

1/5/69

Dear Paul,

Now that I've mailed what I intended, gotten the various copies of an assortment of things filed away, I return to your letter of 1/1/69. Let me preface with what I hope is an unnecessary apology. The pressure is greater than it has been, I'm more tired and have a few of the normal problems of the once-normal life I once led. It has come to the point where I have a little difficulty getting around, with my back bothering me and my legs, particularly my knees, reluctant to work. I'm a bit unsteady, sometimes a little without balance (for which no medical reason has been discovered). I can see the difference in my face. So, if I seem short or brusque, I hope you will understand it is not at all intended.

Moo phoned me just before dark. He feels they are coming along well. I hope so. He is now hearing the rumor of Foreman's involvement as Shaw lawyer often. This can be because of my efforts to learn. I got a radio friend (with an affiliate in New Orleans), to phone Foreman and Dymond, as I believe I told you. If that was sired in N.O., as is more than possible, it could account for what appears now to be making the rounds there. Mox feels tomorrow is the last day for the filing of motions, and that if Shew's lawyers do not file any they are negligent - unless they are certain of further delays. I can think of other explanations but prefer not to.

He also says Fensterwald, who filed papers in DC last week for the pictures and X-rays for the trial, wants Alcock to argue the case in court. That would be in DC and I suspect within a week or so at the outside. I guess I'll be there if it happens. I have misgivings about this, as they do, but they feel it is necessary. They know the pitfalls and possible boobytraps.

Aside from all the other things, every time I think of something I should take along, I stop and make copies. I am about out of 3M paper and must conserve what I have, as much as I can, for this. Hence the less clear Thermofaxes I've been sending. If you will later want clearer 3M copies, keep a list and I'll do after the trial. I've more paper on order. 500 sheets do not last long and do cost!

Your 4: By now you are up to date with what I have. Please keep me posted on this. I'll have to be concentrating more on the more immediate, but I think this is potentially important and may figure in the trial in several ways, one of the issue of suppressions, which may arise.

Your 5. The Drennan stuff is not in his Archives name file, they've told me. Some file! ~~THANKS~~ Thanks. I agree with you on what the FBI Steele report (CD75: 687) says. Alternative: unfaithful FBI reporting. Another: wrong pictures. Not entirely consistent with other reports of six pictures.

Your 6: I do not have this and would like. I've been building a file on legal rights (you may remember the emphasis in WW), and may want to use in AGENT OSWALD, where the freemup may be more specifically detailed with other unpublished material.

Your 7: I agree "That may mean something". I confess that when I read this and sent it during the summer, I missed the significance you give, I think rightly. I am building a file in this area also. You've probably anticipated this from some of what I've sent you. I think proper development of it may open new doors for us. Again, my correspondence, of which I'm sending you copies, gives you some of what I think we may yet be able to do.

Your 8: This could have a number of significances. First, Simms' address (I gave this to Moo by phone tonight and asked him to have Louis get

rundowns ready for me on him and several of the others of whom you know for when I'm there. That address is very close to or is the address of one of the clubs where Oswald had been seen, Perhaps Ryder (from the guest book of which I got his handwriting with the kind of crack you'd expect). That Walgreen's store figures in many reports, some of which I am not inclined to credit. That area is where he concentrated his activity. It is but a couple of blocks from Bringuier's and Pena's, the old ITM, where he was busted, and an easy walk from Baalister's, Reilly's, etc. From what you sent (and I'm anxious to see the report itself. If I haven't already asked, send one directly to Moo, too) the date is not firm. It could mean the day of the arrest. However, there are now numerous reasons to believe Oswald was then engaged in regular forays I think designed to attract what he finally got from Bringuier. There is no record of his ever doing this more than 5 or six blocks from Bringuier's. The most remote was the Wasp. That was seven short blocks.

Your 9: As I can I will pursue this further. Can you please send me the backs of the pictures, except Garner 1, which I have a cutoff copy of and, as you now know, asked for the whole thing.

10, 11- May I have, please.

Okay on Jim. He should look out for himself. However, I do wish someone like him could then be working in the Archives, on the staff stuff, and available for rush checking. When the trial is over and I've caught up on many of the things that will then accumulate, perhaps, though I plan to return to writing, I can get a day a week in there. I hope Gary can come here for most of the summer and work there. He is also a very fast reader.

Returning to the Rampart address: do you recall the Rampart address Oswald never had that he gave on the Mexico business? It might fit, though I seem to recall a higher number.

Back to other work. Again, thanks.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

1/4/69

Dear Paul,

Your letter of 1/1 arrived today. I will answer parts in more detail later today or tomorrow. I have communicated your disagreement on "investigative files" to Moo. I also have news from the Archives indicating my earlier suggestion is correct. I will send copy, but if you hear from Rush, both investigative agencies did get WDSU and WWL film promptly.

Your par (2). This is probably the guy who was at Ruby's, pictures, etc. Boxley interviewed him in Tennessee. In connection with (3), Loren Butler, I do think I have the clipping from the paper, of the 9th or 10. Right or wrong, Ricardo Davis told me the late edition of the evening paper had a still picture. That is not the edition of record. I have checked both papers in their morgues. The ex ed told me they did have a still and that it has disappeared.

Your (5), Drennen-Brown-Craddock, that is what I meant. Why does the name Craddock stick in my mind? Is there something else on it? Elsewhere in the FBI reports you will find other reference to the showing of 6 WDSU stills. This is invariably by those agents not most active on the case. I have met Steele. Moo had him come in to see the WDSU footage. He impresses me as not very bright but by intent honest. Moo tested him by trying to lead him and Steele didn't go along. I think he is right. There is too much corroborating everything I have checked of what he has said. On the Mulholland-Coporan -Ferrie report. You are right. It is not classified. I got a copy after O in N.O. and do not know where I filed it.

On (7): I plan to go into that much more when I can return to AGENT OSWALD. What you had not yet received when you wrote this bears very much on that. I have an answer from Carr I'll include in the next.

EA (8) William Allen Simms III, 813 N. Rampart, CD 14, p. 30. Can you send me and Moo each a copy soon as possible? Or, do I already have it? Sounds familiar, but there is much to suggest an Oswald connection with that Walgreen's. This bears very much on what I've recently picked up, that he was in the picketing business regularly, until he got his press, when he lost interest. The feds hid most of it.

(9) I overlooked the rear notations. Can you please send copy? There is something along this line in today's Arch letter.

(10) Yes, but not in any hurry for it. Send one to Moo also, please.

On your 544 Camp-pamphlet position, something from me crossed it in the mail. ~~Maxx~~ But remember the immediate benefit to some of these "misinterpretations," as with the ExSess. While I do not agree with your interpretation, I have already passed it on to Moo and will give it to him in full as soon as possible.

If it hasn't dawned on you, the CD735:376 Fritz report comes close to proving that he deliberately denied Oswald counsel because he did know Abt had said no by 11/23/63. Did I not go into this in WW?

Bowen: my card shows CD 208:467-9. If this does not include that rpt, please ask Hal to send copy.

Many thanks. Very helpful.

Sincerely