

11/30/76

Mr. Richard Curtis
156 E. 52 St.,
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Dick,

Having heard nothing from you in two weeks I do not take it that Zebra is impatient for The King Conspiracies.

I do presume that if and when you have something to say I'll hear it.

This is an update.

I returned to it this morning, at most for parts of today and tomorrow.

Thursday I'll be in Washington, for a court hearing and a National Public Radio broadcast (All Things Considered) ~~on the assassination of~~ George McMillan and Ray.

When I return I'll have xeroxes of the next two volumes of the FBI's King assassination files, some 500 pages, and about 3,000 pages of the index to its preparations for the prosecution. The index covers 29 volumes I have not yet received.

Those will have little value for the book. They are feeding me the junk first, to stall longer. They will require reading because they have court values and importances. I'll have to prepare for use in court.

Aside from the Mark Lane ripoff about which Grenquist at Prentice-Hall indicates some concern there will be another and a crappy book in New York perhaps soon. It is by a friend of mine, a former reporter who got himself lost in all of this. He is a decent, well-intended fellow. He was one of the first reporters at the scene of the crime and but he has never been able to develop any real information about it. What he has written has been printed in a minor publication catering to the most paranoid. He tells me he is revising the end.

Lane's conduct has been so unethical Jim Lesar has been forced to complain to the New York bar. I do not know if these matters are confidential so for the time at least I'd like you to regard it as confidential. Lesar is Ray's only counsel of record, I the investigator. Some of the unethical conduct involves Ray's rights and interests. When I developed the proof and gave it to Lesar I had no knowledge that Lane had planned a book.

From the new House committee I expect nothing good and to date have seen only the bad, the irresponsible and the utterly incompetent. The spooks are manipulating it like pawns. One Member is on the verge of resigning. I have broken all relations with them except strong and indignant letters for the record. These are based on their wrongful practices that violate basic legal rights and their repeated lies about them. They have given me a conflict of interest I can resolve no other way. They are behaving like typical don't-give-a-damn prosecutors which in fact they are.

Whatever a "producteur-delegate" is on French TV, he was here until 11:30 Saturday night, on both King and JFK. He is preparing a King special. I think I interested him in my JFK work, too. When he phoned he wanted a copy of Frame-Up only and said he'd return it in February after returning to France yesterday. When he left he asked if we could meet again tomorrow. I asked him to make it after the court hearing Thursday. Seems encouraging.

Best wishes,