

9/24/77

Dear Paul,

My health imposes limitations, especially of time and this is not one of my better days so I respond briefly to your undated letter here today.

Of the committee people I know Donovan Gay is one of the two better ones and I've heard they fired the other one. Donovan does not have hiring and firing power. If he did there are others who would have been hired for research jobs. My belief is that they have all in that department the budget permits but I'm not sure.

I don't know where your information comes from but some is wild. The Virginians did not "oust" Downing. Long before he had decided to leave Congress for a different life, one that would give him some time with his family. He announced it and I thought everyone knew it. This was long back in the previous session.

I did not think Downing was a dope because he was 30 years old. He in fact is much older. However, his record on this subject is not one that would make a responsible man proud. Especially being taken with the nuts and fakers like Morrow.

What do you know about the King assassination investigation that makes you think it is being done quite well, the way you put it? I'd sure like to know something those characters have done that was other than disastrous.

As I told everyone who would listen these people and their approach was the best shot for a new coverup and the delayed possibility about doing anything about the assassination. They are ^{and} have been utterly unfactual and as irresponsible. This does, as I also felt all along, limit what can be done or even expected now.

Sincerely,

Sept. '77

Dear Harold,

I know you must share my own frustration at the way in which the Kennedy assassination re-investigation is being handled by the House committee. I have applied for a job and not been contacted in the last several months. I am confident that the C.I.A. has planted someone on the committee. The fellow who won't hire me is Don. L. Gay.

Having taken more than a passing interest in getting the Downing committee established, I was somewhat shocked that Virginians would oust him and put a Republican in his chair. This was quite a blow to me, as I never shared your view that Downing was a dope, just because he was 30 years old. I am not a dope and I am 31 years old. Downing had the courage to look in the right places for Kennedy assassins, among the Cuban community in the old quarter of Miami. Likewise, he certainly felt a Nixon connection should be explored. Now, that we know more about a Hughes mafia network, we can be certain that internal assassination must have been a distinct capability of this clandestine group.

The Dutch journalist who has been getting so much publicity is rather curious, to say the least. First a witness (or alleged witness) commits suicide and secondly another witness threatens the journalist! It is hard for me to believe, however, that an ex-Israeli general knew very much about the death of J. Kennedy, other than what we might regard as blatant hear-say.

It seems the Congress is more interested in B. Lance than in the Kennedy assassination. I have no complaints about the King reinvestigation, however. That is being done quite well. Whether the F.B.I. is involved or not, they still have a lot of explaining to do. What is the connection of the C.I.A. to this one?

In the meantime, I'd like to have on my record any new thoughts you may have about the handling of the Kennedy assassination and what, if anything, can be done, then to do something about it?

Sincerely, paul