

3/6/69

Dear Bill,

Proud of your spirit. Besides, we did not really lose that battle, as you will come to understand, and have advanced in our cause as a consequence. I do not have time to go into it. But I do accept your offer and do ask that you undertake a bit of research for me in your local library, in such standard business sources as Pears and Moody's investment and business manuals.

In 1963 there was a Bloomfield Building Industries, home address 3355 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn, branch office Rm 101 International Trade Mart, 124 Camp St., New Orleans. I suspect they had Canadian connections, cannot prove it and may be in error. I would like to know everything I can about this outfit, its subsidiaries if any or those by whom it is held or owned, controlled and/or operated. It would be helpful to know the name of everyone connected with it, its purposes, its employees, etc. Even the Memphis telephone book might indicate some information, for example, a name Bloomfield with the same number as the business number, or other corporations at the same address. The Memphis City Directory, if it is available, also could yield similar intelligence.

Because I do not want to influence your thinking and work, I tell you nothing else about it. It might be important and I may want to publish it as part of something else I have already established.

The New Orleans decision was proper. Face it squarely. Garrison did not present a case above reasonable doubt. That is the requirement of the law and it also is as it should be. We must not permit our beliefs or prejudices to control justice in our country. I tell you also Garrison could, and in my opinion should, have presented a much better case than he did. He could have ruined Shaw with what I had given him and he did not use. Perry Russo is an undependable witness. I know him personally and well. He lacked the corroboration he required. The defense was deficient. It could have damaged him worse than it did.

Copies of the Shaw transcript would be prohibitive in cost. If any of it becomes available and in reasonable form, I'll let you know.

If the Kennedy Assassination Truth Committee is a Los Angeles group, I know nothing of them that is current. They have not recently been in touch with me. Their organizational days were inauspicious and of a nature to fill me with mistrust. They used names improperly, they used a letterhead they were not given the right to, and Edward Scannell, alter, head of INCA, a paid propagandist of the most extreme of the radical right, was active then. They may be different now, but I have no reason to believe this. I will copy the slide and return, because it is your property. However, for several reasons, I would prefer that you not give it to them, aside from my doubts about their people and responsibility. First, it is but part and a small if significant part of an entire story. Using it out of context destroys its value in context. Second of all, I am opposed, generally, to sensations presented merely as sensations. Used by itself it has and will have little meaning. There is a man in that area, in touch with them if not a member of the group, who I got interested in making a study of those pictures more than a year ago. He has done a very considerable amount of good work that they already have because it has been published there and attracted no major attention (again, because it had no context). I have now found things in those pictures neither of you has and I really would like to use it with

these other, related things. However, it is your "literary property" and you are within your rights in doing with it what you will. By the way, other sources of that picture are the front cover of LIFE and the UCLA Bruin, which printed large versions of it in a presentation by Wesley Liebeler, without anyone noticing what you did. My only purpose in keeping what you sent me is to use it and give you credit, in the form in which you sent it to me. The Commission also printed copies in which that woman is clearly visible.

I have learned things about that rifle that also fit with this picture.

On second thought, I do not need the slide for this purpose and I return it herewith. You will see that it is still with the return-address of the envelope in which you sent it so that there would not be doubt of the source.

I hope you have the time to undertake the research I have asked of you and that you can do it soon. Thanks, much.

Best regards,

Harold Weisberg

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March 3, 1969

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

I know this is probably a hectic time for you, but I felt compelled to write you. I was stunned, apalled, what else can I say? I was shocked to hear of Clay Shaw's aquittal.

How a jury could refuse to convict a man because they thought the entire trial rested upon Mr. Garrison's opinion, I just don't understand! What of Perry Russo? What of the witnesses?

I am writing for one reason in particular; to let you know that now that the fight will be harder, I will do everything I can to help. If there is anything I can do to help you, please let me know.

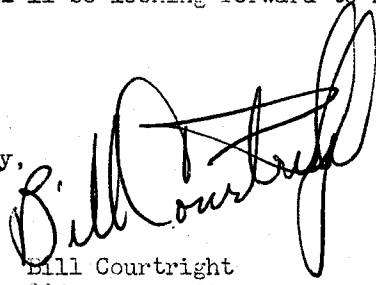
I have joined the Kennedy Assassination Truth Committee, and I hope I may be of some help to them.

Would you please tell me if there is any way I would be able to get a transcript of the Shaw trial? What of copies of the photographic evidence?

Also would you please send me a copy of the slide I sent you of Oswald, his rifle, pistol, and the mysterious lady in the background. The Truth Committe might be interested in it for it's archives.

Thank you for your time, and I'll be looking forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,



Bill Courtright  
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Denver, Colorado 80219