Gary Shaw
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3/15/93

Dear Gary,

I suppose Mary has kept you up to date on Harry Livingstone.

I believe, and when we spoke about it Saturday Peggy also does, that I should have a copy of all his threats of any nature, his assaults on any of us, etc. So I write to ask for copies, please, or any, of any form, including any notes you made of any he delivered verbally or by phone.

One reason is that I have already filed a complaint with the local post office. In turn it made the matter a case for the postal inspectors through its Baltimore office. Baltimore, I believe, is best because he lives there, I live within its territory and its communication with the Baltimore police will be easy and obvious. I had only two letters to attach to my complaint, one each to Mary and me of February.

Another is that his publisher's lawyer, who also engages in joint publication with ~~him~~ them, is an old friend. When I sent him copies of those two letters he showed them to C & G and warned them that the most extreme care will be required when he submits his manuscript. From Mark Crouch I learned, and I'm sorry I've forgotten the exact formulation of what Harry told him from Dallas, that Graf warned Harry that the contract can be broken if there is anything wrong with the book. One certain interpretation is that it will have to be solidly factual, with no invitation to any litigation. I am confident this means at the very least that it will not have his threatened chapter on Mary, for which the only basis is Harvy's sick mind, and I think that from what Harry told me about his book, it means there is little likelihood that the book can be published. However, I think it is important for me to be able to provide more of that insanity if and when there is the occasion.

C & G/Gallen, by the way, are reprinting my Frame-Up as a quality paperback under the title Martin Luther King; the Assassination. Gallen's son asked for that long before any of the ittationality and I agreed to it because that will get the book into the stores. It is still basic, accurate and factual, as no other on the subject yet is.

Thursday I learned that Harry said the book is due in October. Probably true because of Xmas book sales. Ordinarily this would mean he'll have to submit the manucript next month. It is usually six months between submission of the completed ms and publication. This is just what is usual. It does not have to be. The book can be delayed by late manuscript submission or revisions in it and it can be hastened by the publisher if he is willing to face higher production costs.

Unless the Baltimore police do something about Harry, of which there is no present

indication, whatever they do to Waybright and the others will not, I think, influence the publisher. However, I believe that if the postal inspectors do, that would have an impact and could make a significant difference.

I know Harry has part of the book at least written because last Thursday I was told by one who visited us that Harry had sent him an excerpt. He is to send me a copy when he gets home. He was not going directly home from here. But if he is home this will probably not be front-burner because like us, he is suffering the effects of this terrible storm of which I'm sure you've heard.

I have no address for Jim Marrs. I understand that Harry left one of his profane tirades on Marrs' answering machine. If you will please ask him to send me a transcript of it if he transcribed it, or a dub if he has not, that may in time be quite helpful.

Meanwhile, the publisher is now facing the costs and troubles of Groden's suit. I am inclined, without having seen it, to believe it is spurious, but defending a spurious lawsuit can be quite costly. C & G's counsel does not represent it in that.

The book was contracted, probably on the basis of earlier profitability of that junk, without any of it submitted in writing. This is another reason I should have all I can for possible use.

Another use I've postponed until I have all there is of his threats is local. There may be a violation of Maryland criminal statutes. I don't know any of the present prosecutors in the county but the former Frederick chief of police is a friend. I'd like to show him a complete file and ask him to take me to the right person with it. This is as much for the future as ~~that~~ the present, perhaps more for the future.

I believe it is inevitable that all of this insanity will come down on poor sick Harry's head at some point. The last person he'll blame is himself. You and Mary are not likely as any targets then. But I am not much more than an hour from him and he knows I've been in touch with his publisher through my friend. So before that can happen I want to get something within Maryland started.

Wallace Milam sent me his memo on Harry's misconduct at ASK. I do not need that. ~~I do not need that~~. And Gary Mack is to send me what he has.

I do not know when I'll be able to mail this. We are still snowed in, for the third day. (It is not quite 5 a.m.) The schools and courts are closed and unless they were opened late in the night Frederick is still isolated, all the roads impassible from "the storm of the century." Last night there were visible drifts in the lane, 350 feet long, and I'm not able to shovel or to be out in such weather. The neighbor who was to plow us out got himself stuck in the snow in the road below us so I do not know when he'll be able to open our lane. I do not yet have Saturday's mail! But before it struck I got kerosene for our emergency kero heater and enough wood in the house for more than two nights. Lil laid a big supply of water by and fortunately we've not lost current as according to a radio report as of midnight more than 1,000,000 still have.

Because I'm sending a copy to Mary, I add, in the event Peggy's phone service was interrupted, that she did not have to be evacuated. The high water in her area was terrinle. When we spoke Saturday she told me that while those lower than her were then being evacuated, she is high enough so that she will not have to be.

Most nights I get decent reception on a New York all-news station. I listened to it for some time earlier and there is no report of any current outage or any unusual distress from where she lives. For that we can all be grateful!

I add for your information and Mary's that Harry knows he has a psychological problem. (He is paranoid but he does not admit that, or did not to me.) He told me about it once when I was chiding him. My recollection is not clear but I thibk he told me that he was hospitalized for it and that it comes from a combination of having been a blue-baby and what he described as malpractise. Whatever it was, to me he admitted knowing that he has such a record, such a problem. I'm sure that has not been in his mind for the months of his present irrationality.

He told someone who told me that he had ~~had~~ someone in England interview Diana Bowron for him. He is quite excited about that interview. My belief is that what would excite him is not significant medical fact but what he can use to reinforce one of his unfactual theories. He does not really know enough about the medical fact to know what she could say that really is important. That would not interest him. All of his interviews, unfortunately, are arguments.

If you can think of anything else that might be of use, now or in the future, I'll appreciate copies. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Harold

Harold Weisberg