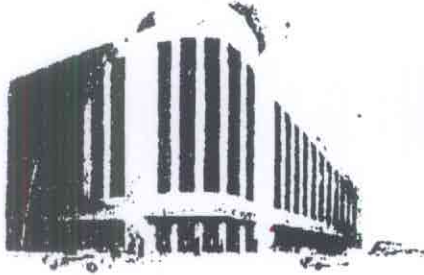


Copy to H. WEISSBERG



INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART

NEW ORLEANS, U. S. A.

August 11, 1952.

MR. HOLLAND McCOMBS,
TIME INC.
109 QUEEN'S CRESCENT,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

DEAR HOLLAND:

IT WAS GOOD TO HEAR FROM YOU AGAIN AND I AM SORRY THAT I DID NOT GET TO SEE YOU DURING THE LAST HECTIC DAYS BEFORE I TOOK OFF FOR EUROPE. I HAD A SPLENDID TRIP AND WILL TELL YOU MORE ABOUT IT THE NEXT TIME YOU ARE IN TOWN OVER A DRINK.

YOU MAY REST ASSURED THAT I WILL DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO HELP VIC CREIGHTON. AS YOU UNDOUBTEDLY KNOW THE PROJECT OF EASTERN AIRLINE'S DIRECT SERVICE ACROSS THE GULF FROM NEW ORLEANS TO MEXICO CITY HAS TAKEN A LEAP FORWARD AND SERVICE SHOULD BE INAUGURATED IN A MATTER OF SEVERAL MONTHS. THIS WILL CERTAINLY HELP THE DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS.

THE FORTUNE STORY WAS "BANG-UP", BUT THEN OVER THE YEARS I HAVE COME TO EXPECT NOTHING LESS IN ~~OR~~ ANYTHING YOU LAY YOUR HAND TO.

SINCERELY,

Clay
CLAY SHAW

CS:GM

April 23

Dear Holland,

I feel honor-bound, duty bound to send this to you.

The truth is: I have an awful horror where this stuff is concerned. It's about to give me a nervous breakdown.

Very frankly, from now on, I am sticking to reporting of straight news. I am sorry. I will do everything I can to help, but it has become a question of health with me.

Nope, I don't think it's because I fear the Gestapo or OGPU if they exist here. Maybe it's ~~because~~ because I take all this too seriously.

In any case, most frankly, I can't stand anymore.

I don't know, ~~if~~ I suppose I'm going through a terrible conflict. In one of your conversations, you told me there was a possibility of some future work and for me to keep under-cover. Does this mean, Holland, that it will not be straight reporting of the Mexican scene?

Look, Holland, I am willing to do straight reporting with Mexican interpretation and Mexicans' talking out loud any day of the year, but neither physically nor mentally nor morally can I keep up anymore under cover business. I mean this in the sense of spying around.

Perhaps you will hold this against me, but maybe it's best for me to make myself clear, if I can--

L.

P.S. On the basis of all this, maybe it's just as well that possibilities of future work are discarded and that I do leave Mexico. I think I can leave in two months. I have practically gotten permission to present extraordinary exams before a jury. Maybe I'm hysterical on the subject of war, under-cover business, etc. In any case, I'd rather say exactly what I think and be on the level with you since you have always been most just to me.

THE HOLLAND McCOMBS FILES
Special Collections
University of Tennessee Martin
Dieter Ullrich, Archivist

Organization of the Files

1. The collection is organized into **Series**. The files dealing with the JFK assassination are found in **Series 5**.
2. The Series are divided into **Boxes**. There are more than 160 boxes. **Boxes 150-157** deal with the JFK assassination, with 3 or 4 other, higher-numbered boxes relate, in detail, to the trial of Jack Ruby.
3. Within each box, there are **Files**. These files are kept in tan colored, 8 1/2 by 14 tab folders. There are usually about 15-20 files per box. An individual file ranges in size from a single sheet of paper to up to 20-30 pages. Most files seem to be about 5-6 pages.
4. The files consist of such items as:
 - (a) handwritten notes on yellow legal paper, many of which are McCombs notes made during or just after interviews;
 - (b) typed memos to Life in New York, often to Dick Billings;
 - (c) typed memos from Life in New York, often from Billings
 - (d) typed summaries of investigations McCombs has carried on, apparently memos to the file
 - (e) miscellaneous photographs, contact prints, receipts, etc.
 - (f) newspaper clippings on the JFK subject
5. From the standpoint of subject matter, the files contain items dealing with:
 - (a) a major "reinvestigation" (Life's word) of the assassination, which was intensively conducted during the latter part of 1966. A great amount of information flowed back and forth between New York and McCombs in Dallas, and several investigators came to Dallas to conduct the "reinvestigation."
 - (b) interviews with witnesses and principals--Sergio Arcacha Smith, Glen King of DPD, eyewitnesses in Dealey Plaza, Jack Martin, etc.
 - (c) exchange of letters with David Chandler of New Orleans concerning the handling of the Zapruder film
 - (d) investigation (and speculation) about Silvia Odio and the connections of Cubans in Dallas to the assassination.
 - (e) exchange of memos and letters with Hugh Aynesworth, Clay Shaw and others

