

TECOLOTE

ALSO MEXICO, D.F. AND TORREON, COAH., MEXICO



Business Services, Inc.

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P.O. Box 405
William Carey College
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401
September 17, 1970

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Rt. 8, Frederick, Md 21701

Dear Hal,

It was great to hear from you again, and must apologize for again taking so long to write back. I just got your letter last Sunday morning when an elderly lady who lives across the street brought it over with the rest of my mail she had saved for me. I had been vacationing for the last few months with my family in Houston, Texas, and then have been tied up every minute the last few days moving from Long Beach to Hattiesburg, and wanted to wait until I could give this letter the attention it deserves.

I am absolutely certain of the accuracy of all the quotes in my last letter, regarding conversation with my close friend Ronny Caire. However, I believe I may have left out a few pertinent items. Ronny says he was aware that Arcacha and others had an office in the Newman Building, but his awareness that some of Oswald's literature had that address was after the fact. He had made that comment in response to my question, and his knowledge that Oswald used that address was, like mine, the result of reading recently-published material about it.

He made it clear that his understanding stems more from reading about the case over the last few years, and from discussing it with numerous individuals, (including his good friend, Hale Boggs, which could account for at least some of his gross misconceptions). His research was also the basis for his reply that yes, Oswald could have been a double agent, in response to my question. But the following statement that "he was a very confused, very disturbed young man" was also based on his single, brief encounter with Oswald. This is very hard to comprehend, but knowing Ronny as I do, I have no difficulty believing that he would make such a snap judgment, as he often does, as he did with me, giving me a job when he hardly knew me the second time I met him, though he was familiar with my writing. He does tend to make assessments

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of personality and character, not always accurately, on the basis of scant information, not always reliable, as he did about a Catholic priest here in Pass Christian, whom he privately told me visited Negro prostitutes (on the basis, I believe, of something someone told him).

Yes, it was Garrison's investigators, not the F.B.I., who first questioned him about Arcacha, and he provided them with a photograph and employment record. By the time the F.B.I. finally got around to interviewing him, the net had already been thrown over the truth and apparently all they were interested in by that time was clearing up any remaining sources of truth. I do believe, however, that it began-- at least on the local level-- with a sincere search for the real people, including Clay Bertrand and perhaps Arcacha, but eventually it was decided (by Hoover) to put a lid on everything. (This, of course, is my own opinion, based on such a long experience (including a personal one some years back) with F.B.I. tactics. I could write books on it, but Bill Turner, Norman Ollestad, and Fred Cook already have.

I should make it clear that I fully believe that Ronny's estimation of 100 hours of questioning by the F.B.I. (which I was merely quoting from your book, not my discussion) is surely one of his gross exaggerations. I believe he was complaining, not necessarily about the length of their questioning, but its frequency. They probably called him and nagged him to death, asking ^{for} ~~the same~~ information, which he had none of. I was not able to ask him very much about this, though.

I should also make it absolutely clear that I have no question in my own mind as to Ronny's personal integrity, and that anyone who ever met him would know better than even to ask him to be part of a conspiracy to kill the President. I am also equally certain that if he had any knowledge of same, he would not hesitate to report it. But-- I do believe, and this is my only reason for pursuing it, that either his lack of interest based on his naivete at the significance of certain facts or else his misinterpretation thereof, could have prevented him from mentioning something he did know. Unfortunately, I was not a skilled enough investigator to detect this, if it is the case.

It does not surprise me that he recalls little about the F.B.I. agents who interviewed him, or about Arcacha's friends. He knew that Arcacha's chief-- perhaps sole motive for living, aside from raising a family, was getting back into power in Cuba. But other than that, he seems to have had little interest in

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Arcacha's activities or friends.

I agree that Oswald's application to Ronny for a job in his firm is more than a coincidence (at least from Oswald's standpoint), and if Arcacha was not the cause of it, somebody in the Cuban underground must have been, I'm positive. But Ronny has no knowledge of this, and concludes that Oswald picked his company at random. His only reason, he concludes, was that he needed a job and picked it out of the phone book. This only strengthens my previous conclusion that it was otherwise but without Ronny's knowledge.

Well, I'm afraid now that I haven't been very helpful. All of this is intensively interesting to me, and certainly buttresses our elementary conclusions about the case, but I realize sheds little light for one knowledgable as yourself. I still hope that when (I'm being positive) the case is re-opened, that perhaps someone with a more tactful skill and expertise can elicit more enlightenment from Ronny and others.

I am quite familiar with the propaganda you mentioned previously by Bringuier and others (including Ed Butler of INCA), and the lies contained therein about yourself and others. They seem not to recall the Senator who replaced LaFollette, and the methods he used that they now employ (or maybe they recall with fondness, wishing we still lived in that era). I am studying some tapes I have recently acquired of McCarthy, and am doing research here at William Carey College on the Communist menace paranoia of Jim Forrestal, Roy Cohn, the Rosenberg case, the Hiss case, and on up to the time of President Kennedy's assassination. From a historical vantage point, it is amazing how that event appears to have been a link in a long chain of terrorism.

Bringuier fails to mention in his otherwise shitty little book certain items he previously professed (with the help of Gen. Walker's friend, Billy J. Hargis) to have firsthand knowledge of, including some trip~~s~~ Ruby made to Cuba (other than the one he admitted, with McWhillie). I have a pamphlet put out by Hargis that you may not have seen, and I'll try to enclose it, just so this letter won't be a total loss.

We'll keep in touch, and if something else comes up, maybe I can do better.

Your friend,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim". The signature is stylized and slanted to the right.

Jim Brown