

4/7/76

Dear Mark,

Thanks for the thoughtfulness of the return-addressed envelope. I appreciate every saving in time, no matter how minor.

And the Cavalier story, which is more informative than AP's, which was not used in Washington. I saw it in Memphis.

I was never hopeful of real performance by or accomplishment in the Congress once Lane returned to DC and was joined by Bud. There were brief moments when I did expect more of Schweiker and of Tiny and Rick in Downing's office, but they were very brief. So there not only is not disenchantment but I continue to look ahead, still with hope.

What you suggest is what I thought last October Schweiker had accepted. I did propose this to him, offering all the documents and relieving him of any responsibility to credit Post Mortem. This was right after I sent the negatives to the printer and before I was hospitalized.

I made identically the same proposal to the Downing people last summer and again to Rick, who phoned me prior to the Rules Committee appearance.

Or, they know what they did, they know of this evidence, and they made their decisions. This is why I have not spent time on the Hill. No casting of seed upon the earth.

The report is due tomorrow so I see no reason to contact the Schweiker staff, which is for all practical purposes out of existence by the time you get this, except for his personal staff. (Marsden was with us.)

I don't now recall when I first got the Burkley stuff with certainty, but I think it was right after I completed the draft of the first part of PM and for this reason removed the Burkley stuff from it. That was retyped during 9/67. I got some from Secret Service and forced some into Archives, where it was misfiled!

Best,

506 14th Street
Charlottesville, Va. 22902
April 5, 1976

Dear Harold,

I found out what they called you about from Purdy- a report that the CIA had Oswald's diary in 10/63 which turned out to be unsubstantiated.

About the date on the claim form. My paper should read "the date on the form was probably filled out by Oswald himself." Somehow that qualifier got lost between drafts. My conclusion was based on a number of things, but none of them too firm. I examined all of his claim forms and noted that though the claim interviewers varied, the numbers in the box were apparently written by the same person. Recently however, I noted in a CE that it was one employee's job simply to fill in those boxes and not the claim interviewer as I had assumed. So it may turn out that Oswald did not date the form at all.

Well, there's still the Schweiker Committee. I hope you haven't become too disenchanted with them. I don't know how much his staff knows about the case, but it seems to me that if they want a reinvestigation they ought to strike at where this case is the most vulnerable. In my humble opinion, such a place is Kennedy's back wound. They have the grounds - Burkley's verification of the face sheet was withheld from the Commission and a case could be made one of the government agencies was responsible for it. Those autopsy doctors probably wouldn't talk, but a questioning of other less interested parties who saw the back wound might yield results. These people haven't had to answer to anyone for 12 years, (except perhaps to dodge one of your fiery letters). It would only take one of them to talk to get the Senate to take it.

I am considering contacting Schweiker's staff and impressing this idea on them. Do you think my idea is too simple and naive? Is there any easier way to ~~be done~~ get some results quickly?

There were a few things I didn't get from Post Mortem. When did you first learn that the face sheet had been verified by Burkley and by what means? FOIA suit? Also I remember seeing in the Archives a report Burkley had made, also placing the wound down there. Where in the Archives could I locate it? Which file?

I realize that you ^{have} already written me 3 times within the last few weeks. After this one I will leave you alone-for a while. Under the circumstances, I have enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope for you. Your help is always appreciated.

Mark

I know you are busy, so just get to it when you can.