

November 30, 1967

Dear Hal,

Sorry I couldn't answer your letters prior to this but some new developments occurred since I last saw you which I'll discuss in this letter.

I checked with L&S Distributors to see how the book sales were and Bob Seifert told me that he was very pleased so far and that he had to "reorder" a quantity although he didn't indicate just how many this meant. But he assured me that they were quite happy with the success of the book and I got the impression that they had a good seller on their hands and that it was a good thing to be associated with you. Bob Hyatt checked Paul Elders bookstore the past week but couldn't find any copies of Oswald in New Orleans on hand there. He did find plenty of copies of WW 2 there and no one seemed to know about your latest work. It could be that they all sold out because I did see a window display with the New Orleans book featured quite prominently.

I've also seen the book in other book stores and whenever I don't see it I asked the owner to get copies of it and they say that they will.

I did hear from Jonn some time last week. He called me after I spoke on the Joe Dolan program one morning after Dolan had interviewed Josiah Thompson (I called from my home and Dolan identified me by name. It lasted only five minutes). In discussing Thompson's book I said that there was really nothing new in his work and that his "discoveries" had all been mentioned previously elsewhere. I particularly cited your work and referred to pages from WW I to illustrate my points. I also said that I disagreed with Thompson's analysis of the first shot hitting JFK and discussed your work in that connection. Joe then agreed that there was nothing really new and wondered what all the fuss was about. I said that I thought the hullabaloo was caused because of the great concern by the establishment over the doubts the general public had about the Warren Report and by having the SatEvePost support Thompson it was the establishment's way of seeking an acceptable "out", since Thompson drew no conclusions about who was involved in a conspiracy. I pointed out that you had made a much more advanced case than Thompson's. Joe then asked me why I thought they were avoiding you and I replied that your "answers" were unanswerable".

Jonn's explanation for not calling sooner was that he had been laid-up with a cold or virus attack. He'd heard me speak on the Dolan program and called to say that it came off very well. Jonn did sound very hoarse over the phone and quite sick. He said he would get in touch with me very soon. I had not tried to reach him since you left and this was the first I had talked with him. One thing that Jonn did say about your book that I recall was that it was going quite well as far as sales figures were concerned.

As I was typing this Jonn just called. He said he will try to get together with me over the weekend and see what our next approach will be. He also suggested that I call Dolan and

arrange to meet with him for lunch early next week, which I shall do.

John said that in speaking to several book distributors it was their feeling that your latest book would've had better timing if it had been issued in February just prior to the trial. He said they thought the book was issued prematurely in November and that sales would have been better in February.

The above may be true but it is my guess that books on the case will, undoubtedly, be coming off the press about that time, anyway and that most of them will probably be way off base.

John said that beginning today the S.F. Examiner will print an ad on your book to see how reader response is. The book is to be sent at \$1.50 postpaid. The SF Examiner has an estimated readership of 600,000 or 700,000. We'll see what happens.

I told John that it was my guess that both December and January will be very quiet periods in this case and unless something dramatic occurred, which I doubted, it would take a great deal of effort to attract public interest. This is one of the things we're supposed to meet and discuss.

Now to mention some other items:

Jim Eason is working on making a tape of that person who called you and has almost succeeded in completing it. I believe he said he would have it so that it could be played at 15/16 speed. I'm to call him this week and see how he is coming along.

Even more important, perhaps, is the good news that this person was finally contacted and interviewed by a member of my class. He taped the interview and has prepared a 26-page transcript of the tape. This will be made available to you in due time. Since that tape was made the individual who called has elicited further information which you will also be furnished with. I gave the student from my class photos of three individuals I sent you copies of. The most important thing about the interview this student achieved I believe is that the Eason caller identified "Alonzo" BY THE PHOTOGRAPH shown him ~~immediately~~ immediately!! "Yes - very positive, yes - when I saw him he was wearing a goatee, a mustache and combat fatigues", was his response. The Eason caller also said he had heard of "Quarito" and knew something about his movements and friends.

I got the impression from listening to this tape that Alpha 66 figures in this case much more than is apparent. I'm not sure but I believe this group was once associated with the Nov. 30th Movement. (Incidentally, in that note I gave you when you were here I wrote down the Nov. 3rd movement. That should've read as Nov. 30th instead).

