

11/25/69

Dear Richard,

I have not a single copy of Thornley's "book". If you cannot borrow one from anyone else, I'll lend it to you. But I have markers and things like that in it that I do not want to trouble. I may, in time, be able to get you a copy. The book was a bomb. But immediately, aside from New Classics, I do not know where it can be bought.

This is a worthwhile project. I started it and hadn't time to finish. However, doing it right is not as simple as you seem to believe. I believe you should start with the typescript of his testimony before the Commission, which can cost as much as \$10.00. You should insist upon only one version, that sent to the printer, for it is on this that his and Jenner's changes were made. Perhaps Gary has this. Then the added changes of later date may have more significance. But I think it would be better if you used the typescript rather than the printed testimony as the basis for comparison, because you then would have all the changes in a single place and in a single analysis.

There should, however, be in addition anything in the "text" of his "book" that is inconsistent with the testimony. I presume this was taken care of in the editing, but it is not something we should ignore. After having done this, I think Gary can unload other worthwhile related work on you, for example, a comparison of his other writing with the testimony. Gary has some samples.

Thornley is a strange one. He is unprincipled and regards this as high principle. He is violence prone, even a women-beater.

Sincerely,

319 Dryden Road
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
22 November 1969

Dear Harold,

I have just returned from a one-man vigil to commemorate the sixth anniversary of the assassination. I sat at a table with a sign reminding people what day it is, and asking, "Isn't it about time to learn the truth?" I got to talk to several interested people, and we all agreed that it would be worthwhile to have Gary come back in the spring to give a lecture. A great many people who didn't talk to me did none the less see the poster, and maybe they started thinking about it again. I hope so, anyway.

Do you know where I could get a copy of Kerry Thornley's paperback biography of Oswald? As Gary may have told you, he wants me to compare Thornley's testimony before the commission with what he wrote in his book--apparently, his writings conflict with what he told the commission. I have written to the publisher (New Classics House, Chicago), but I have a feeling that the book may be out of print--it's not listed in the latest compilation of paperback books in print. I plan to check some bookstores in New York around Christmas time, but I'm not overly optimistic.

There is as yet no word from either Richard Kollmar or David Lifton. I have just about given up hope of ever hearing from Kollmar--it's been almost two months now, and, if he had wanted to answer, he would almost certainly have done so already. As for Lifton, I'll write to both you and Gary as soon as I receive his letter. (I just hope he doesn't ask me to promise not to reveal what he tells me to anyone else--from what Gary said about him, he seems to be very jealous of the facts that he has unearthed.)

I'm going to close now--otherwise this letter won't go out until Monday.

Sincerely,
Richard