

7/11/67

Dear Shirley,

I tire so of apologizing for haste. Even though you know the reason, I feel I must, for I've not time for adequate answer to your letter received yesterday before I must leave for Washington to get some copies of the new book. There was both a jam of overwork and a breakdown in the bindery so they are late.

Separately, I'm mailing you the Castorr tape so you can copy it without cost and because there are no nearby facilities here. I agreed that no use would be made of its contents without advance permission. Dick Billings made the tape pursuant to my arrangements. Aside from Mrs. Trudi Castorr, if there is a female voice it is that of Dick's assistant, Nancy Hoinkell. They are doing a lot of good work. I hope they can get an appreciable part of it published. I put them in touch with Willis, told them of Willis' unpublished pictures, they paid his way to NYC, put him up, saw the pictures, and at least began to negotiate for their sale. Willis will yet be more helpful, as will his wife. He phoned me after reading what I said of him in WHITEMAN II, which he liked.

So did Mrs. Lovelady!

Castorr is radical right, a friend of Walkers (and Hunt and others) but he is not typical of the radical right. He was G-1 to 'ibeggar Joe Stilwell and still takes an anti-radical right position on him and China. I have learned much from and through him and more, Trudi, some of which you'll get from the tape. But remember, it is confidential. They will help further. This is quite delicate. The tape may be four-track. I've not tried to play it. Billings made it after I made the arrangements, at the Castorr home last month.

Preserve all the tapes you still have. All of my work and files are to become an archive in a major university. I have asked that this be broadened to include everyone else's. It will get there if it is in my files. So, if you can make copies of any, no matter how poor, please do so. 1 7/8 is okay. I think also you might want Billings to hear them. He is of our opinions but there is a major conflict within TIME/LIFE. Where you have notes, try and get them in good shape. They, too, can be important.

Be thankful that Mama G is quiet now. This concerted attack has moved us into a new era. It is the private opinion of Peter Kihss, who wrote the more than 40 inches of news space that the NYTimes devoted to PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEMAN, that this book also does. The absence of immediate counterattack is surprising, especially because the AP has phoned me twice, the second time revealing their possible line of assault.

I have no new knowledge of the Bogard death. Note the Willis stuff in my new book. He worked there. The Manchester revelations are what I've said all along, he constituted himself Machiavelli. Please give me Beehm interview date and as much as you can. I may use it. I have original material that is pertinent and shocking. If I use, I'll credit you. Best,

Just received your book. Will spend all day reading.
Harold, you must accept payment with my
love & admiration. You have had too many
expenses to give books away!

Harold: I am writing you a separate note on Castorr-Caster-Castor who was living in Dallas in 1963, who was a friend of General Walker's and who was vehemently anti-Kennedy--at least while he was in Walker's company. Perhaps he is a chameleon.

The report on Ruth Paine and the garage light was witnessed by one other adult beside myself. It would be our word against hers; still, I doubt very much that she would utterly deny saying it. Her evasions go no further than: "Did I? I can't remember."

Brehm drew a sketch for two of us (2 adults). We met in the hospital drugstore where Brehm ate a disgusting meal. I had the entire talk taped, but it was so bad due to dishes slamming, etc., that we erased it. It was taped on Mark Lane's miniphone, as was a large part of my conversations with Ruth Paine. However, I duplicated the Ruth Paine tapes on a poor Japanese recorder of my own. I still have this. Since the miniphone was Mark's and since he paid for the tapes (\$20 each, I believe) I did not feel entitled to keep them.

The Father Huber interview was also on the miniphone, and the last I heard Deirdre Griswald had the Huber tape. It too was poor; they may have erased it and re-used it.

I think I still have the Buddy Walthers tape. Also have the Edith Whitworth, Dial Ryder tapes, and the Mrs. Clemons tape.

Brehm told the two of us that he saw the President's skull land in front of the "sewer-opening on Elm" (Brehm's expression). I will draw a sketch for you below.

I also taped ~~Sherry~~ Surry and Aynesworth. I did not tape Watts or Keester, Postal, Burroughs, Truly or any of the others I can think of offhand. I was terribly naive during most of the interviews; it never occurred to me that anyone should think I'd lie. Michael Paine, Johnson, Altgens, I am trying to think--Molina, I may have taped these. I would have to check. I did not tape Mrs. Hill, although I had three separate conversations with her, but Mark did this. I had a long talk with Mrs. (?) --my mind has gone blank--Tice, that's it. *I taped Bowers.*

I really would like to hear the Castorr tapes. I'm enclosing \$5 for the expense of making a copy, etc., for mailing and so forth.