I have heard nothing from Los Angeles about your reception down there. I never did receive the copy of the L.A. Free Press on Garrison's talk but I obtained a copy here. I presume you have one yourself. The issue after that one contained a long article by Ray Marcus on the Moorman photo (dated Nov. 24).

I received a letter from The NY Citizens Committee which I have not yet answered. Trent Gough, the chairman, seems to be very active and we may be able to co-ordinate our activities to some extent. I'm going to propose that he set up a speakers bureau and contact groups suggesting that they set aside an evening to discuss the JFK case. These can be labor, religious, fraternal, etc. I've had a good response at one myself. Also I will propose that he set up at each college a course like mine and make appeals for people to come forward with information.

ON Tues., Nov. 28 KPIX-TV (CBS local affiliate) did an interview of me at the class for its 6 o'clock Eyewitness News spot to be aired sometime later on this week or the early part of next week.

The day before this I was interviewed by "Moderator" magazine published in Phila. The editor & publisher, Sherman B. Pickering, said it will appear in the Feb. issue together with my photograph. "Moderator" is a national student magazine located at 1738 Pine St., Phila., Pa., 19103 (phone #215-846-6082).

Pickering had heard of my class through a friend and visited me at home. I gave him some material on you and much of the interview refers to your work. He may call you.

I'm enclosing several articles you'll be interested in plus a student report on Christian. Note the one on the Herb Caen column and Jack Carney of KSFO (dated 11/29). I called up Carney about the tape and he invited me over to listen to it. He said he couldn't understand why his employers are so upset over it. After listening to it I agreed. Caen is a bit irresponsible in saying the tape names "the man responsible". (I don't know who he is quoting here - it may have been Carney but it could be a misquote from the tape. Essentially the tape is a restatement of what he said in Los Angeles. My notes show that Garrison says on this tape: "Unless he (LBJ) changes his position... we have to assume he's involved... It's clear that he's involved in concealing the facts." Later on Garrison says: "I don't ~~think~~ believe that LBJ was involved in the assassination but I can't know... Here is the man who has profited the most from the assassination." As you can see it is really not what Caen makes it out to be. In fact, it is very much like what you said in Photo Whitewash - that as long as the truth is being concealed the question will always be raised by the public as to his (LBJ's) involvement. Nothing new, again.

I understand that Stanley of the Examiner has reviewed Thompson and that Sylvia Meagher sent a letter replying to his review knocking him for it. When I get a copy I'll send you one.

The other articles I'm sending deal with your talks at the two colleges. Note the one where Liebeler gave an "angry denial". Paul Hoch called up the reporter who spoke to Liebeler on this. It was clear that the reporter not knowing the subject wasn't able to ask questions that you or I would've liked to have raised. As you can see Liebeler's "answers" are to statements never made and avoidance of the real significance of Oswald's use of the 544 Camp St. address.

Bob Hyatt was in Los Angeles last weekend and said that Lifton told him that Liebeler was furious over a story that appeared in the L.A. Free Press of 11/24 where my Barb story ("Expert Exposes Warren Aide Shenanigans") was reprinted. The L.A. Free Press story ran under a different headline which was "Warren Report Was Rigged". Lifton told Hyatt that Liebeler vigorously objected to the use of the word 'Rigged'.

Returning to Jack Carney, again, I gave him a copy of "Oswald in N.O." and he was quite happy to receive it. He seemed very interested in contacting you and I gave him your telephone. You may hear from him shortly. He knew of your work and thought quite highly of it. He will make the Garrison tape available to me next week since he could not release it beforehand.

Speaking about tapes, Harv Morgan on Nov. 15 taped an interview of the man from Winnipeg who claims to have seen Ferrie in Canada in 1964 discussing the assassination. Harv did not mention the man's name in his interview but it is Richard Giesbrecht. Articles on him have appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press. Are you aware of them?

Bill Dick of the National Enquirer called me on Nov.28 wanting the story on Underhill. I still haven't gotten around to doing it but I'll try next week. Tell him I'll try to get it as soon as I can.

