

Other letter under Ray, Rifle. En. Miller Keating, Haiti

8/11/69

Dear Dick,

This has been a broken-up day on which I had planned to get the last chapter of the Ray part of the COUP addition written, I got it started and since then nothing but interruptions, people and mail that couldn't wait. It will soon be too hot for me to work in my office (that seems to be one of the consequences of whatever is my trouble, lower heat tolerance), so I answer your valuable mailings of the fifth and sixth, in less detail than I'd like (because there is work I can do outdoors, in the shade, on this chapter).

Keating: excellent letter, but do not get swept away on Ray. He is apparently innocent of but a single transgression, pulling the trigger.

Roffman letter: I will regard as confidential. I regard as important. I am confident I examined that bullet before it was photographed for Thompson and there was no loose core. I scratched that part with the nail of my little finger. I really handled it carefully and I used the Simmons magnifying lens on it. Why not get R to get the date from Tink? Also, when you have carried this to its end, it may be important for John. There has been no response to my letter to the Archives contenting theirs, that they will not weigh 399 for me. The description "flake" is meaningless and they are "retaining" it not with the bullet.

Canadian articles on Haiti: very good, helpful, but strange in that no names except Dempsey's and the two Haitians are mentioned, not even when the number of men held and charged is given. That CIA-angle story is particularly good. Dempsey's deportation rather than trial may not be without being a kind of confirmation of this suggestion. McRee has not called.

Your 8/6, par. 3 is prescient. It is part of the last chapter in which I am now and is inherent throughout the book. I think you are right about it being a good title and I'll try and remember it, perhaps as a subtitle for AGENT OSWALD. I think I have established collusion between counsel. The piece on Teddy was not enclosed.

You think as I do in "It may be a mistake to merge all the killings in one book", in part. I think to advance the concept that they are part of and necessary to the success of a Coup d'etat it is necessary. But I have also believe the Ray stuff should be a separate book that can be commercially accepted and I have raised this question with the agent. But I think the entire work must appear, with appendix, etc., if only in a small edition.

Your letter on Huie/Loak: I have written that part essentially as you recommend, the difference being that instead of calling Huie a liar I prove it is improbable. I wish I had extra copies so you could read it, but my copier pooped out entirely today. I handle the sight with the mfrs instructions and cautions, which I have, with what I was told at the gunshot, with what is missing in the evidence, and the failure of Aeromarine to answer my letter. I handle the rest using what the gunshop told me melded with what you did plus the NRA clip plus the differences in different kinds/charges of ammo. I went into the charges, tracing out the prices of each item, and there is no provision for sighting. I say pump cannot be bersighted. I have in the various charges available, various shells ammo (I think nine different ones), that Huie has Ray testing with two different (which would guarantee error). I think it may be more effective that calling him a liar because it makes him out worse than that and is potent self-radicule, self-characterization. I also point out that after shop-sighted there must be range sighting, that mfr says even for open sight this is necessary. Except for calling him a liar, which is, I think, de trop, it is all in except the details on what is a close grouping, etc.

This also is bracketed with the ballistics evidence/lack of evidence/ misrepresentation of evidence/ medical misrepresentations and that, I think, make it all more powerful. There was careful, deliberate deception on all counts and, fortunately, as you may recall from what you read, I had enough. Now I have more.

Your supplying of that explanation of barrel vibration and the NRA clip I think make this the most powerful indictment of all the officials involved. That is why I said that while it would be good to have the added technical data you see and I'd like to include, it is not vital. That stuff is just overwhelming because it covers every item of related evidence and it is all lied about, all twisted, misrepresented, avoided, etc. Honest men make poor crooks, as I learned with the staff of the Commission as I examined their work. They lack the experience. Ray really made fools of the entire FBI (not all of whom are honest!). This and what else I have is the most awful indictment of Foreman. I have new stuff there, real nitty-gritty, close to criminal and certainly violations of both canons and standards.

One of my young friends supplied a copy of a Harris poll not published or referred to in anything I see, of only last month. Most people do not accept the official story after the trial and only 12% believe there was no conspiracy, half that in the South!

Because this will not reach your home until you will be away for a week (lucky fellow!) I'll hold it until next week.

Again thanks for everything. I have not heard yet from the W on Ampney et al and do not expect to. If I do, I'll tell you. Haven't yet gotten cleaning rod and haven't felt I should take aim to make one from a coathanger because you said there is no rush. I will.

Best,

CC Gary

6 Aug 69

Harold:

I wrote to Earl McRae today and said he could call you.

No hurry on sending me the cartridge cases. This is not an urgent matter, so it can wait.

In your 4 Aug 69 letter you used a phrase that would be good for the title of a book: conspiracy against the accused. That goes good for Oswald and Ray. Of Sirhan I would say "conspiracy for the accused", since I cannot believe that prosecution and defense at his trial were in cahoots covering up for Sirhan and friends.

Thanks for the info on Dempsey. I am still collecting material and have not contacted him yet.

Enclosed is a ~~piece~~ piece on Teddy for your files. Most of what else I have has cropped up in the US press (but not in AP stories). Like you, I am keeping things for possible reference later.

I can understand the talent and value of the Kennedy brain trust. Teddy comes off as an incipient profile on courage-- amazing.

It may be a mistake to merge all the killings in one book-- bad commercially and bad for the reader, who depends on the author to sort things out for him. Why not try to split COUP.

We can talk about Wicker's information later. It is not all important to me-- just a thing that crossed my desk.

I may not be able to answer letters immediately next week, for I'll be in and out of my office irregularly. I am going to a cottage on a nearby lake with big, big bass. Took my wife and two girls to the Adirondacs last weekend; we had a ball-- mostly watching the kids enjoy themselves at Santa's Workshop and Make-believe Land. It was marvelous.

Still,

*Dick*