

TRISTRAM COFFIN

5601 Warwick Place
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015

March 1, 1975

Dear Harold:

I have been pouring through your book, and have written for my newsletter a piece "Ford and H 'White Wash IV. '

There seems something of a mystery as to why the FBI, obviously with the direction of Hoover, insisted on pushing the lone assassin theory. What was it trying to hide? Then, as you have noticed lately, the FBI tried to tell the Commission there were two Oswalds. I assume this was to show that the Oswald who was the dirty guy was not the Oswald who worked for the FBI.

The FBI under Hoover really was an imperial feudal court. One comic experience I had. In an article for Holiday magazine I made fun of Hoover and some of his comic opera doings. He was furious and his assistant Deke Delos was very angry with me, but finally cooled down and invited me to lunch. He was most courteous and then asked, "Did the CIA put you up to this?"

Hoover and Bobby Kennedy obviously were not in rapport. I found this out talking to Bobby when I was researching the article. Hoover was very friendly to Lyndon Johnson. In fact, in the spring of 1960, Hoover gave LBJ a report on the amorous doings of Jack Kennedy in the hope, I suppose, of stopping him at the Democratic convention. I was told this by the late Senator Robert Kerr, who regaled me with the stories.

Sorry the court turned down your efforts in the Ray case.

Sincerely,

