Gary,

Your letter of the 16th and the Thunderbolt pages both arrived today. I've merely flenced at them, will read them later. Expect company soon. However, them seem to hint that Kathy was also one of theirs. Clearly, as I said, ~~TEX~~ Tats is. Stoner has the most consistent clients-with the most consistent fates. If you come across anything bearing on her having been NSRP or not living with her husband, another hint in the writing, I'd be interested. For other than COUP. I am considering a BOMB BABY BOMB book I'll not now take the time to go into. An executive at Bentam likes the idea and is still trying to help, although they have turned it down on the basis of not enough publicity to sell the book in the Congressional hearings.

If you have clear photographs, not printed ones, you can lend of the tie, howing its relationship to the collar, I can use, but not at any cost to you for I do have one that will suffice and there are the published ones, but these require the carrying of added weight into ~~xxxxx~~ court and there will be too much of that anyway.

Chandler is a personable young man, well-liked by LIFE, but aside from a capacity of trading on LIFE's name to get things, I see no signs he is any kind of an investigator, as his own failings on a local story, the N.O. angles on the assassination, when he was on the paper, demonstrates. He was unaware of the significance of what he told the FBI or their mishandling of it-their diffidence, too. So, I'm prepared to believe that with much of his material right, some is wrong and that he can be, deliberately or otherwise, engaged in what amounts to a prosecution because of Marcello's connections. I have little doubt there is political influence all that money and influence can and does buy. The name Gesevius seems familiar...There are ways in which I might be able to help, if it were wanted, my willingness being because of a belief the law should apply and be applied equally and because of opposition to double-jeopardy, which I think is also a factor in the overall. The Baton Rouge thing is, I believe, a McKeithen threat of a libel suit by the state, strangely enough, rather than the person.

Lil had spotted the Calley item in Parade and given it the same caption.

I've since skimmed the Tats-Kahy piece. It is hardly faithful to what happened and is a careful selection from what Nelson wrote, the essence of which it also has. The purposes were other than alleged, as the crime is other than described, but for the NSRP, this is the more accurate of their reporting.

If I do the quickie on bombing, I'll want to use this whole affair, from COUP.

If you missed it, Bowers' conviction was upheld by the Supreme Court (Neshobe case) and in the Dahmer case he is to be tried again, as I recall.

Sincerely,

Dear Harold,

July 16, 1970

I have received two letters from you with enclosures dated around the 30th of June and first of July, and then some from the 13th of July. Then I have one mailing between the two of them which is postmarked July 9 and is numbered #8.

If Howard doesn't have a photo of JFK's tie I might be able to help. I have found a large black and white photo in Der Stern which shows him at the airport and shows the color and tie knot pretty clearly. I suspect that photos taken at the airport would be the best. As for photos in the car, Arch Kimbrough has some unpublished ones, although they are not from that close in. DCA frames would have the same disadvantage. I just pulled that new photo I discovered in Dallas (which is the unidentified one which fell into Mary Ferrell's hands independently) when I tracked down the one reported in the Weinkrantz documents. It is not close enough to be of use. I would suggest popular magazines with shots at the airport as the best potentially. Also see "The Torch is Passed", pp.5,6,11. "Four Days" has a nice color photo showing the tie knot on page 12., and a smaller one on the cover. I could also write Dick Sprague and not say it was for you.

The Chandler thing# is strange. At the legal investigators convention I spoke with Richard Gesavius (who has done work for Marcello) who says that just about everyone is out for that SOB Chandler but that he is slippery. They are getting set with a damage suit right now. I think that the Baton Rouge investigators were also collecting info for a damage suit against Chandler.

Your suits sound good. Look forward to seeing them in court. Be careful not to over-extend yourself in a legal capacity. Legalese is tough to talk and write no matter how much factual information you have and how many times you have been in court.

Financés, as usual, sound bad. By now you should have heard from Gary Short. His agency will be nationwide and should be able to book many speeches for you. I hope that you were able to work something out with them. Further into the future I may have financial sources, but definitely not at the present state of these relationships. Unpaid debts of the LA Free Press, Penn, and others are most regrettable of all. I think that speaking is an important possible solution given the amount of \$ one can clear in just one lecture.

I will be sending the stuff from Calif. that I mentioned in my last letter, assuming you don't have it, as soon as I can sneak in and do some xeroxing.

I heard from Bob Gibbons (of Springfield, Missouri) who is now serving 6 months of active duty at Fort ORD in California (near Monterey). On Aug. 21 he goes to Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio.# Barry Ernest is getting discharged very soon. Time really flies. It seems like only months ago that Mrs. Hoover in Martinsburg let me know that he contacted her and I wrote him. He seems interested in getting back to work and might be some help in the archives if you have any projects. He isn't my favorite person but can do leg work.

I will forward your letter to Chris when I write. He is unbelievable.

I'd better close now. Best wishes.

cc:Dick, Paul

Gary