Referring again to tapes, would it be possible to get a hold of the following tapes: (1) Jim Garrison in L.A. (Nov.14); (2) Liebeler tape May 2, 1967; (3) Liebeler-Weisberg tape on Les Crane Nov.17.

John will probably write you about the Banks tape shortly.

Your point about Thompson being used by "important people" to show that the gov't overlooked other assassins having no relationship to Oswald who just happened to be there at the same time was alluded to by Carney in his talk with Garrison. Garrison said they may come up with something along the same lines you suggested to me in your letter of 11/25. You might point this out to Carney if he should call you. I think Carney might even interview you live in the very near future.

Paul Hoch said that he received a reply from the Archives on the FPCC handbills of CE1412 & 2966A. I haven't had the chance to study their reply but Paul will let you know about this. It looks highly suspicious.

Speaking about Oswald and his handbills something was pointed out to me which I'd like to call to your attention. It concerns his use of the Post Office Box number in New Orleans. Apparently Oswald's use of a certain post office box number seems to have been used on different occasions with the last two numbers switched either by error or on purpose. Refer here to the use by him of P.O. 30061 & 30016. It would seem that when Oswald wanted to receive his mail he would use the right P.O.#(30061) but when he didn't want to he would use the wrong one(#30016).

Check these examples:(in using 30061)

- (1) Letter to the Soviet Embassy - Vol.16, P.30
- (2) Change of address form to the "Militant" - Vol. 19, P.569
- (3) Change of address form to Dallas Postmaster - Vol.20, P.176
- (4) When working - U.S. Dept. of Labor - Vol.21, P.282
- (5) Change of address to FPCC - Vol.22, ~~P~~ P.527

He used the following for P.O. 30016:

- (1) Application form of FPCC membership - Vol.17, P.761
- (2) Vaccination Certificate - Vol. 17, p.693, 695
- (3) FPCC Handbill - Vol.26, P.448
- (4) Wrong address - Vol. 17, P.697, 794

The above examples are not all the ones in the volumes. They are just a random sampling. What significance do you attach to them?

I've been trying to locate a Coffey in the volumes(FNU) who was supposed to be involved in an attempt to kill Nieman-Marcus. Do you recall seeing such?

Did you pass on the info to Garrison that the man nicknamed "Heinie" by the caller to you on the Dolan program last year may be Heindel?

Here is some information on Harold Lord Varney. Varney is President and founder of the Committee on Pan American Policy and editor of Pan-American Headlines. He was formerly the Political Editor for American Mercury magazine and was also advisor to the Republic of China between 1947 and 1948. He is also a contributing editor for "American Opinion" magazine and its Latin American correspondent. (See his articles in the Dec.,1967 issue of "American Opinion". One

is entitled "Red China - Time to Let Chiang's People Go" and the other is called "From Latin America"

The same issue of "American Opinion" ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ has a review of "Plot or Politics" by none other than Medford Evans. Recall the statements I gave you he had in the Sept. issue?

Bruce Lewis called my attention to the Winnipeg story about the man who saw Ferrie with another man in Canada discussing the assassination. The 3/17/67 article refers to the other person with Ferrie as "believed to be 50 or older...He wore a light tweed suit and two-tone brown shoes, had a badly pock-marked neck and reddish-blond hair. He wore a hearing aid in his right ear, and spoke with a slight accent." Lewis says a photograph of Richard Lauchli that appeared in the June, 1967 issue of Esquire might fit this description. Can you get a photo of Lauchli so I can have Harv Morgan send it to ~~him~~ Giesbrecht?

That student who you met at UC Berkeley and is with the board that arranged your speech agreed to have you speak in February. All the expenses would be paid by the "Union Program Board" he said. His name in case you don't already have it is "Jan Karowsky, 1631 Walnut St. Apt. #F, Berkeley, Cal. (telephone: 841-2419).

I've seen no reference to your UPI story. Anything out there?

The index to Rosemary James book is being prepared by me and I'll send it to her this weekend. I have only one copy left. I'll mention that it was based on your request.

