

01/3/71

Dear Walter,

This is for that happy moment when you have a little free time with people who may know what I want to know. It has two purposes.

When I finish my work on POST MORTEM I plan to return to AGENT OSWALD. I plan an introduction for it on informants, mostly but not exclusively FBI. And do I have a collection of tales! I understand than one of Malcom X's bodyguards, I think named Roberts, later surfaced as a police informant in the N.Y. Panther trial. If so, I'd appreciate anything anyone can supply, if only news clippings.

There seem to have been two witnesses in the trial whose testimony was taken in secret. One is Ronald Timberlake, who alleged he found a pistol, and the other is the FBI agent to whom he gave it. Why did he not give it to the NY police, for example? From the fact that both testified in secret and were not then identified and the fact that he gave the pistol or claimed he gave it to the wrong police, I am led to believe that Timberlake may have been an informant for that FBI agent.

In addition to this interest, I know a young black writer who plans a book on this assassination. Perhaps he told me Malcolm and the assassination. He is a reporter, so his work will be slow. If I can help him in any way, I'd like to. My own files on this assassination are scant. For their completion alone, for some future archive, I'd welcome anything anyone can spare. If only citations.

Best,