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2/3/89

Dear Gerry,

Our letters crossed. Yes, Oswald In New Orleans was in good shape when it got here. My letter was in response to yours that was with the book.

I've not read any of the mafia-did-it books and I don't plan to buy any. Years ago I got everything but at our ages and in our states of health I'm more cautious. If I didn't tell you, John Davis and his publisher have to be the cheapest yet.

I spent a considerable amount of time helping him. The correspondence alone is a fairly fat file. I made copies and sent them to him and got a student who spent much of her free time for an entire semester making searches and copies for him. Even though I entirely disagreed with his theory. And it is no more than that. The cheapskate didn't even send me a copy. Of course he didn't offer to pay and I didn't ask. I understand that some of what he attributed to me is not what I think is a fair reflection of what I said and thought. But I've seen none of it and don't expect to.

Good letter to Time. Every once in a while these are useful, even if they publish nothing. I've done these recently with NOVA and WGBH. They can't take back what they've already aired but maybe they'll recall for the next time. And it makes a record. I've made a separate file of what I have on the commemoration of the assassination so that students who want can study and evaluate that in the future. It is almost 10 inches thick. Not including the cassettes.

Dave has done a good job in eviscerating Lifton. He will submit it to some magazine before too long. I made a few suggestions and he'll be sending a copy to a friend of mine who was disgusted when that book first appeared. After that I presume he'll have final copy and will begin submissions.

If I didn't tell you, and I've forgotten where I read it, your Stombaugh is the father of the junior of the same name expelled by the USSR after being caught in spying. My recollection is unclear. I think servicing a drop. He is the same guy who used Dahlhoff as a courier. He'd been an FBI agent and quit, as I recall, when they were going to assign him to the lab. I suppose he's now CIA.

You may get a response from the Time letters staff. I'll be interested if you do.

Best to you all,

*Harold*  
Harold

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Dear Harold,

Feb., 1, 1989

I thought you might be interested in a letter I sent to Time this morning in response to one of the articles in their Nov. 28th issue on the assassination. What led me to do this checking was a student's report on that article. As you can also see, I obtained the signatures of roughly half the students in the project. I am curious to see what, if any, response it gets.

We have only two more sessions and the Interim period will come to an end. This week students have been giving reports on various books and articles. Since I have not read many of these books, I am interested in getting an idea of what they are all about. The Mafia books all seem fundamentally weak when it comes to discussing the actual assassination.

I trust Oswald in New Orleans has reached your hands. I mailed it last Friday ( the 27th).

Best Wishes,

