

9/30/69

Dear Sylvia,

We have several very young, stamp-collector relatives, so the usually-different UN stamps you use are particularly welcome. My wife saves them and distributes them among the various kids, who are made happier by the slight favor. The one on your letter of the 26th is another we did not have. Thanks.

Thanks also for the Ray clipping. I am not now getting the Times and I never see the Post or News, so if anything appears in any of these papers, I appreciate copies. In strictest confidence, I am and have been in touch with Jerry. He is virulent, typical of the racists I call (in COUP) "the dedicated wrong". But he believes that rotten stuff! In fact, we have established this basis of trust: he has asked me to do a book with him. I have not said either yes or no...He has been very helpful in some ways. Often I wonder if he can recognize truth. By coincidence, there is a letter from him today with further "explanations" of that fiasco ending in James Earl's banning him. He had Stoner phone me, which turned out (later) to be important. It is all very strange, believe me, but the path to truth goes through unaccustomed places. There are only two others I have told of this relationship, so I ask you to make no mention of it. Any knowledge of it getting out could be hurtful to what I seek and could end the flow of useful data. When I see you, I'll explain some of this. But I have gotten documents of importance from him.

Whenever you get the documents on the missile crisis, I'll value them. I yearn so to do that book, but there is so much I feel I must do first..My wife has now retyped 200 pages of the addition to COUP (Dealing with King/Ray). At the rate to this point, this will mean about 375-400 pages of single-spaced, legal size, of the size we reduce to the printed page with which you are familiar. In turn, without the large appendix, this will mean an even more unpublishable book, 575-600 pp, or 750-800 complete!

You may or may not be aware of it, but many of the less irresponsible of the radical right are very much on our side on this (re: Shirley Temple Black). I have gotten much help from some of them. I believe, in the end, they may prove to be valuable allies. Again, I have a letter from one today also. Neither they nor I cater to the other, neither altering or disguising beliefs. There is no compromising here, no dissembling. Example: Colonel Castorr has been extremely helpful, as has his wife been.

Your mention of Coleman reminded me of something I plan to use in AGENT OSWALD, largely researched and partly written (after finishing the second book on the autopsy and what I believe relates I'll return to it). I enclose an unfortunately unclear copy of a sheet from the Commission's files. This can be interpreted as a rather remarkable comment by him. If you ever speak to him, I'd appreciate your asking him what he really had in mind in "pondering whether" the appointment of a CIA executive to State security had any connection with the work of the Warren Commission, or with Oswald and his history. His firm, by the way, may be the most prestigious in Philadelphia. I knew Kalish when I wrote for Annenberg's magazine (slightly). He is the one who had to be satisfied my writings were not libellous. He never redlined a single word, either. So, then, at least, Annenberg was a client. I suggest you do not assume a dismal experience is inevitable with all WC lawyers, for the future need not be the past, and if I'd have approached Hubert a few days earlier than I did (instead of waiting until

until I'd cleaned up all the planned work and then calling him to make a date for the next trip), it might have been different. He did agree to spend a day with me, but in six weeks of so thought it over and changed his mind. They are all deeply troubled, I am certain...Have you noticed Liebeler's silence? I haven't seen a word he's uttered since the end of 1967. Have you?

My information on Thompson and his pictures is second hand. I did not know he is abroad for a year and wonder he'd have loaned them for so long a period. Lifton has them.

It is awful news about Bob. I'd had no inkling and I'll say nothing.

IRS has not abandoned me. They are merely in an unseemly delay that makes me wonder, although I realize it could be attributed to the normal long delay within their organization in requests for files being answered. I have no concern about our books or our records or the complete honesty of the returns. I have already found exemptions we didn't take as a consequence of this but whether recomputing again will be worth it I do not know. I would like to get it over with, because it is an annoyance, my nerves are not in the best order, and they do owe us enough money to put a roof the house has required on it before the snow blows.

Bud was in N.O. last week on law-firm business. I asked him to try and get other transcripts for me (esp. Shaneyfelt and Regis Kennedy). If he does, you may have them. We'll probably be able to copy, through Paul. He has the Frazier transcript now and is awaiting the Finck one before copying and distributing. I'll let you know what, if anything, we get this way. As you may have deduced, if I didn't make it explicit, I have gotten none directly, even though the only major developments in the trial came from the material I dug up and supplied, even with commentaries and questions to be asked. Lack of communication is so complete it is apparent it has been ordered.

My health is, I guess, okay. Physically there seems to be nothing wrong. The nerves seem to be acting up, and I'm coping with that I think successfully. My chief problem is getting a medical explanation, so I can understand what I am coping with, I spend part of each day working outside, getting good (and needed) exercise, but my legs are no less stiff!

Sincerely,