

Mr. Henry Hurt
Chatham, Va. 24531
Box 994

7/8/88

Dear Henry,

I respond to your yesterday's letter in haste because I stay in as much as possible this kind of weather, tomorrow's mail goes to the worst postoffice around, Baltimore, for forwarding, and I'm expecting someone soon who will mail this.

I am even more distressed than you over your loss of the Guinn tape. All of what I say about my immediate desire for having it back please hold in confidence.

I am surprised that Paul Hoch says he can't provide a dub because it is he who dubbed the tape he had for me. I presume his was a dub of Lifton's and from this I can draw further conjectures if not conclusions.

You did not say that you checked with Cissy. Would you, please? She has a good memory and was involved in my earlier efforts to recover it.

From what I know of the critics I believe that Hoch has best control over what he has. I therefore have to ask myself why he would tell you he does not have it when he at least did and I have no reason to believe still, does not. That is not the kind of thing one tosses away. I believe that this is on behalf of Lifton, whose garbage Hoch believes in. Actually, Lifton's theory is entirely untenable and he knows it. More on this if you are interested. I mean 100% untenable, too.

There are at least two TV assassination anniversary atrocities in the works, as I know from several sources none of which are involved in the productions. Neither of these has been in touch with me. The one that troubles me most is Nova for PBS. I don't know all of what they are into but I do know that they are going strongly for Lifton's theory and have interviewed him about it at some length. And, according to Lifton, second-hand to me, they are concentrating on the scientific evidence. They also spent some time interviewing (and annoying) Dr. Shaw who says, again second-hand to me, that all they were interested in was "the second cassette." Reportedly they have spent some time with Guinn also, this third-hand to me.

Lifton did not define "scientific evidence" but there is no addressing what can reasonably be called this without use of the materials I got under FOIA litigation and Nova has not been in touch with me at all. They cannot have done any genuine research without knowing what I have. They can, however, have been poisoned, as Lifton has done in the past. And not he alone.

I would like to avoid another desecration and corruption of the public mind on this matter and that tape is the utter destruction of Guinn's credibility by Guinn himself. Despite Lifton's attempt to hog that conference, I had planted the question he answered and he gave the answer I knew he had to give. So, this tape is now very important to me.

Have you asked yourself what you could have done with it? I was in touch with you and Cissy both after your book was out and I'm pretty sure I was told by both, I am sure by Cissy, that you wanted to hold onto it until after your appearances. So, if you kept materials for them separate, would you please check them?

So, unless you want the credibility of Nova and PBS behind another extensive misrepresentation, one that will get considerable attention, please make an exhaustive effort to find and return that tape. If and when you find it, please make and keep a dub until I tell you I have the tape I gave you.

Last I heard of Lifton he was back in Calif. and I'm sure Hoch knows where. He was there recently because someone I was helping was in touch with him. I think he is in LA and he has to have a listed phone.

Sincerely, Harold Weisberg

