

Paul, Gary VERY CONFIDENTIAL, please

1/10/71

I made a desk-top to fit on two filing cabinets to eliminate the need of a less than convenient typing table in my small office and put it on two half-size filing cabinets. I made the switch today and, as I feared, it is a bit too high, especially with my trouble with my shoulders. I am using it now for the first time and have to return to the little table. In the course of cleaning out the eight drawers of the desk I found odds and ends of notes most of which now mean nothing to me. However, as I go through them, I have just found one that suddenly seems to fit in place. Gary will recall my unsuccessful efforts to get Vince to give me a copy of Goulden's stories. You may recall that the reports are markedly deficient in not having them (or, as I recall, Hudkins') attached. CD391:2, 12/16/63.

I have a source I have not identified to anyone and have written the two of you about his information only with the greatest ellipsis. In the course of this cleaning I find this note: "Phila. Enquirer 12/8/63 on FBI attempt to recruit Oswald as source in pro-Castro groups". If either of you has the clip, I'd appreciate. Here is the point: My source said that Oswald had been an FBI informant and cooled in N.O., for reasons the FBI apparently did not understand, and that it was Hosty's job to get him back on the track, to learn what was bugging him. On reading this note, it suddenly occurred to me that with their unique political concepts, the FBI might have equated Oswald's unhidden anti-Soviet attitudes with anti-everything they consider the same as Soviet. Thus they could have considered he would be pro-Castro and have assigned him to that. But I do not believe he was or could force himself to become anti-Castro or to turn in anti-Castroites. If they had kept him on the job with threats of what they could do to him or Marina (here recall what Andrews told me, that two of the three things LHO took up with him were citizenship and the discharge change), I am not at all convinced they could get him to do a good job if he had deep feelings against it.

I think that while I cannot say I can maintain this line of reasoning against the kinds of arguments I can anticipate, it is not too unreasonable and may make sense of much, including his very strange behavior in N.O. Establishing a cover as pro-Castro is surely what he did, and when he got in trouble through Bringuer, he did ask for his friendly FBI agent (and perhaps got the wrong one). But it does make sense of his asking for an agent, the last thing one would otherwise have expected of him. And it makes sense of the blank the WC drew from Quigley, pretty obviously not the right agent. Here recall that the indications are of two, the records of one. Maybe the other was the right one. And there is no affidavit from Kaack. In dealing with LHO, the deBrueys fluency with Spanish was not needed and could be saved for where it was useful.

I will be trying to carry this forward. I solicit your opinions and suggestions, and Paul especially, your confidence. If this is correct, it can be a major breakthrough. Meanwhile, I have asked things of my source and will await response before trying this out.

There are two other items I found this way. Do not go to any great trouble to get, but if your libraries have, I had some reason at some time for these notes: NYTimes (Loftus) 12/6/63 story on re-enactment; Der Stern 1/17/67 on Zapruder film and how Life got it.

I have been thinking (and worrying) more about the declassified Ferrie documents. I solicit the opinions of both when you see them: why they were classified, why declassified (my own belief it is the fact that I was about to sue), what they mean. To Paul, I suggest holding off on analysis until you get all of the withheld pages of CD 75, for the Archives, as I wrote, had their shoes on and couldn't count high enough. I will, when I can, try a thorough analysis and will send. Nothing in what they didn't send changes what I believe about what they did. I find re-enforcement in it.

Gary: I suggest you wait until Paul has his set of docs, which will be expedited by being sent directly from DC, for your copies. I also suggest that you might want to wait until Paul and I go over them, that there might be much you will not want. In fact, I suggest, if Paul is willing, that you leave this up to Paul. There will be four repositories of each page: Paul, Arch, Bud and me. So, you can always get whatever you may want later.

In the cleanup I also found two poor copies of the real Galt signature. One such trinket for each of you.... Paul, I have a bitter letter from Sylvia who is unaware of how bullheaded she can be (I once though I had a patent). For what it is worth, I suggest you send her nothing, not even a general mailing-unless you want to trigger the exact opposite. Everything that reminds her of you will make her think all over again how you have sold out and joined the other side. Believe me. Best,