

Dear Gerry,

6/3/94

The enclosed story on the exhumation of Frank Olson from the local papers was followed by extensive local TV reporting, Baltimore and Washington. I do not know if the nets reported it or if you saw any news stories about it. The reporting that the Belin-run Rockefeller Commission brought it to light is not true. It was last on that. The family's lawsuit was, as I recall, first. All my records on this are at Hood. They include what the family got from the CIA from the family and later the CIA's copy and then a wide assortment, mostly of junk, from the CIA on the mind-bending and experiment-on-humans cold warring.

Olson was a respected scientist at Ft. Detrick. The CIA had a cell there ^{he was in it.} I did, or had Detrick scientists (army) do strange things. The Cutler mythology of assassinating JFK with a flechette has its origin in the development of such a flechette at Detrick. The Church Committee exposed that.

The CIA had a place at a then expensive resort in Western Maryland, at Deep Creek Lake. Its cell people from time to time drove there to be isolated and secure and to dine. At one of those dinners the unsuspecting Olson was slipped some LSD. He reacted strongly. The CIA decided to take him to New York, where it regarded the named name, Abrahamson, as an expert on what to do with ODs. In driving him there on the roads that then existed they drove right past a respected mental hospital ^(Chestnut Lodge) in Rockville where, ultimately, it was decided to take him from New York, where he'd been about a week. Before they could leave New York, ^{rather} before they planned to, Olson went through the window and died. The family was lied to ^{and} the widow had the hard task of raising three ^{small} children without their father and without his income. Some of the Detrick people involved were unhappy about the whole thing and supported the family when, when the children were grown, they decided to sue the CIA. They got a lawyer unknown to me in Philadelphia and he settled for the disgracefully inadequate sum of \$750,000, approved by the Congress. With the costs and what the lawyer got off the top divided four ways that came to very little.

Somewhat Alice educated her children. I first knew Eric when he was in high school. Two classmates, two girls, Mary Ellen Creed, whose mother was a high-school teacher, and Maria Callas, whose father had a hamburger joint, decided to do a science fair project on imprinting, then very little known. They'd heard about it from the brother of one who in college found it mentioned in some psychology reading. So, they wanted some fertile duck eggs. And they'd heard of my Peace Corp projects that the AP dubbed "Geese for Peace." They phoned me, I was familiar with Lorenz' work and had done a little of it myself, and asked for duck eggs. When I learned what they had in mind I suggested that they have a parent drive them down and I'd give them instead a few goose eggs and an incubator. It was past the normal breeding season but I had three fertile China goose eggs. I think it was Eric who drove them down. They did their project in the Creed attic and ^{they} won a top prize. They taught one of the two goslings that hatched (two of three

was not bad for the primitive incubator and for their inexperience) that its mother was a toy stuffed skunk. The other was the control. I got them attention in the Baltimore Sun and for it Eric took the pictures. He was a pretty good photographer.

After college Eric taught in a local elementary school. He phoned and asked me if I'd speak to his class. I did, those kids were bright and asked sensible questions. One was the daughter or a friend.

Next I heard of Eric he was with the Arnold & Potter law firm, one of the more prestigious in Washington, doing some kind of environmental work.

It is now reported that he is a psychologist.

It turns out that the only contemporaneous investigation of Olson's death was by the CIA. It investigated itself, using its Office of Security. The disclosed reports were grossly inadequate, but the CIA did cover its own ass. I do not have a clear enough recollection of them to recall whether they hold the basis for Eric Olson's suspicion that he father was thrown or pushed through that window. Off Ty he said that the hotel people told him his father had to have been pushed through it.

He also said that the motive was that his father could have pulled the plug on the CIA's mind-bending experiments. I do not have any reason to believe that in advance of the LSD being used on him he had any knowledge of it but perhaps Eric meant that the experience alone was enough to expose what the CIA was doing. I do recall that about 20 years ago I registered a movie script, "The Defenestration of Henry Catt," in Hollywood through a friend who's spent his life on the production end of movies and who phoned just a few days ago, on Memorial Day.

Lil believes, and I am inclined to agree with her, that Eric held off until his mother died in deference to what he knew or believed her feelings would be. The daughter as I recall died some years ago in a plane accident. His brother Mils is a local dentist. It happens that our dentist was for a while in practise with Mils.

The family used what it got from the CIA for a building it planned would be used by medical people as a memorial to Frank. That was not very successful and from time to time there have been vacancies. I know that for a time a real estate office was in it. It is on Daughman's Lane, on the same side as the Holiday Inn and about half-way between it and Shookstown Road.

I have no idea what an examination of the body can disclose after all these many years and after so violent a fall that could indicate that Olson was pushed or thrown through the window. I suppose that traces of other chemicals might still be detected.

Hu

(6/2/44)

When I mailed Gerry Ginochio the Olson story in yesterday's local papers I had no idea that as today's story in the Washington Post discloses, that the NY Statler Hotel's night manager had not been interviewed by the CIA in its investigation by its Office of Security or that, if he had been, with the names excised, what he told the Post would not be included in that supposed investigation. I say this on memory and may be wrong but I do not remember anything in that investigation as disclosed that says the night manager did not believe he had jumped through the window of that it was "closed with the shade pulled down." That man, Armond Pastore, claims to remember the matter "like it was yesterday," that Ossan was still alive when he saw him on the sidewalk and that Olson tried to talk to him.