Have you any explanation as to why Mama O. is so quiet?

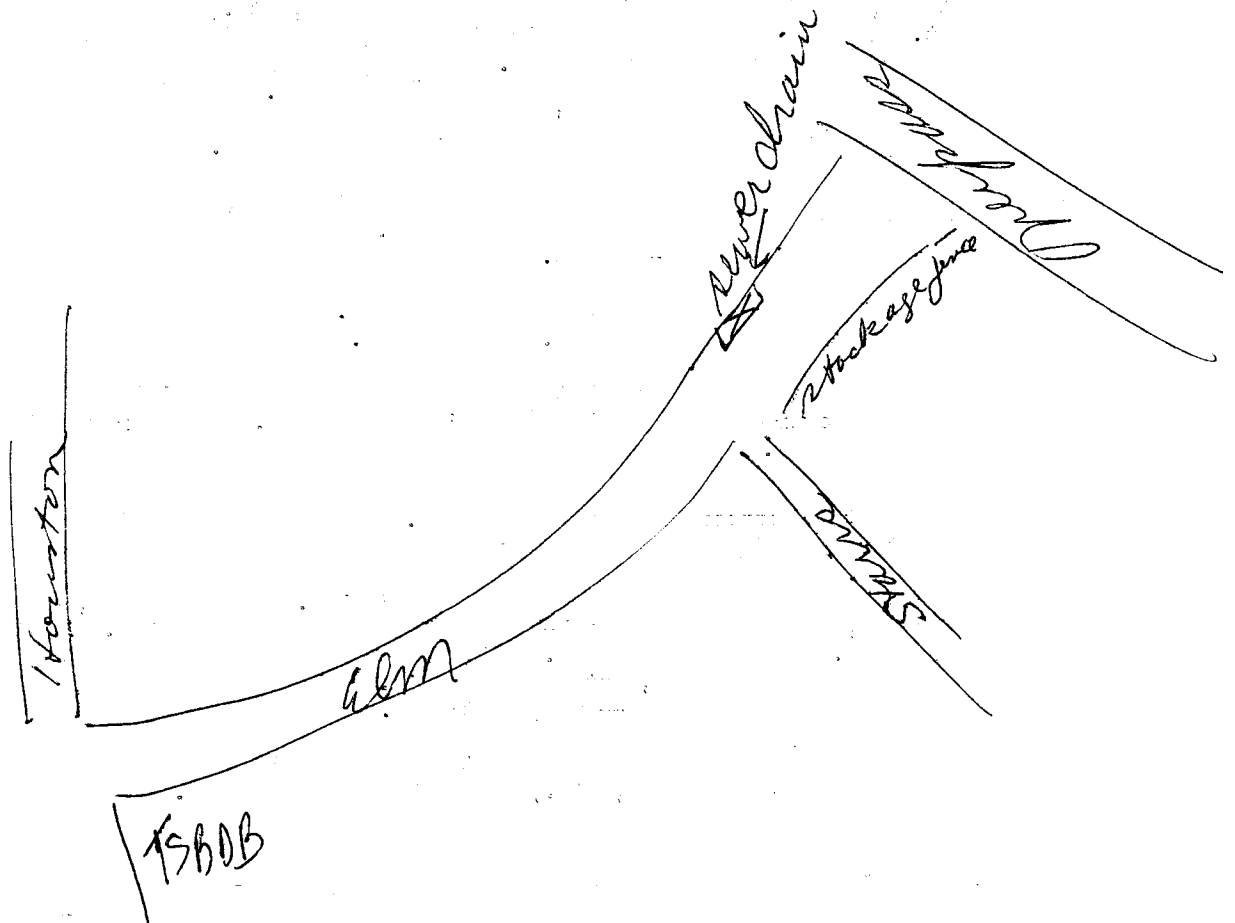
What do you make of the Bogard death as reported by Penn?

Interesting allegations on Manchester's interesting allegations on Johnson by Epstein. Thomas backs Epstein. O'Donnell denies statements. Manchester denies. What a world!

Love, S.

(see back)

This sketch is from memory: You may always use anything I send you, anytime, without checking back with me; however, it would always be good (wise) to double-check my references.



Again, please, check a map for accuracy. It has been over 2 years since I discussed this with Brehm.