

July 11, 1969

Dear Dick,

Got your letter of July 8. It is always refreshing to hear from you. I am very concerned about Harold who seems to have suffered some sort of physical breakdown. I know he wrote you about it, but he didn't tell you anymore than he told me about it.

On Clever, as soon as I get a chance I will send Harry Edwards some stuff which will interest him and ask about a Clever contact. Harry is busy and we are not that close since I have seen him only that once after about 3 or 4 years of not seeing him, but I will see what I can do. Your intentions here are good and the idea should be followed up, no matter how great the chance of failure.

I will probably not write to Howard Roffman, but thanks for the info anyway. He sounds like someone who could drain many hours of time, and I have none to spare. Vince Salandria, as you probably know, is in Phila., and so is Tom Katen, but neither is involved in the investigation, and Vince is currently strong on the line that we have done all we can as critics. Vince just replied to a letter from Garrison with a lot of stuff about the fact that we have gone as far as we will, etc.

I will do my best to get you as many photos as possible. Sprague has many, if not most of them but that doesn't necessarily make them available. Newcomb has a great many, but it is hard to find out about them since he has become fairly close-mouthed after his beginnings of an association with Lifton. He has much, which I find out about from other people in this game, which he has never told me he has. This is a big change from when he told me of everything. Whenever I get photos I always tell him, or send them, and I am processing photos from him so that at least that way I get some of his. As far as I am concerned they should all be available to all of us, and I hope that Fred doesn't become as inaccessible as Sprague.

As for mug shots, I will see what I can do for you. I have a fair number and as soon as I get them together (many are still waiting to be printed out), I will be glad to lend them to you to have them copied. Suspects is a vague notion. Bud Fensterwald has many, just as did Garrison, but they are meaningless for the reasons that those people were suspicious of them, although most are right wingers and interesting for that reason. Right now I have one guy who I think should be an important suspect and who we all know something about and who has much more interesting things to answer for than allegations that he was a CIA paymaster of assassins (Fred Lee Crisman) or the world's most important CIA gunman (Edgar Bradley): Larry Craftard. We are working on a memo on him now, and hope to start, finally after much inexcusable delay, to track the SOB and track those who know of him to see how much tongues have loosened after 6 years.

Agreed on the SCLC. I have heard the same from countless blacks. In addition, bear in mind that it was the SCLC which really screwed up Matt Herron and Chris Kefalos when they were in Memphis. Matt discussed it with me on the phone, and Chris described it at great length the summer after it happened when I was in Phila. People by the droves called into the SCLC with info, and the SOB's didn't take names and phone numbers or much of anything, so that great reservoir of potential info was lost--maybe in some cases, for ever.

Glad that Rennar wrote. He told me he would. He has interesting stuff on Alvarez which I sent to Harold, but which I hoped he would send to you himself to save me xeroxing. He is a hardworker, a nice guy, and dependable in general from my experience. Furthermore, he does not suddenly change his opinions on important things and drive you crazy the way Fred does. In addition, he has not been taken in by Lifton [Dave made the mistake of showing him the men, artillery range finders, floating negro head, etc. in the trees which blew his mind because Dave was serious about them. Dave only does this with people he thinks are a bit

gullible].

Get those firearms problems spelled out and I will give them to Olson. He must have contacts, and there is always a chance that I can develop some of my own. I have a lot of support here and am generally quite well thought of, so there is no telling what I can do. It is considered OK out here ~~for~~ for people like bank presidents and police officers to come to hear me and indicate support and /or interest. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, for instance, was fascinated when the First National Bank called up and asked for copies of their posters advertising my appearance before their group, saying that everyone should hear it. I hope that Nichols doesn't botch his suit. My brief contacts with him reinforce what Harold says about him--his knowledge is not complete and he is headstrong. He is a bad man to lead off against the government, but I guess that it is good that someone has the money to do it.

On Humphrey I agree. I always watch for the making of a patsy out of a big man like that, and try to capitalize on it. I would love to be able to build a good case for that. Humphrey, by the way, may well have important knowledge. Vince Salandria picked up some interesting info about something HHH said in 1964 when trying to get the dissident southern groups to come back into the party (he knew that his vice-presidential nomination depended solely on that). I am hoping to work through to HHH gradually through friends. I want he and his wife to gradually get feedback on my presentations. I am doing the same with some SS men who were guarding him.

Enclosed is an article written by Don Olson which he is submitting to criminology journals. Please copy, if you want, and return it. We will be leaving for Dallas by the end of next week, so you can take your time on this.

Best wishes.

cc:Harold

Gary