

Jim and Howard- our need to and opportunity for reorienting GW 5/16/76

Between the dark and the daylight
When the gloom is beginning to lower
Comes a ~~pm~~ time in the day's meditation
that is known as the action hour.

This is that time. And it certainly is not a children's hour.

The combination has been taking form in my mind slowly and the past few days more rapidly. Rocket-like today, beginning with the reading of the transfer records Howard got and my non-completed reading of the Rocca memo on the tran back.

A particularly fortunate accident came to mind when I was talking to Howard's month yesterday morning: he had a publisher now and the title of his book.

While walking after reading this morning I dictated what may be a disjointed memo. The parking area of an apartment complex Sunday morning is not the best surrounding with either walking or thinking. I'll dub that and give it to you.

Driving back from Baltimore, during a really blinding rainstorm, I dictated two letters to Lil. I'll be sending them. One is to CIA, the other to Schweiker. The conditions and Lil's need to write shorthand in a moving car will probably delay this because she'll probably do a rough first. They'll explain a little more.

It will do no good to characterize what Hart and Schweiker et al have done. It is pretty rotten for lawyers and for Senators. But they have done it, can't and won't undo it and we have to. At least try.

They assume to basic assumptions of the Warren Report. They have made an issue of this. Their obligation was not to assume but to investigate. Their investigation avoided what they now say needs to be investigated. Or, what the hell were they doing? (I've seen no story that asks this and not a word they have uttered that says they could not have. The opposite, I not have clippings a year old quoting Schweiker on what they are now saying, so they knew the need.)

This makes them vulnerable. This vulnerability now extends to the CIA and the government people involved in the JFK transfers. I have gone over enough to be without any doubt at all. Howard has prepared a good memo on the transfers. I can add much to it. Rocca did a propaganda job, not an analysis. And there are other steps for which I'll try to find time. You'll know then. Jim maybe sooner if we have time to talk.

I believe it is necessary that it be we three. There are others who can be trusted, like Wrono, but he is too distant for the immediate needs. This is a critical juncture, there has been virtuoso display of the grossest incompetence and ignorance, there are those who are not dependable (and those whose emotions lead them into error), so we must be as cautious as possible.

The title, "Presumed Guilty," fits this situation admirably. If Howard's publisher wants to make a success of his investment and meet his obligation to Howard (and if Howard is willing to talk tough if he is not) he should not be unwilling to hold a press conference in the National Press Club, for example. Jim and I could be part of it because of the context we have all been given. Jim is handling the relevant litigation for me and I have published the work that ends the need for either conjecture or assumption about whether the assumed conclusions can be assumed.

I'm not going to take the time to round out the perfect package we have for an effort, nor am I going to suggest the effort has to succeed. In terms of a promotion for Howard's book this can't fail unless the publisher insists in inflating his costs by the presence of people who are not necessary. We don't need any flacks for a press conference. We don't even need him to mimeograph a press release. He should have very

the total of about \$100 plus the manufacturing cost of any freebies once Howard is near here. The ~~broom~~ costs, as I recall, \$75.00. We can draft a release and Floyd will get it mimeographed and distributed, I'm sure without asking him.

If he declines I'll seek other alternatives, which does not mean without Howard. I do want this to promote Howard's book, even if we do it and for any reason he can't be here. I think a means of getting a room may be possible.

If he thinks this is a scheme for promoting my own book at his expense- and when it promotes his book there is nothing wrong with it - I'll give him a copy of my distribution agreement which will make clear that the more copies of my books it sells at no profit to me the more acute my problem of replacing any sold.

C Unless Howard's publisher is paying a game of numbers of prints he is scared. Howard's mother says the first print was 7,000, the second 3,000. This hardly justifies a full page in Publishers Weekly or the unkept promise of a Times half-page. He is, I think, intimidated by the realities of solid work in this field, like not being able to get Howard on Today. The intimidation is reflected by his not holding a press conference. And the lack of exploitation of what I know is legitimate promotional material, like Specter's refusal to debate Howard at Princeton.

O This is not a suggestion for fighting with him. Rather is it a belief that we should attempt to open his eyes.

O Until you have copies you'll not know the potential of the Rocca memo and the Hart-Schweiker adherence to that revanchist, ultra line and dishonesty/ I'll take it to Jim for copying Tuesday, when we will be in court. Jim won't know the potential of Howard's new acquisitions until he has a chance to read them. I'll take them to him.

P Howard doesn't know that toward the end of the month we are in court on 75-1448, which involves the CIA but in which it is not a co-defendant. Or that Jim has oral arguments in early June in the Spectro case. These relevances should be fairly obvious. So I think that if possible we ought want to do this prior to these court appearances.

Y If this is not as comprehensible as I'd like I'll probably be writing more. I've just returned and haven't unpacked.

best,