

Dear Gerry,

3/23/90

Unfortunately the one week in May you say you can come up is the one week of all weeks that is impossible for me. That Thursday I have two appointments at Johns Hopkins and the next day I am in court, for which I'll have to spend the early part of the week in preparation. If I think I can prepare before then, that will open the first couple of days. But it would be better the next week if that is OK with you.

I was the victim of medical malpractice and some Medicare fraud 1/86, when I had a prostate operation. Maryland has a law that requires arbitration prior to malpractice litigation. That doubles lawyers' costs so I can't get a lawyer. Thus, I do nothing or I am my own.

Edwards does not have FOIA jurisdiction. His is the Constitutional rights subcommittee and it is in this area that he can look at the FBI. He has an oversight role the nature and extent of which I'm not familiar with. I'd rather not seem to be pushing him. For years he was p'ed off at me. The first of the recent letters helped him overcome that. I've given him an understanding of what the FBI has been up to with me and unless he develops his own interest he won't do anything, I feel.

From Senator Sarbanes I've learned that the House is considering a bill to amend FOIA in connection with first-amendment rights. That may go to his subcommittee and that would perhaps be the best time to call anything to his attention. He should have at least a general idea of what he can get from me for that. And he might prefer to use my lawyer, Jim Lesar, for that. I've not seen the bill, HR 50. I think I've asked for a copy. You might want to get one from your Congressman and offer comments.

When you come, can you bring your wife and children? We'd like to meet them. If you'd like to, I can speak to Jerry and see if you can stay with him. His mother-in-law will now be with them forever. They are building an addition on the first floor for her now, complete with all she needs except a kitchen. And it is next to that. I think she would be the only question and Jerry would be forthright on that.

There is a small Vietnamese community here and there may be other things that your family would enjoy.

When the BBC crew was first here I told them I'd not be part of anything that pretends to solve the crime, save as I would approach that, and I told them I would not be naming any assassins. They misled me and went for Phil Melanson's combination of rippoff and fabrication. When I first got an inkling of that I gave them as much as I could by way of a caution and they ignored that. After their show was probably completed and I had a hunch they might be swallowing that bitter Jules Kimble pill I sent them CIA internal records that could not be more specific in saying more than that he'd never had any connection. They said that Melanson told them I liked his book. I did not tell them that I did not. Instead I said that I had never told him any such thing. They asked nothing and I then volunteered nothing. They needed no more for an opening and I did not want to be in the position of seeming to do anything to him. Besides, they knew that I and I alone had brought the MURKIN file out and Melanson not only does not say that, he thanks the FBI reading room for those records, including some I gave him, which he also does not mention. I suspect, as does Dave, who was here a couple of days earlier this week, that Melanson is now ripping off some of my Oswald work. We enjoyed Dave's visit.

I've not read Racial Matters but I think, from what I can anticipate of your interests, that in addition to what you can get here you should have Arthur Murtagh's testimony to the House Select Committee on Assassinations. If you can't get that printed volume, you can xerox it from mine. Murtagh was an Atlanta FBI SA.

You are right, those who theorize or make up solutions help the errant agencies. They also undermine all credibility. I've seen countless FBI records and done DJ in which they take that crap and persuade others that it is as such crap and we are all

that way. Best to you all,

H. K. Cole

Dear Harold,

March 21, 1990

As always, thanks for the recent letters, in particular the one which contained two lengthy replies to Congressman Don Edwards. It seems to me that all he would have to do is investigate a small portion of the record you have made in order to expose the FBI's persistent abuse of FOIA. Those letters also helped to refresh my memory on some things. If I can be of any assistance in helping to get these matters before Edward's committee, please let me know.

I also wanted to write to let you know that I had an opportunity to see that BBC production, "Who Killed Martin Luther King?" this past Sunday on A&E. Initially, I must say that it seemed well put together. Certainly, it seemed more reasonable than some of the patently phony documentaries on JFK, such as the Jack Anderson Mafia-conspiracy special. However, after reading the memo you had sent me on this program some time ago, I was again dismayed at the lack of integrity of those who produced it. It appears that just as in the case of Lifton's Best Evidence, and many others like it, that what is lost sight of is the very thing you have so well documented in your books -- the failure of the investigation and the clear evidence of the government lying and framing someone they knew to be innocent. In programs like this it also appears, despite the conspiracy theorizing, that the real role of the FBI gets masked. <sup>↳ or because of it</sup>

Within the next two weeks I have to write up a proposal for the special topics course I will offer next January. I am certain it will be on the FBI, Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement. I do plan to incorporate those Memphis files into the course. My colleague in history still seems interested in examining those files and possibly team-teaching this course with me. I have been filling him in on some of the things I have been reading in Racial Matters and he seems genuinely surprised to find out about the magnitude of the FBI operation and especially some of the dirty tricks such as inciting violence and division among groups such as the Black Panthers. As I see it now I am planning to come up to Frederick soon after this school year ends and have those files copied. This would be around May 21-27.

I hope both you and Lillian are well and you were able to enjoy some of this recent warm weather. I will be in touch.

Best Wishes,

