

3/25/69

Dear Sylvia,

I've been ill and very weak for three weeks, so you've not heard from me. Although I was scheduled to speak in Brewster 3/28 I was not until a few days ago confident I'd be physically up to it. Now I am. I'll be leaving for NY Thursday and will be there overnight. I have some urgent legal needs to look after, hope I can, must spend some time with the young man who acted as my agent with Dell, and have copies of COUP D'ETAT at two places. So, I am not at all certain that, should you have time that day or the first half of the next, I will. I leave for Brewster shortly after lunchtime. However, I will be returning to NYC Saturday, when I may have a little time. I will have a copy of POST MORTEM III with me and, hopefully, a spare one of COUP D'ETAT, which I will lend you, if we can get together. I hope you do not have to work Saturday. When I know my schedule, I'll let you know. If nothing else is possible, perhaps we can get together near either Grand Central or Penn stations. If it is necessary for me to delay my return, I will, but because I am weak and will then be more tired, with an hour and a half after the three-hour train trip and because I am reluctant to leave my wife alone more than is necessary, I'd prefer to make the return as rapidly as affairs permit.

Your suggestions on PM are helpful. I thank you for them. It is difficult to ask you for suggestions on additions without letting you know the rest of the content to be added in Part II. I'll have a few of the more sensational things with me. I think you'll be interested. I will be adding a chapter on the Washington-New Orleans proceedings to PM III plus very extensive excerpts from Cyril's excellent testimony. I have had that marked up since the day I got it, which now seems long ago, but my wife, who has returned to work until mid-April, has not had time to retype it. I will also attempt to get some of the afternoon session to include, for the federal desperation is worth memorializing. Without cooperation, the problem here is cost, for those are well-space, large-type pages and at 20¢ it rapidly mounts up. I am not hopeful that the DJ will lend me a copy!

In many areas that cannot be anticipated from the 26 volumes my work has gone pretty far forward. My immediate plans are to write an epilogue to COUP. I have about all I need, except time and responses to letters. Before the charge of compulsion against Ray had been made, I did, in letters to those most directly involved. I have had no response and anticipate none, but before I begin the actual writing, I want to permit plenty of time. I recall nothing in the book that requires change, certainly no major change, despite the two "trials". The book clearly states (as of 6/68) that whatever was required to prevent a conspiracy trial would be done. Then I'll do the little PM III requires, then I'll do PM II, and then I'll return to AGENT OSWALD, partly written and almost entirely researched. It has some of the greatest sensations yet.

Think about New Orleans. There are many things I am willing to tell you on a strictly confidential basis, never to be used or mentioned to anyone. I realize the complications and conflicts this may present to you, therefore I leave it entirely up to you. It is not my desire to burden you but I am willing to inform you. There are, of course, some things not of this character there just is not time to put on paper until I write them (some will be in AGENT OSWALD).

Hurriedly,

C
O
P
Y

22 March 1969

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Md. 20701

Dear Harold,

Thank you for letting me read the ms. of POST-MORTEM, which Cyril Wecht was good enough to forward to me. It arrived last night, and I have just finished reading it (4:30 p.m.). It is wrapped for return to you, but will not go out until Monday, when I can get it insured at the post office.

Two small points: (1) At the bottom of page 11, you say that the Commission had the Oswald autopsy but "did not print it." Actually, the autopsy report on Oswald is published in CE 1981 and again in CE 3002. You should clarify your meaning, which I assume to be that the Commission did not publish this autopsy report in the relevant appendix of the Warren Report—proper.

(2) On page 90, paragraph 8, penultimate line, you say that a millimeter is only 0.04 of an inch. I think this should be "0.4" or 1/25th of an inch, since one inch is equivalent to 2 1/2 centimeters and there are 10 millimeters to a centimeter.

The ms. as a whole provides further proof that the Commission "concluded" in advance that Oswald was the lone assassin, before it did one iota of investigation, and refused ever to reconsider its "finding" even when the evidence against it became crushing and compelling. It also provides further proof of the utter chicanery of the autopsy report and the deliberate dishonesty and deceitfulness of the staff and the Commission. However, the ms. would be immeasurably strengthened if it is updated, as you indicate you intend to do, by an account of the 1968 panel report and the Wecht testimony on the autopsy photos and X-rays.

With renewed thanks and every good wish,

Sincerely yours,

