

Dear Chris,

1/27/75

Because your notes of 12/5 & 7 when you were on vacation said you'd write when you got home I awaited that letter. I've been too busy to answer and can't this early morning take the time I'd like. In fact, I haven't even given my wife, who keeps the books, your check!

I must be blunt with you, whether you like it or not. You are engaged in silliness that at its very best duplicates work already done and at its worst does the work of the Department of Disinformation. Please do not defame yourself further or do anything else that destroys the credibility of those few who are trying and do perform real work.

I do not expect you to heed this, but I owe you honesty.

You will never dream of doing all the work I've done on the autopsy. I can tell you from this that while you may be interested in knowing what the Navy's regulations on autopsies are you will learn nothing from it and be able to conclude nothing that can have meaning from it. You can say they did not go by the book. Big deal, huh? You are chasing shadows and pretending you have caught them and willing them into the appearance of substance. However, if the attache does not provide them, the Gov't Printing Office can. I had an old, out-of-date copy I've loaned out and don't care if I don't get back.

When you say Manchester "would hardly exaggerate" you are wild. His book is crap.

Your suspicion about the route is childishy irrelevant to the capability to kill. It has relevance to the integrity of the investigation only. It was not a "curious" route but the traditional one in downtown Dallas. Use of Elm did not make shooting easier.

Your presumptions about the alleged date of change are so far out you would be ill if you came to understand it. When you pop off with stuff this crazy you really ought to sit back and try to be your own devil's advocate. You'll come to be ashamed of all of this, please believe me. And what it says is that you are imagining and that on the basis of no information, misinformation and wild misunderstandings.

There is no responsible way you can specify the exact number of bullets that were fired. I'll make at least as probative a case of any other number within reason you select. And I promise you I can destroy what you've outlined. To begin with, have you any way of knowing what bullets actually did that day and how this limits and controls what a responsible writer can honestly say?

You show signs of a common ailment over here, the "I have this unique genius and understanding" syndrome. I have never known a non-fatal case, if one is concerned about his integrity and reputation. You have been carried away by it all. If you want to muck around and ~~trick~~ trash the field up, you have a right to do it. But if you have ethical purposes and any concern for how decent people will regard you, you will abandon this madness before you defame yourself in perpetuity. And if you really care about what happened in the assassination and what it did to the world, you'll forget all you have written me because it can and will serve the purposes of disinformation only. The spooks will flash it effectively behind the scenes, ridiculing it as is so easy, and with it adversely influence all those they want to reach, especially political figures.

I'm sorry if you do not like this but it is the actuality. I have copies, for example, of their files with some of this nonsense from others. And I know that what you write me is really grossly off and logically unsound. You are starting at the point serious work left a decade ago, and you are imagining based on that. I put this directly because you do not react to subtle suggestions. I do it not to offend you but to serve your interests and those of establishing truth and the possibility of having it accepted. I can't take the time to argue with you. Believe me or not as you see fit. But be aware that you will be deceiving people and ask yourself if you really want to. Ask yourself if you want to arm the spooks, as surely you will. Your understand should begin with the realization that commercial publishers will touch almost nothing except junk, so you can't depend on most of what you may read. If you owe us money, I'll add a note. If you have a credit, my wife will post it for you. I'm sorry to have to write you this way,  
sincerely,

1/27, 5 a.m. I've reread your mixtures of silliness, arrogance after my wife did. If I can get you a copy of the regulations or retrieve my old copy, I'll send. But I can't take the time for a special trip to Washington. I don't take that time for my own work and I can't afford it. I don't keep the hours I do at almost 62 for wasting time in obviously silly ventures, either. Get your feet on the ground and your mind under control. And try to understand there is too much you do not know and show no awareness of

awareness of, like how government works. If you have in mind that LBJ put JEH in charge pronot, that's normal. If the sentence you had in mind is "No matter how humble his gather of fagots (if it is humble he is)...and he is thought Mac<sup>d</sup>eth," I recall it and you take it other than I meant and said it. I wonder if you are for real when you think that chickenshit theories that can't be valid will have the Democrats tearing themselves up. If you get it published. By a reputable publisher. And so far away. Get with it man, you make a laughingstock of yourself...And it won't hurt you to understand that what politicians say publicly and what they believe privately need not be the same...You ought also have a jaundiced view of most of what you read. From what you wrote earlier, you swallow all without question and without basis for critical analysis....I take this time to try to save you from your own exalted self-concepts, which are as towering as they are without basis from what you've told me and what you've written. Not to insult but in an effort to make you think, although I don't expect it. The only interest I'd have in the work you outline is in filing a copy with the other horrors I've accumulated over the years. But I can't think of any villains not already accused, including LBJ, JEH, CIA, wife and family, Dulles, Rusk, USSR. Everyone save thee and me. Without hope that you'll rescue yourself, HW