

The Last Hurrah Book store  
737 Memorial Ave.,  
Williamsport, PA 17701

7/9/95

Dear Andy and Linda,

If I had not tired earlier than usual yesterday and decided to stop work and sit and read it would have taken me longer to learn of your kindness and thoughtfulness in making Lechuga's book a gift. I was surprised, a nice surprise, to find the check when I turned the page to Chapter 3. So I thank you both.

The book itself carried me back to that dangerous time in 1962 and in reading it I wondered more and more what it would or would not have meant if what I'd planned for my second book, Tiger to Ride: The Untold Story of the Cuba Missile Crisis, had in fact been that second book. I had it researched but first I was asked to do a series of articles for a French agency that then changed its mind, thus Whitewash II, and then the doctrines of the books that followed impelled me to return the assassinaton.

I was liquidating our very promising farming after an agreement reached at the Pentagon in which under pressure from the Secretary of Defense the various arms of the military accepted responsibility for its ruin, an agreement the Army <sup>later</sup> refused to abide by, and had decided to return to writing. I had a deal with Crown for two books on noise, then an unrecognized and serious problem. With the liquidation in its fourth month I had fewer chores and more time to think of other matters and to read a bit. Then that October crisis.

In intelligence during and after World War II I was an analyst, never a spook, with occasional trouble-shooting investigations assigned. I have no idea what made that crazy Livingstone make up that I was in what did not then exist in any event, "psywar."

So with that crisis and without deadlines or personal <sup>involvement</sup> I automatically turned to think about that crisis. My not quite instant analysis, reached and formulated the Wednesday before it was resolved, has turned out to be substantially correct. That is what led to the title of the book I then began thinking of in real terms. And to the title: Khrushchev ~~ag~~ gave Kennedy his own Tiger to Ride.

With the assassination and with the shocking to me refusal of the press to treat it other than as an arm of government I went to work on it.

Howard Roffman began spending summers with us when he was in high school in Philadelphia. When he was in Penn I loaned him that research for a paper he was doing. That paper grew into his book on the early origins of the cold war. He returned some but not all the research I'd done. He was surprised to find in it similar analyses of other crises, like my correct and virtually instant analysis of The Tonkin Gulf incident.

When On the Brink appeared I was gratified to find confirmation on my work of October, 1962 ~~in~~ in it, including of my reference to the Cuba, not the Cuban, crisis.

Now it is pleasing to find Cuban confirmation in Lechuga's book. He also lets me know that on a few details I was not correct but in essence I was. And that, of course, is gratifying.

It has always troubled me that when the correct analy analysis was so obvious those who control the fate of the world in controlling our own fate were blind to it. That continuing situation is a real danger to us. And to the world. But that national policy is dominated by political preconceptions rather than realities has almost wiped us out several times and the world with it. It dominates all today and is an even greater danger of a different kind now.

So the book and your thoughtfulness got me to thinking and to remembering and to wondering about the future I will not be sharing. It is no comfort that I was right in my lmost automatic turning to analysis at those times of crisis. It is deeply troubling because those were easy analyses they either were not reached by those who make them and buck them upward or if they had been, were ignored, then and since then.

Can you see how this influenced me to continue with my work in the assaassassination? Even with little or no prospect of publication?

Last year I finished Waketh the Watchman, which you may remember is a chapter title in NEVER AGAIN! In a sense it is a sequel to that. The subtitle is Our Strange-<sup>Military</sup> Lovian and the JFK Assassination. That book does not reach the conclusion that can be ttaken from the subtitled. I addresses motive, means and opportunity only.

Aside from other writing for the record for history I've well over 125,000 words of draft of Mailer's Tales, Of the JFK Assassination on paper. In addition to what I've written in analysis and commentary on that disgusting disgrace of human intelligence I've added, with the pegs he gave me to hang it on, a lengthy article I wrote long ago in the foolish expectation that C & G might seek to place it as a legitimate promotion, Senator Russell Dissents. This carries forward what I merely indicated on WW IV. It includes confirmation from his archive and that of Senator Cooper. And what I'm work-working on now is includes some chapters of what was butchered out of Case Open. But my getting these things retyped is limited to Hood students who already have jobs so it is not going rapidly. I hope for a visit today from a tiny young woman from a distant land who is a whiz on computers to learn if she can switch what I select from the diskette of Case AOpen to a fresh diskette from which that can be added to the begun diskette on the Mailer book. If that can be done, many hours of retyping can be saved. So I hope it can be done!

If Rick Carter of Essex, England, is your customer I got a fine letter from him yesterday after he read NEVER AGAIN! In thanking him I told him you may be able to provide him with a copy of the unread and uncorrected index. And you may also hear from an American working in Japan I referred to you recently. Again thanks,

*Handwritten signature*