

Mr. Henry Wade
16475 Dallas Parkway, #550
Dallas, TX 75328

3/28/93

Dear Henry,

We've both worked many years to earn the license we have to forget. After we've worked at that earning for a while we begin to practise it. Comes naturally. We do not even plan it. Then we have to get used to it without being frustrated. Not always easy!

In your letter of the 24th you say you did not know that Rankin badmouthed you. He did not when you were present. It was later when he and Warren discussed that meeting with the other Members three days later.

You are right in saying that nothing productive came off the meeting. That was the intent and it was why the other Members were not there and no court reporter was. I think ~~that is the only time they made no transcript.~~ ^{there was only one other}

Whether or not there was anything to the report that Oswald worked for the FBI, it was the official determination to find that he had not. They began with the determination to say there was no conspiracy, whatever the truth might be. (And the evidence they could not avoid established beyond question that there was a conspiracy.) One of them blurted out at the 1/22/64 executive session that if they found that Oswald had worked for the FBI nobody would believe there had not been any conspiracy. Your group was invited up as the result of the 1/22 session, called after the end of the working day, that much of a rush.

But if you have no notes or aides memoire by now you probably can't remember much.

One of the things that interests me most is that in everything the Commission did that was public about that report, it had Oswald's alleged FBI number as S172 or S179. Not only is this not an FBI number, it is not the actual number. The records indicate that you provided it that day and that it was a six-digit number with no letter. That also is not an FBI number for an informant. Lonnie told me that he and Bill Alexander and I think he said Hugh Aynesworth made that number up in the belief their phones were tapped and that as soon as they used it on the phone they were visited by the FBI. With Lonnie one never knows. But it is clear that the number the Commission used was a phony.

It was not, as you think, that Carr got the hearing together. That was Rankin and that is why he called the evening session on the 22d. Carr had just gotten the report and had told Rankin. Rankin and Warren brought it up at the executive session and recommended that your group be invited up and that was approved. Dulles even said they should destroy the record they had made, they agreed to, it was not typed up, and then they went off the record. What was overlooked was the stenotypist's tape and under FOIA I made them transcribe it for me. That is how we know.

None of this was in Oswald's book, although Hosty's license number and phones were. Originally the FBI omitted those pages in transcribing those pages.

The story was well known in December. Lonnie and Allen Sweatt discussed it 12/15, according to an FBI report I have. Lonnie did write a story. Before him Joe Goulden did, in a Philadelphia paper. It was no secret. What scared the Commission is that your folks might go into it and they wanted to abort that.

I've had to lay this book aside for a number of reasons. The one on which I've finished the rough draft is now ~~retyped~~ ^{re}typed so a clean copy can be given to a publisher. It is a tough book ^{they} and do not find a smooth path. The crappy books, ^{these} that theorize solutions and publishers know the government ^{it} doesn't care about have no trouble getting published. This one is definitive, it is factual and that makes a problem on this subject.

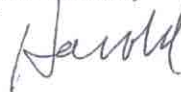
Thanks for asking. I had in mind making a clean and accurate record for history whether or not it could get published and that I have now done. I hope it can be published!

Meanwhile, I hope I can soon return to the book about which I'd asked you if you recall or have any records of that 1/24/64 session.

There is another disinformation in the works, with some people down there who can be suspected of having their own special interest filling a ^{self-} ~~self-~~ ^{Harry Livingstone} ~~self-~~ important fool with all sorts of nonsense about the assassination and he is making much trouble for some of us. This idiot actually thinks they are helping him "break the case wide open," the words he uses. They are using ^{to} ~~him~~ sharpen their ~~own~~ blades and to use them.

I hope all is going well with you and that soon you can get onto the links!

Your friend,



HAROLD Weisberg