

GARY L. AGUILAR, M.D.
909 HYDE STREET SUITE 530
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94109

TELEPHONE 775-3392

5-18-94

DEAR HAROLD,

SEND ME AN
ABSTRACT + COME
LECTURE TO US.

OK?

BEST WISHES,

Ray

CALL FOR PAPERS

In recognition of the recent release of documents of significant historical importance, the Coalition on Political Assassinations has called for a national conference in Washington, D.C., sponsored by its member groups, the Assassination Archives and Research Center, Citizens for the Truth about the Kennedy Assassination, and the Committee for an Open Archives. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Washington Hotel from October 7 - 10, 1994. The Coalition is seeking papers for public presentation on the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and Reverend Martin Luther King, and related topics.

With the recent and continuing release of previously undisclosed records pertaining the JFK assassination, however, the major focus of the conference will be on the President's murder. Possible topics to be explored include the historical and political circumstances of his death, the medical and forensic evidence, the criminalistic and ballistic evidence, the findings of official investigations of his death, new information implicating possible suspects, and the media coverage and official responses to all of the above. Special emphasis will be placed on important new information gathered by independent researchers from recently released documents. There will also be an update on the actions of the Assassination Records Review Board.

Although the emphasis of the conference will be on JFK's death, papers addressing any similar subject categories pertaining to the deaths of Reverend Martin Luther King or Senator Robert Kennedy and others are also being solicited for presentation, as well as related topics.

Knowledgeable and interested parties are invited to submit abstracts of papers they propose to present. Depending on the subject and time constraints each speaker will be allowed from 5 to 30 minutes. The papers may be exclusively verbal or audio/visual presentations, or, preferably, a combination. Both papers exploring even single, important facts as well as papers presenting complex analyses are sought. Typed abstracts should be no more than 500 words in length yet sufficiently detailed to allow evaluation of the specific content. The papers selected for presentation at the conference will be chosen by committee on the merit of the abstracts submitted. Abstracts of the papers accepted will be collected and distributed to interested parties, including the media, in advance of the conference. A printed set of all complete presentations will be given to the registrants at the conference.

Please send (preferred) or FAX abstracts to: Gary L. Aguilar, MD, 909 Hyde Street, # 530, San Francisco, California, 94109, 415-775-3392, FAX: 415-563-4453. The deadline for submissions is August 1, 1994.

Dr. Gary Aguillar
909 Hyde St., #550
San Francisco, CA 94109

5/21/94

Dear Gary,

The enclosed is for you if you see fit to use it. I want no public association with some of those involved in your meeting. I do wish it well, that it succeeds in doing something worthwhile. I have had their names read to me over the phone. Besides that, as you know, I have nothing to do with any kind of assassination theorizing, by either side.

I am troubled that you seem not to be aware of the fact that you are involved with many who from their public records are nuts. Some of them alone will poison the media against you. And by the time it takes place, the best informed reporter on the subject, now on sabbatical to write a book, will be back and will have a wonderful opportunity to ridicule, which he does well and enjoys doing.

One of the subjects you say you plan to "focus" on is an invitation to being ridiculed and it reflects a basic ignorance of the realities of the assassination investigations: "New information implicating possible suspects." The only apparent source of what can be said to indicate, and "implicate" is what signals the lack of knowledge I refer to, is the FBI. Not only has it told me that what is its "disclosing" is only what I got from it under FOIA, so I know there is no such legitimate info in it, but the FBI itself was determined that there be no other genuine suspects. As soon as Oswald was killed and it was known there would be no trial at which any information would be subject to cross-examination, it was decided not to investigate the crime itself. My coming (I do hope!) NEVER AGAIN! begins with that and documentation of it. So they did not want any other suspects, true also of the King case. Where they have records that can be taken to indicate other suspects, that had other purposes: to make it appear that they checked all leads or to make them look good and to leave boobytraps. When they

refer to what is taken to indicate other suspects they not uncommonly take much more time, they also frequently reflect detailed investigation and generate more paper on it. My recollection of this is greater in the King case. They did so much of it in that case because there was a live defendant.

If in FBI records someone spots what is taken to not "implicate" but indicate "other suspects" they are chasing a chimera. And whether or not the media picks it up, you can expect the FBI to generate more of its internal paper that does have much influence,

saying this again proves they are all nutty and that we alone did a real job. None of this really contradicts what we did and it does show that the people who criticize us are ignorant of have their own agendas. If they found any possible legitimate other suspects, that would not be filed in any JFK assassination records but they would be able to retrieve it where nobody else could.

