

2/29/68

Dear Paul,

You have been arguing, not listening. There is, really, no argument. However, there is a disagreement on timing.

I have had my fifth book finished for 5 months and haven't been able to see my way clear to publish it because I am \$35,000 in hock and I still have neither income nor subsidy nor meaningful help of any kind. I have had the sixth, then scheduled for earlier appearance, mostly done since almost a year ago. I laid it aside to do other work. I have to assign my own priorities based upon my own understanding and my own concepts of what a single man can next do that is of most significance.

Tiger To Ride was researched and ready for writing, outlined, and a few sections written, when I decided that the evil doctrine of other work would frustrate the quest for truth and endanger the struggle against fascism, which is what this really is.

Now there is a limit to what a single man can do, no matter how long or hard he works. I have come as close to that limit as anyone you will ever see or hear of. Despite the great toll of the last four years, working every day, averaging less than four hours a night of sleep, I still work around the clock, not getting into bed at all.

For the past six months it has been my plan to get back on Tiger as soon as I have Post Mortem out. I regard it as one of the more important things, positively, and as an essential to frustrate what is inevitable, negatively. Had I not, I'd have gone back to Tiger then. It is not just a question of dismissing fact because to the intellect it is not as essential (as though most people find it this way).... I'll have to let it stay here for now for I've no time (I'm also the housewife and the shipping departments while my wife is laid up, which will be for four or five more weeks). If I did not regard the sequence in which I work as the right one, I'd have altered it. I have, in fact, regularly done just that, as I think you can realize. Whether you agree or not, all the significant stuff is coming from one source, and without that nothing new would have been brought to light. I am looking to a success, an accomplishment, not to activity alone or vanity alone. I regard the sequence in which I approach the things I do address as the right one, as thenecessary one, and I have thought it out. Perhaps I am wrong; that I acknowledge. But I do see it this way, and I am not proceeding on whim.

I will not conjecture on the basis of Oswald being double-crossed. I leave that to Thompson and the other intellectual finks. I accept your basic doctrine, however, for it is mine. This is precisely what I'll do in Tiger. However, there is much more fact available than you suspect. I'll not tie it in with just Vietnam, which is indispensable, but with many more things. It is not just Vietnam, but it is many more policies. In a sense we are also talking about motive and who had it and why? I am, and my book will not be just a think-piece, viable as that approach could be, largely because it is not necessary, because there is a vast amount of fact that is part of it, and that fact I have already collected in my notes. I went even farther in the direction you want: as an intellectual exercise, I started calling shots and dating them. Right now I look back with distinct gratification with my dated notes on the Tonkin Bay thing. I correctly analyzed it, correctly predicted what would

and did follow. There are other things of the sort. Recall the incident of the Cuban fishing boat right after the assassination. This was another such, and I have that part written. Let me tick a few more off. No, there is no time. Instead, let me tell you a bit more of this book. It will begin in the interregnum, go to the Bay of Pigs, the Vienna Meeting, the Berlin Wall, the Blue Streak, the Turkey Missiles, the increase in missiles, atomic policy, not in that order, and a number of other things. It will then go to the Cuba Missile Crisis (and what I have on that, the most important single part), then to the limited test-ban treaty, the American University Speech, the Inter-American Press Award speech, and wind it all up with the assassination. I write this in too great haste, but I hope I have made clear to you that while I disagree with some of your formulation and the need of it, I am not in disagreement with what else you are saying and I would have had that book done by the end of 1966 if I didn't regard what I am doing as immediately of greater importance. Let me suggest to you that while your basic thinking is sound, you are both over-simplifying and making your own traps. It is not at all necessary to speculate on the roles of Oswald and Ruby to tell the comprehensible story, and to attempt this, when both are clear enough, is to waste words and weaken a strong case. Besides, I have no reason to believe that Oswald had the slightest inkling of what was about to happen until it did. He recognized his own position immediately, expressed it lucidly, making only a single mistake: he never dreamed he'd be bumped off while in the hands of the police. I did—and that, too, I predicted.

I'll have to mail this without reading it for corrections and without rereading your letter, for there are other letters I must write and I must get them and the packages to the post office before it closes.

