

8/14/70

Dear Ed,

I'm writing a new final chapter for COUP, the abridged version of which will be titled FRAME-UP: The King/Ray Case. Little time.

Glad to know of Kaiser's belief, which closely parallels the belief I've held and often ~~was~~ expressed about Sirhan from the first. I sued even your reference to the "Manchurian Candidate" in many appearances, including in Calif. and immediately. I do not dismiss it at all and still consider it the most likely, considering how little dependable data we have.

Mark has also grown a heavy beard, from his picture with Fonda in the Wash Post. Her husband has been making understanding but unhappy noises, from a movie gossip column I saw recently in a N.O. paper. Lane went to N.O. only to capitalize. He was in Europe when the story broke, had nothing of N.O. in his book and knew so little of it he described Bertrand as a lawyer. He announced, in every country, that he was hastening to N.O. to give JC all he knew and had. One meeting with JC amply convinced him this was the wrong approach, if there was to be anything in it for Mark, so he became an abject slave, worshiping, praising, and selling himself all around the campuses as the unofficial spokesman, I think at \$1,500 per mouthfull. ~~he~~ and Sahl are largely responsible for the JC misdirection.

Many agree with you on DeM. I do not.

I've glanced at Marks. The man has to live in medical confinement! In spite of myself, every once in a while I burst out in laughter, as on reading his account of the finding of the bullet. He must have taped many appearances, like mine, and clipped from books, and then written from recall, without consultation with what he was stealing. And he has to be, literally, mad.

Again, thanks.

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August 12, 1970

Mr. Harold Weisberg  
Route #8  
Frederick, Md. 21701

Dear Harold:

My prior report on the forthcoming, R.F.K. Must Die by Robert Kaiser was in error.

Mr. Kaiser will allege that Sirhan was the pawn of a conspiracy and acted after being hypnotically programmed, much in the fashion of "The Manchurian Candidate".

This possibility cannot be lightly dismissed. The "Trance" like state of Mr. Sirhan was vaguely alluded to at his trial.

The combination of deep hypnosis, brain washing, and the use of drugs like pentathol, sodium amytal, or scapalomine can also close or erase portions of memory.

Certainly, these techniques are not unknown to "The Company".

Sahl simply lauded Garrison and his book, due in Oct. Mark Lane has been involved in the Army anti-war movement and he and Jane Fonda have set up an office in Washington in this regard.

Lane is a clever man and I thought that he might have had a restraining influence on Jim but evidently he did not.

The Kirkwood book will be published in January 1971.

The key figure--still alive--in the J.F.K. assassination is in my opinion George Sergei De Mohrenschildt.

Sincerely,



Edward R. Williams