HOLLAND MCCOMBS FILES

Special collections, University of Tennessee Martin Library
Dieter Ullrich, archivist

- S5, B150, F1
file on Sergio Arcacha Smith, apparently includes an interview
- S5, B150, F9
letters, notes of conversations with Hugh Aynesworth, a friend of McCombs!
- S5, B150, F8
general review of anti-Warren Commission materials.
- S5, B150, no title
set of pictures of Howard Brennan
- S5, B150, F16
CBS broadcast articles (?)
- S5, B150, F17
4 letters to/from David Chandler regarding acquisition of the Zapruder film
- S5, B150, F19
Governor Connally's wounding
- S5, B151, F1
General conspiracy notes
- S5, B151, F3
letters, notes concerning Roger Craig
- S5, B151, F5
notes of telephone conversation with assassination eyewitness George Davis on grassy knoll
- S5, B151, F8
material on Jerry Fine, whose friend had a reference to LHO in his diary
- S5, B151, F9
a crane operator behind TSBD saw heavy-set man leave TSBD and go to railroad flatcar
- S5, B151, F
file on Roy Cooper and Ely Sturges of Oak Cliff, has to do with films or film rights
- S5, B151, F17
Jack Martin, spokesman for DCA group, about films
- S5, B151, F22
various stills showing Kennedys before assassination
-

Confidential

35-0 in the old West House (Roth)

Handwritten notes on the right margin, including a large 'L' and other illegible scribbles.

10/27/66

Dear Holland:

A small group of us here on LIFE are launching what may become a longrange investigation of the Warren Commission report and the Kennedy assassination. It may also fizzle. But you are sure to be involved to some degree, and whatever correspondence you receive from us regarding the project will usually be marked confidential---a precaution that may seem silly but is probably also prudent.

Our first need is to build up a working reference library here in New York, and we need your help on a couple of items. Can you, for instance, obtain for us the Dallas phone book (regular and yellow pages) for this year? Can you get us the Dallas 1963 phone books? We could also use a city directory for Dallas. Finally, the Dallas Street Department has printed a two-by three-foot street diagram of the assassination area, drawn by Robert H West, county surveyor, and dated May 31, 1964. This we would very much like to have here also.

REF-4481

Thanks and regards

Ed Kern
Edward Kern

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page, including '23.6' and '9/20'.

Holland McCombs files
(page 2)

- S5, B151, F23
negotiations with Phil Willis to buy Willis still photos
- S5, B152, F3
Jim Garrison and **Lee Odom**
- S5, B152, F5
JFK, Garrison and Mob. Has to do with Life fear that Time is going to use tape/photos to expose anti-Castro activities in New Orleans
- S5, B152, F6-10
Various Garrison matters, including much material on Dean Andrews
- S5, B152, F11-13
Materials from Shaw trial, **includes letters to/from Shaw and McCombs**
- S5, B152, F15
Contacts, correspondence between McCombs and S.M. Holland
- S5, B153, F1
Billy Lovelady
- S5, B153, F3
Helen Markham (6 letters) apparently portrayed as brave woman
- S5, B153, F4
Harry McCormick (DMN) trying to get a finder's fee for his role in Z film
- S5, B153, F6
Russell Wence McLarry, Dallas machinist
- S5, B153, F15-16
Contacts with Marguerite Oswald
- S5, B153, F17
Marina Oswald
- S5, B153, F18
Opinions, information about Marina's business managers, lawyers
- S5, B154, F1-4
Lee's notebook, Robert Oswald
- S5, B154, F7
Parkland and head shot, includes handwritten notes
- S5, B157(?), F7
Rifle used in shooting attempt on General Walker

HOLLAND MCCOMBS PAPERS**SERIES 5 - BOX 150**

| Box#/File # | Title of file |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Box 150 / File 1 | Kennedy, John F.-Assassination-Arc |
| Box 150 / File 2 | Kennedy, John F.-Assassination |
| Box 150 / File 3-4 | Kennedy, John F.-Assassination Aft |
| Box 150 / File 5 | -Kennedy, John F.-Ass'n-General Bil |
| Box 150 / File 6 | Kennedy, John F.-Assassination |
| Box 150 / File 7 | Kennedy, John F.-Assassination |
| Box 150 / File 8 | Kennedy, John F.-Assassination-Gen |
| Box 150 / File 9 | Kennedy, John F.-Aynesworth, Hugh |
| Box 150 / File 10 | Kennedy, John F.-Bedford, Sybille |
| Box 150 / File 11 | Kennedy, John F.-Books-Misc. |
| Box 150 / File 12 | Kennedy, John F.-Brennan, H.L. |
| Box 150 / File 13 | Kennedy, John F.-Bringuier, Carlos |
| Box 150 / File 14 | Kennedy, John F.-Butler, George |
| Box 150 / File 15 | Kennedy, John F.-Carter, George |
| Box 150 / File 16 | Kennedy, John F.-CBS Broadcast |
| Box 150 / File 17 | Kennedy, John F.-Chandler, David |
| Box 150 / File 18 | Kennedy, John F.-Connally Story |
| Box 150 / File 19 | Kennedy, John F.-Connally |

Return to the [Box Listing](#).