Dear Gary, 8/23/79

While Lil is making copies for the interminable appeals by which I've obtained many of the records I have this hasty response to your 8/20.

Your decision to buy a place to live is wise, especially if your mortgage was arranged prior to the recent added increase in interest rates. From my experience the next step in security wisdom is to keep making all the extra payments you can on the mortgage to keep reducing it. This not only reduces what you put out in interest but brings that much closer the day when you do not carry the load of the payments.

It made a very big difference here, especially when he both began to draw Social Security. We are not as strapped now.

You appear to be shuttling back and forth to China, lucky one! Next time you are there, is this continues as an annual event, or if you are in contact with any medical people there, please try to learn if they have found acupuncture to be of any help in circulatory illness. There is no acupuncturist near here, although our local orthopaedic man, splcialist in the hands, is Chinese and extremely well thought of.

Lil and I found the news account interesting. I'm sending it to Jim White, whose interest in China continues.

I haven't heard from Colz for a week. He has not really needed the film with the FBI records I gave him. It would have been some trouble for me to identify the Martin film now so I referred him to you and that and loaned him my Doyle as soon as I got it from the FBI, without even looking at it. By now I'm sure he has in turn loaned it to Doyle to secure him while Doyle made his copy available for more precise study.

Aside from what I had from my own earlier work I found four different FBI proofs of an unidentified Oswald associate in New Orleans about whom the FBI did naught but dissemble. That is enough for a major story for Earl, with the pictures to make a follow-up but he sees it differently and I hope he isn't scooped.

The elitism you encountered a local prof friend also ran into in a new and fine trend in college, inviting oldsters back for a fresh academic view of the past and/or present. Of all the people he had this summer, and they came from as far away as Florida, he ran into only one person with this self-importance. It wore off from peer pressure before the end. She was a surgeon's wife and it was below her to share a dormitory bath, etc. Those of individual attainmentmant soon fixer her perspective.

Re the records: about 60 file cabinets of them now. They are all going to Wisconsin, Stevens Point, and I would encourage you to give your's to him when you have no further need for them. He is a good, responsible person and without doubt it will be the major archive. Jim's wife stuff, about 25 boxes, are already there and in use.

That "protective" stuff is commentary on out present society!

We hope you do get back this way soon. Our best,

2608 Pleasant Ave. S.
Mpls., Minn. 55408

August 20, 1979

Dear Harold,

My sincere apologies for having been such a poor correspondent. I greatly appreciate your sending me things despite my own neglect of keeping up my end of things.

Your unanswered letter of 4/1/79 arrived in the midst of so much chaos I just didn't get to it until I finally got down to that part of the pile of unanswered corespondence. Your more recent letter arrived at the same time, so I will answer both.

First of all, let me bring you up to date on myself. On April 1 I moved into a new duplex. My new address is above, and my new home phone number is: 82307620. It is not really "new," but merely new for me. I live upstairs and rent out the downstairs. I have fine tenants so moving from renter to landlord class has not been as hard as I expected. Besides wanting a better place to live, the realities of the American economy and capitalist system forced me to finally realize that if I didn't try to buy some property I would be in the poorhouse soon. I decided on a duplex due to the tax advantages, and got one with only about $5,000 down, with FHA picking up the rest via a big,big mortgage.

This past May our Center was 10 years old, which left me feeling both proud and a bit old. So, we had big celebrations and got some publicity. Then, May 20, I left for China. I luckily was assinged to lead a third tour and so got to go back.

Not that tour-leading is easy. Most of the China travelers on these tours are elitists and many are quite demanding. In the end most come around, but it's hard work in between. Few have ever traveled in a group, and most know more about the word "I" than the word "Me." In any event, it was another interesting experience, and the price fits my budget.

Glad to be of help to Earl. It's good to have a hard-working reporter still on the case. After the media's 3rd round the the committee things seemed pretty well ended except, as usual, efforts by independent investigators (meaning you). I still haven't been able to contact all the Martins in the area--I lost track of John some time ago--something I could kick myself for. I am going through the phone book, but in Mpls. alone there are 22 J. Martins and 33 John Martins, so it's a major project.

Thanks for the Kroman documents. They were interesting, especially in light of the fact that an MD violated privileged communication to the FBI. Kroman still remains a strange man.

It was good to hear in your letter of 4/1/79 that you're staying active and that you've rebuild some of the circulation in your legs. Glad also to hear that you've been able to pick up some cash from the Enquirer.

Your work on the FBI files is an incredible testiment to your perserverance. You have in fact built an incredible historical

record. Your student helper sounds great. You always did a good job of turning on students and getting young people into the work.

I had hoped to come east this Sept., but our Secretary/Receptionist has left so I'll have to stay around for the hiring of a new one. I do appreciate the invitation to visit and hope to do it sometime later in the year. Our Sec. was a teacher out of work who was lucky to find a teaching job so despite the inconvenience we have encouraged her to move on.

Ironically, speaking of traveling to your area, a member of my old local committee called the other night. I hadn't heard from him for 12 years. HE was calling because he had gotten an surprise call from someone who mumbled their name and asked if he was going with me"to Washington in Sept." It's all a mystery.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, I still haven't had time to pursue Army Intelligence and the CIA on my files.

When I was in China, by the way, I ended up lecturing several places as a favor to friends, and in two instances spoke about the JFK assassination--which was a subject of interest in both Peking and Shanghai.

Well, I'd better get back to the grind. Keep up the fine work and I'll try to stay in touch. I agree with your idea of writing few letters and focusing instead on the work. Best wishes.

Gary