



university of wisconsin/stevens point • stevens point, wisconsin 54481

Feb. 18, 1978

Harold Weisberg
RR 12
Frederick M. 21701

Dear Harold:

Your letters are intriguing to say the least and raise points for discussion that could last way into the night, for many nights/ Did you say in one that our President-to-be Gerald Ford arranged for the FBI to get a copy of the 1/22/64 executive session transcript of the Warren Commission, the one not transcribed?

A request was sent to CBS and NBC for the transcript of their JFK and MLK viewings respectively.

By the sheereast of luck I learned of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 and its recent expansion (CETA) (as an economic stimulus program under Carter) from a former student working in the local Commission for Aging Program. I delivered a speech to the local historical society on the underlying fallacies of a recent history of the state by a Richard Current, a bigwig professor, and chopped the thing to pieces. At the session was a young man (40) who asked hellish questions of me on the function of legal principles in timber acquisition and so forth, which put my back to the wall and opened up my mind. Afterwards I stopped him as he left the room and learned he was a taxi-driver. I then inquired and found from other persons in the room he had academic training. This led me to contact others and from them learned of CETA. I called the man and he responded. He had a PhD in Medieval History, knows well five or six languages, has published a book with Cambridge (ENG.) University Press, several articles, six years of research and training in the archives of the British Public Record Office, etc. Out of a job he languished in town with his wife and two young children and little hope for a job in his profession. Working with our University job officer I wrote up specifications for a job in Archives: doing bibliography, writing up finding aids, putting the Nazis stuff in shape, establishing bibliographical control and documentary control of cassettes etc. Then on Wednesday evening I gave a presentation to our local County Board, (this was after the local county job service had "CETA certified" him) and after the local university official had figured out the tricks and nuances of precision. They said yes. Then the next day it went to the regional --state level--and they bucked a bit but said yes at 10:30 in the morning this Friday the 17th and asked that he start work at noon!!! But he begins Monday morning. Through out University there is a provision for a twenty-odd dollar health insurance which will protect his family and himself. He earns \$833 per month, \$10,600 per year and has the job for one six-month period, subject to renewal which seems easily done. He might however get a job --it is so crazy in academe--and leave in September.. For six months though he will work with me. Since the library and the University does not have

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money for file cabinets, fancy archival boxes, etc., at this stage of the biennial budget he must work with pencil, paper, pen, file folders, typewriter, etc., *but these were the tools of Hanks and Gibon.*

The first step in working with him is to get him acquainted with the subject, via books, the video tape, etc.; second to suggest certain bibliographical areas, annotating tasks, etc. that could be properly done.

To my mind one of the important tasks is to put forth a few flyers, brochures, and other trivia publications for faculty, public consumption, and they will have a place in larger areas in terms of packets to inquiring scholars. This will permit him (Deloyd Guth) to become acquainted with the literature base. Thus a good and useful first task might be to draw up an academically sound, perfectly described according to the rules of the best style sheets a check list of everything published by the government on the President Kennedy assassination and its investigations--every law, book, report, etc. Ditto MRL.K.jr.

Second a ~~xxxx~~ short reading list for JFK, which is a crying need for me when I am asked for a "list" "Lists" seem to have a sacred quality among academe and educator=types, and this will build a good relationship to them as well as be a handout administrators can physically see as progress.

Third, establish bibliographical control of the books, magazine articles via classifying. etc.

Fourth, prepare a better brochure of the video tapes.

In the area of documents where he is really good I thought it might be a good thing to take the Batch "D" CIA releases which you gave to the library and have an archival job done on them. Subject indexing, main and secondary indexing, description of each document beyond the CIA peculiar description of them, On this Deloyd will be very good and I earnestly solicit your reflections on the "D" project *as well as any other project.*

Then a careful filing of the material relating to jackets, rifle, etc. that I assembled last semester. Trying to expand this where possible. providing document description of each document, cross indexing etc. If you recall I tried to have my class get a xerox of every ~~thing~~ relating to the jacket, the number of shots, the shots hitting the pavement, the bullets. etc. Some of it is good and some of it is bad, but it can be given a sophisticated format. and of incredible use for scholars & curious citizens.

Also he wishes to, if I feel it is good to do, to do a scholarly analysis of the "List of basic documents in possession of the Archives. . ." and the Marion Johnson, BLUE on white on blue publication. Comparing the expurgated text with the xerox copy originally given you but withdrawn via Rhoadse and CIA as per Batch D. I think this would be an excellent thing, in terms of endowing the subject of the assassination with academic credentials. A Medieval Manuscript Analysis !! using ~~the~~ tools, ~~language~~ language, reserved objective, detailed, comparisons that make the field one of the tops in the world.

this could also be subject indexed, as per Schwartz's objy.

objy books, N

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I work on the Hott letter.

George Leopold and the Pointer are the wiser, although they had a good deal of common sense on the Gregory question. George will send you a tape. The speech was not permitted to be taped, only the news conference.

Several times Gregory told the audience, after a fifteen minute lecture or warm-up or audience-softening skit on how to fart!-- that the Freep edition, page 17, is the key to the future investigation. He and a couple of others are going to turn this country around. The p. 17 is the missile ~~which~~ he (or did he say we--the ~~xxxxxx~~ audience accounts of the incident vary) got through FOIA.

Code Name Zorro is up for a Pulitzer Prize.

I wish you could sue the bastards.

Fore a little later I must go now to a wieed meeting relating to a s community project.

The kids went swimming for two hours this morning and then went to a v. ~~xxxx~~ play-in where they will play for two hours then they will hurry home to get an hour show on Childrens Film Festival featuring European movies on children themes. Then they will play in the foot and one half of snow for an hour and than...

Say hello to Jerry McKnight for me and I will send him the 11/22/ soon.

Adios

David P. Trone
David P. Trone

Please call 111 211 on the 11/22