They suppress by how they file. For example, the Dallas index, which I have, does not reflect that the FBI got a tape of the police broadcasts. It and what relates to it is not in any known JFK assassination file. They even lied to the court under oath about this in one of my lawsuits and the courts being what they are, did not ever have to search where I suggested they search, under their files relating to the Dallas police.

Most of the people with you on this project have no real interest in the fact of the assassination. They have none of them for example, ever been here to make any real search of the third of a billion pages I have. Of those who have written, I recall not one who ever asked anything of me. If they do not know I have those records what do they know about the field? And if they do not give a damn about them, what can their real interests be? It is not in bringing fact about the assassination to light. It is in making heroes of themselves or getting the raw material of other hurtful writing that it not only not based on fact but flies into the face of it.

I know there is important information there. John Newman has told me about some. But by and large your associates in this would not recognize what is really information if it bit them. They are looking for the sensations that are not there, what they can use for cheap fame or for more meretricious writing.

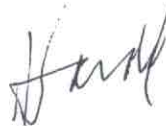
These reasons, and some of my past personal experiences with some of them are the reason I want no public association with this. If you want to use my letters, you can say it is a personal letter to you. (I also do not want to take time for any disputes with them. The record reflects that it is time wasted anyway.)

And if you want to understand what I mean by their unscholarly attitude and their selfishness, almost nobody has sent me what they found in those records or asked me anything about them. You are the only one who sent me anything at all that is worthwhile. Do not misunderstand this. What you sent is virtually all I was sent.

Recognizing what is really new and what is not can be a serious problem with the media and in terms of misleading and misinforming people.

I do wish you well. I do hope to accomplish something worthwhile. Based on the past of some of these people I do not expect this and I do not expect it to result in any pressure for additional disclosures.

Best,



Dear Gary,

Rather than a paper for the October meeting I offer a few considerations for thought because without question some of the assassination records now accessible do hold potentially valuable information and because the vast volume of information that has long been available has been of little or no interest to those of us usually lumped together as "researchers" or "critics" as to a large degree what they have said and written reflects.

Because what you plan is to make copies of the papers available to the media it is important to know whether in fact some of this "new" information is in fact new.

The FBI, for example, tells me that what it has made available is only what I already have. That may make it new to those who have had no interest in it but if the media is told that it is in fact new it will downgrade the importance of the disclosure of what is still withheld and will not encourage its release. That would also make all work in the field appear to be less new, less valuable than it is.

I think the emphasis in your call is correct, "Special emphasis will be placed on important new information gathered by independent researchers from recently disclosed documents." But if it is not new or if it is given meaning it does not really justify, how will that make all look and what will the media think of your meeting?

Some of the media will have some subject-matter knowledge and some may be looking for making the meeting look foolish.

This means that the papers themselves ought not justify media criticism.

But if those offering the papers lack knowledge of available fact officially disclosed years ago or give it special meanings important to them and not really justified by the records themselves, it will be hurtful to all interests.

What in the past has been a problem is that too much of what has been said and written is of theories that appeal to those who offer them and based on the available fact ranges from unlikely to impossible. Moreover, while theories are acceptable in novels they are widely regarded as not the stuff of nonfiction. These theories may seem attractive or better than that to those who offer them but when it counts,

2

particularly with the media, they are not well received or are ridiculed. As some deserve to be.

If, even if it is not justified, your meeting is regarded as a gathering of those who live with and for whodunits, it will do no/ good and will do harm.

Theorizing as way of thinking is one thing but writing theories as fact is an entirely different matter. And it has been done too often.

Then, too, often what people find in these records they regard as in a sense personal property and they do not share it. That is not real scholarship and it can be hurtful to those who practise it. It is not impossible, for example, that there exists what can have importance or add value to what they find, but that they do not know it.

I have had a stranger phone me after examining some of the new records that are in an area in which I have done much writing. I asked to see what I was being told about, was led to believe that copies would be sent to me, and in a half-year I've heard nothing further from that stranger. I had no interest in that information for my own writing, which on that aspect is of the past, and if ~~asked~~^{asked} to keep it in confidence would have done that. But not letting me see those new records I could not feed back what could have been of usefulness to this stranger or refer to other existing records that could relate to it.

This kind of selfishness is ultimately self-defeating and it hinders, not helps, public recognition of the realities.

people should be able to work together and should want to, not to keep secrets from each other. None of us owns the subject matter, or knows all there is to know, or knows so much that no other information is needed.

What in a sense I am really saying is that some attitudes need reexamination and I think changing so that the common interest be served better and so that nothing be done to add to the disrepute in too many quarters including those that are important of work in the field, its meaning and its potential meaning. This, among other things, requires unselfishness and a willingness to communicate information to others.

Harold