

9/4/69

Dear Mary,

Because I am working every moment I can this answer to you 9/2 is brief. If I ever get the chance to accept your invitation, I will. At some point, probably when I get back to AGENT OSWALD, I will want to be in Dallas again. Also, remember the invitation we gave you (both).

If Gary cannot come up with your missing copies of Watchman, perhaps I can. I think I clipped all of them.

Among us we have some problems not easily addressed. One who does confronts this dilemma: shall he say what he has reason to believe about others and run the risk of being called a divider or worse, or shall he run the risk of letting others be deceived, misled or worse? You do not know me well enough for me to be as blunt as I otherwise would. So, I'll be less blunt, elliptical. But you will be able to make your own evaluation.

Some of the people who come across most impressively are those whose work is dubious or, incredibly, fictitious. Although I have yet to accuse any of those who caused us such great harm in the recent past of being "agents", have defender some so called, I am aware of the possibility that one of the people you saw may well be just that, wittingly or otherwise.

Therefore, I take the liberty of urging this caution on you (pl): Do not take any of it at face value without the most diligent personal search for confirmation and without an even more painstaking quest for disproof. Particularly if you are going to use it or pass it on to others.

In several instances, I would regard myself as not impartial because of what has been done to me, quite falsely alleged against me. However, Gary has been pumelled with such libels and, when forced by challenge, was able to make his own evaluation. When he is there, if you desire and he agrees, you may better explore this, when it will not take the time of writing and involves no one party pris. The question will then come up: why? I cannot make definitive answer, and I think it is not the same in different cases.

If (and I do not assume it happened) any of the people you saw have evil complaints against me, do not send them to me, but inform Gary, please. He can then know whether what once amounted to an enormous and rather successful campaign is being embroidered. In the face of the definitive answer he supplied from the correspondence of each and every one of the people involved, some of whom are quite pleasant and all of whom or persuasive and seemingly dedicated, it would be worth knowing whether this campaign continues and in what form. It cannot possibly accomplish any good, has done considerable harm, aside from its fraudulent base.

Good to hear from you, please excuse haste.

Best,

September 2, 1969

Mr. Harold Weisberg ✓  
Mr. Gary Schoener  
Mr. Don Olson

Dear Harold, Gary and Don:

Well, I am back at work after almost a month of "gadding about". I went to California for a wonderful visit with the Newcombs. Steve Jaffe came by often while I was there and I got to meet David Lifton and Lillian Castellano. Also met Allen Schwartz (I think his name was) and the Clementes. Jack Clemente and Fred Newcomb are collaborating on some work with different films and I am sure this will be of great benefit to all of us. Lillian Castellano seems to be concentrating more on the RFK assassination now but is still a source of good information because of her early efforts in the JFK matter.

Gary, I gather from your letter to Marguerite that you are planning to be in Dallas before long. Please feel free to stay with us during this visit. Harold, I wish you and Lil would plan to come to visit soon, also. Don, the same invitation is open to you. The Newcombs are planning to come in November. Each time I get the opportunity to spend even a few minutes with anyone else who has been working on any phase of this work, I feel that I have learned so much and come away with renewed enthusiasm and more determination than ever not to "give up" until the truth is finally revealed.

Thirty minutes notice is all we need before a visit... We are about 5 minutes from Love Field... two blocks from Lemmon, the route the motorcade took on Nov. 22nd. This is a great convenience when meeting planes but guests get shaken up a bit when they think the planes are landing on the front lawn...

After the California trip, my husband and I went to New Orleans for a few days. We made no attempt to contact Jim or any of his people. He is probably very busy these days campaigning. We did meet some interesting people while there and hope that these contacts will be valuable in the future.

Don, I have now read your "paper" and I think you did an excellent job on it. I hope it is published as it would have a great impact if read by the general public.

Gary, someone has taken (or borrowed) a few of my old Midlothian Mirrors and I am missing two installments of Watchman Waketh. I read it all at the time but have been going back and rereading it and was disturbed to find that a couple were missing. Has this been published in any other form? If so, I would like to get it in its entirety. This work seems to me to be much more important now that I have "learned more" from my visit to the Archives and also from meeting others who are interested and have contributed to my "knowledge."

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I have been very busy helping another researcher by typing for them and do plan to take all your letters and try to answer all the questions you have asked. Actually, this morning is the first "free time" I have had in a month. I tried to reread "Oswald in New Orleans" through completely before making the trip to New Orleans. Of course, each time I reread anything, I find something I didn't catch before. Then, immediately upon my return from New Orleans, I got out Watchman Waketh and reread what I had of it. I think there are only two missing installments of that.

If any of you are planning to come to Dallas anytime soon, I would be happy to try to arrange appointments, etc., for you in advance. Of course, I think you did exactly the right thing, Gary, by writing to Marguerite as you did. The letter was perfect. You just may be the one who will have the right appeal for her. Most of us who have tolerated her feel that she is a complete waste of time. Not because she doesn't have valuable information, but because she is so unwilling to share anything she has. She is determined to "write a book" and put all of her theories in it.

Harold, I do wish you would publish some of the things you are working on. I know you now have volumes ready which are still unpublished. We kind of depend on you to come up with the really startling new analyses...

Again, I solemnly promise to get busy with your letters and do the little things you have asked me to.

Hoping all of you come to Dallas very soon,

Sincerely,

*Mary Ferrell*