

3/21/71

Dear Mary,

Don't want your letter of 3/17 to get lost in the stack that accumulated during my short trip to N.Y. and the large amount of work that is new and that awaits, so hasty response...When I get the books, which should have been six weeks ago, I'd have all anybody can want, and sending them will be no problem.

That story about Al Chapman is exciting, and I must say that everything he did for me is solid. But after reading his piece in the National Enquirer I'd want some kind of independent confirmation.

If there was an earlier report, we could ask for it. It need not be in the Archives, but the DJ would have to have it, or lie.

I'm not surprised that G is still handling matters relating to the case. I would assume that of all people down there, he'd be the one were there only one because he handled more of the materials than anyone else. And we have kept them in the position where they have to maintain the pretense of interest and activity.

When next you speak to Al, I'd appreciate it if you would ask him to make a full record of this for me with dates so that, if I can, I can check the thing out and so that, should it fit with something in the future or should I later want to use it, I'd have the best possible record. I supplied them with a bullet found more recently in Bealey Plaza, an old one, one I did not believe connected with the shooting but possibly a plant, a ghoulish thing. Their verbal reply was typical, not used in the ass., which is what I told them. But with me they were careful to make no written response, although the agents returning it had their words written out and read them. Grade-school stuff, but that is your FBI.

The pressure seems to have been applied to WNEW-TV rapidly and effectively, and Foreman either was enough ~~xxx~~ or knew more was coming. The editing, as I've learned by phone, was as close to perfect protection of Foreman as possible, and there was nothing even close to libellous in what was said. I said he had a conflict of interest, along with Hanes, never mentioning the name of either in this connection (but leaving no doubt), and Hanes said there was nobody who knew less of the case, which is only slight exaggeration and no exaggeration if applied to those involved only.

Anyway, the broken wind is gutless, and he and I both know it. I hope you approve my daring him to confront me in his own back yard...The is a man of genuine, persuaded evil. I think we would err to underestimate him...But given a chance on a good occasion, I can and will ridicule him as nobody ever has been, restricting myself to exact quotation of him vs. official statements, all court records or under oath in various proceedings. Would I love the chance on a net!

Whenever I get the books, which should be soon, it having been agreed just last week that they'd be sent promptly, I'll send the five.

Hope Buck is okay.

Best from both,

March 17, 1971

Dear Harold:

I want about seven copies of your book... But, I will have to buy one from each of two stores here which always just go on and order a copy of every new book on any of the assassinations for me (with my instructions, of course). Aldredge and Cokesbury Book Stores both order three copies each of every new book. I take one copy and most of the time, Arch and Sue will take the other two copies... Then, I usually have Doubleday order a copy for me. The book stores almost never order just one copy. They will order three copies. I stagger my purchases so that other people will have an opportunity to buy and then I make the stores reorder... If you can spare me five copies, I would appreciate it. Tell me how much to send (include the postage and handling in the bill) and I'll send you a check right back.

It was Al Chapman who went to the United States Attorney and took some pictures and a bit of information he recently uncovered (a hull which was picked up by a newspaper man at the west end of the depository -- on the 22nd -- and he gave the hull to both Curry and to the F.B.I. and they did nothing about checking it out). The Assistant United States Attorney, Sanderson, to whom Al talked, immediately called the F.B.I. and wanted Al to go to them with it again... Al refused. However, in Sanderson's letter (written the very afternoon Al had been there) he was instructed to call Bob Gimbling (sic) who was in charge of any new evidence and was attached to the Dallas office. In the letter, Sanderson informed Al that Gimbling travelled a lot and it was best if Al would call for an appointment. I am certain that Bob Gimbling is actually Gemberling -- there just couldn't be two men with names that similar in the Dallas office. However, I was a bit surprised that Gemberling is still working on the same case...

Love to you and Lil,

Mary