Did you note in Oswald's notebook the name "Bardes" (see Vol. 16, p. 69). Could this be the same Bartes who is FRANK BARTES in Vol. 17, p. 764 & Vol. 26, p. 581? (Same as the one in your book).

If you'll recall I gave you copies of two Okla. clippings on a James Hicks. You'll note that six Cubans were identified by him at Dallas on 11/22/63 although they are not identified in the story. I believe that one of these may be Manuel Rodriguez Orcarberro as mentioned in the Archives Documents #CD853 & CD1085(u) both marked secret. It's my guess that these six participated in a picket of President Kennedy and somewhere there is a photo around of them picketing which Garrison himself may have. I recall somewhere in the volumes that one of the Secret Service men mentions seeing these Cubans picketing with their signs as he was in the motorcade just before reaching the Elm Street area, however I cannot at this time locate the reference. But there was no doubt that Cubans did picket that day and I vaguely recall some newspaper pointing this out just after the assassination.

Any connection between the John Joerg mentioned in Vol. 26, p. 202 and one of a similar sounding name you discussed with me when you were here?

What do you know of Charles F. Kilhr in Vol. 22, p. 586. His car at Walker's home sticks in the back of my mind but I can't recall what it is. Maybe it has something to do with his license plate number?

An ad in the Daily Cal refers to a booklet (22pp.) called "Who Killed Kennedy". It claims to have been "suppressed and subverted by the CIA". It sells for \$1 and is available from Box 64, Glenville, Conn. 06830.

If you'll recall what I told you about Lester Logue in connection with Madame Nhu's visit to Dallas. What do you make of the fact that Keren Surrey (daughter of Robert Surrey) presented a bouquet of flowers to Madame Nhu in Dallas. Surrey was Walker's aide. (see Vol. 23, p. 515-6).

D gathered from Carney's conversation with Garrison that Garrison has become real chummy with Melvin Belli. He called him "my West Coast booking agent". Carney invited Garrison to talk before the S.F. Press Club. Carney happens to be the V-P of the Press Club and he said that the Press Club was anxious to have Garrison there. Just how does Belli figure in all this? Why has he changed his mind? I've never for a moment believed that he didn't think that Ruby was involved. He once told Gavzer: "Give me ten men like Ruby and I can lick any army in the world". That was before the trial began of Ruby. Gavzer knows this since he told me and I wrote it down.

The Miami angle to this whole case seems quite important. In this connection what do you make of the reports that Oswald was in Miami? Note, for example, Vol. 26, P. 424-5 and the incident with Jerry Buchanan. Could Jerry Buchanan be the man that Eason's caller knew in Miami?

Further proof that Ruby knew H.L. Hunt appears in Vol. 23, p. 363. With his name being tossed around so much in the volumes it is very indicative that he was not called as a witness. It might have opened up a whole can of worms.

Other issues that have articles on the assassination I have learned about: See the Canadian magazine "Dimension" for Dec., 1967 and the NY Review of Books for 12/7/67 (this has an exchange of letters between Meagher and Popkin on Garrison).

John pointed out that the cover of "Oswald in N.O." states as its subtitle "Case for Conspiracy with the CIA" but that on the opening title pages it reads as "Case of Conspiracy with the CIA". That ought to be changed by the next edition.

I'll point out some other errors in the book. On page 49 shouldn't February 20, 1967 be instead "February 20, 1963"?

On page 106 the first word on the second line ("1962") should really be 1963.

On page 302 in the second paragraph the word "scnadals" should be scandals.

On page 325 on the very top you have "Thus we have(?)". This is obviously a proofreading error and looks very bad. It should be left out.

On page 318 the very end of the last paragraph - "(11H31)". This should be (8H31).

One other thing I noticed in the volumes before I end this letter. On different occasions Oswald used 757 French St. and 657 French St. addresses referring to the same person. This could be an honest mistake. See these references: ~~Vol. 17~~ Vol. 17, p. 697, 754, 756 & 770. Note, too, that on page 754 the address is underlined and that 4907 Magazine St. is underlined on p. 756.

Well, I guess this will keep you up to date and perhaps give you some leads you can follow up on.

I'll close now and will write as soon as I hear from you again.  
Best in the meantime.

*Hal*  
Hal