Let me also suggest to you the other great tolls on my time: I spend a very considerable amount of time writing letters other might consider unnecessary, and an additional great time trying to frustrate things that the forces of evil make clear they intend. I am in the front line, not the supply ranks, as you are. Today I had to tackle Sparrow and NBC, and I've done it. I spent a day and a night a month and a half ago preparing for Sparrow, who is now in this country to spearhead another great campaign by the finks and crooks. I have laid what basis for it a single, unimportant man can, and now I must fight that. If it is good strategy to attack, as I believe, there also are times when it is necessary to defend. I think perhaps this is not now clear to you, and perhaps I'm failing to make it clear. Eventually, it will become lucid. You have no idea how much of what happens without mention of my name I have much to do with, in New Orleans and elsewhere.

Please understand I intend no offense in seeming to speak bluntly, not in the haste. There are some things I must do, like mail out the orders for books, and fight on a day to day basis, like a guerilla, if you will. Until I have the capability I cannot again return to the major offensive. Then I will. We have no strategic disagreement; we do on tactics, to a degree. But as soon as it is possible, I will return to the book you only in part conceive and to a lesser degree in detail but to a good degree in doctrine visualize. I wish I could have had it done months ago, for it would go crazy in sales today. I also risk parts of it being stolen from me, which two men I trusted have already done.

Hastily,

Feb. 24, 1968

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Harold, I think facts are important. I had a long discussion with Mr. Fulbright about this some weeks ago. Fact-o-mania is important but in social events not that significant. One cannot just assume that social evidence in law is any where near natural fact in science. Certainly the means used by people are intellectual and based on reality, a reality given objectively by the senses. But the motives of all action are invariably subjective, instinctual, and irrational. There is nothing rational about survival and procreation. And when you have a pathological personality these instincts are not even predictable. Neurotic crime has been ignored by fact hunters for 1000's of years. Even the death of Christ is relatively uninvestigated from the psychological realm.

A psychological theory is not a fixed thing like a sociological theory. New facts will modify it and add to it. But only to the means, the reality of its performance, NOT TO THE MOTIVE. Motives are finite. Means are infinite. Motives are important in rational crime investigation insofar as the expert is dealing with normal types--ambiverts. Neurotic crime just does not get solved by working over the facts until you feel like giving up... I felt that in my reading of your books. You did not give up and kept the ball rolling, unlike every other hunter of facts involved in the solution to the assassination. But I bet your readers with very few exceptions were completely exhausted... Where is this leading to? It must get simpler and simpler as the facts arrange themselves in some scheme of likely and not likely. But that scheme becomes much easier to manage once you have got the emotional possibilities delimited. No one is saying to you that a theory is a substitute for hard work. It is not a substitute for hard work in any subject, as scholastic as religion or as empirical as science. Like a hypothesis a good theory entails other hypotheses which by experimentation and/or observation leads to a conclusion. This conclusion is verified by fact but one cannot construct a good theory out of the pure fact. In science one may ignore determinism, NOT IN PSYCHOLOGY.

I propose again my theory that Veit-Nam and the Kennedy assassination are linked--IN FACT. One cannot ignore this just because it happens to be a theory. I dare-say theory has helped you out a bit more than you are letting on, either in your books or your last letter?!

Getting back to fact I should like to express my opinion based on your facts that Oswald did not expect the assassination of Kennedy on Nov. 23, 1963. Rather he was observing the lay out in order to get an idea of how the assassination could be rendered. It was part of the blackmail situation to get Oswald there but not let him know

why. That purpose was fully known beforehand by the false Oswald and his helpers. And wasn't Oswald doing that in Miami?

Oswald had a guilty conscience when he was captured. His own balck mailers informed on him! How else can one explain the speed with which he was apprehended? Then Oswald was murdered. By J. Ruby. Ruby was silencing Oswald and Ruby could be trusted with the secret. Ruby was involved by sheer logic. He was accepted, Oswald was not. Ruby was not exactly a non-liability though... his death was aided by lax care in his cell.

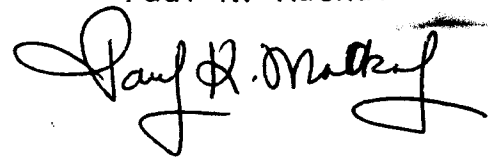
All of the expendable people that Pen Jones writes about must have a motive. It is not a group of nuts out to save their skin. They are immensely more intelligent and neurotic or rational than the public has been led to believe.

The gov/t wants you to find a group of people who look like the assassins. The gov/t or a group in it or a group no longer associated with it wants more patsies and even wants the assassin's brought to justice. BUT THEY DO NOT WANT TO SPECULATE ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION. And neither do you... I suggest that a little speculation might not be the disastorous blind alley you think or the gov/t thinks!

Hoping I have finally expressed my view as best as I could, I remain a fellow author--

Yours,

Paul K. Mackal



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