

4.4.67

Harold,

Please excuse this uncivilized form of reply but I am frightfully rushed...You sent me a copy of the Allen/Scott column in the Oakland Tribune of 2/24/67, for which I am grateful, but you did not comment on it. I am flabbergasted at the news of this "CIA index" to the WR. What are they talking about???? I hope no one forms the impression that my Subject Index is CIA-sponsored!

Bill phoned the other day, he sounds just great, morale high, and prospects of surgical success very good. Not much new otherwise, I guess--anyhow, I can't think of anything. Had to force my way through the poisonous miasma of Manchester's prose, as TMO has asked me to review the book...ugh! what a disgraceful piece of pulp fiction. As for the Roberts "book," it is really beneath contempt. But the worst is still to come, the Schlewis book from Dell.

Let's hope Garrison comes through with enough to make all these vermin crawl back into the sewers from which they came.

Best, as always,

Hastily,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A. J. ...'.



Lillian & Harold Weisberg

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3/30/67

Dear Sylvia,

Please excuse the delay in answering yours of 3/12/ I'm pushing like old times with extra things now making the day tougher. You have another sharp-eyed friend, Bill O'Connell. He spotted the same thing when I was out there.

I've phoned Maggie twice since his operation. He was doing well. They expected him to be able to have company tomorrow. You may be interested in what I called to her attention: Exhibit 18, Oswald's notebook listing of Bringuier, bracketed with city editor and reporter, and with two addresses I wish I could pinpoint: 117 Camp and 1032 Canal, both New Orleans. I think 117 Camp is the address of a bending company, Vendo. I do not know why it seems familiar. It is at the old ITM building also. 1032 Canal is Maison Blance building or very near it, hence Andrews' office as of that time. I wish I had access to a 1962 or 1963 New Orleans City Directory or phone book.

Dell contract not yet signed. They pull all sorts of tricks.

Have you any idea why Vince does not answer when I write?

One of the Cubans wants to talk to me. He wrote after reading (and confirming) what he read in WHITEWASH.

I have not yet gotten the original of the Carbo speech. Do you want a copy if I do? I've gotten a west-coast transcript of the Castro speech that in translation is in accord with yours.

Spoke to Penn. He'd like to reprint your index. Why not? Will Scarecrow let you have plates or negatives? If you have negatives and it is beyond the capacity of Penn's presses, want to be your own publisher? I can probably get it done at cost for you, esp with paper cover. Adding corrections would be no trick, either is he in financial trouble? He says nothing but acts like it. As I am about to break water, I hate for any of us to go where I have been for so long.

I've been challenging Roberts all over the place. He no longer volunteers my name on radio and when he cannot avoid it has been innocuous. I thought it about time to write Plucky Pierre and challenge him, too. When I'm finished my present books I'm going to do something about these challenges I have made....It is remotely possible I'll be in NYC the middle of the month...I intend to go ahead with the Manchester book. If you see anything I might miss (I do not see NYC papers) I'd appreciate it and will return anything you send...Any word on pub date your book?...I detect a slight change in attitude of the working press, not the names...Do you know what the Esquire piece is saying?...Some kids at Wisconsin went down to Iowa for an Epstein-Popkin appearance that was to have included Lane who could not get there. According to these wonderful kids, Epstein was a defender. The made his face red by asking what Moyers told him. He didn't answer. A mna they th they think was FBI came up to them. They fled. Best.

No.
 Can't understand it.
 Someone else had some
 experience - Ray, maybe -
 Vince said, only that
 he's so busy.

Carbo ?? or
 Castro?
 or both?

Trouble is, no
 plates, and no
 negatives available.

Hope not!
 Have no clue.

Early Nov.

F. Epstein

(over)

WASHINGTON REPORT:

CIA SUBSIDY PROBE TO INCLUDE REFUGEE AID

by Robert S. Allen and Paul Scott

The Johnson Administration's own investigation of the Central Intelligence Agency's financed aid to private organizations is taking an intriguing turn.

Headed by Undersecretary Nicholas Katzenbach, the CIA study has been expanded to cover aid given Cuban refugee groups and several publication projects, including one dealing with the Warren Commission's inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy.

The latter project, handled through a publishing firm, entailed the preparation of a comprehensive index by subject and name of the hundreds of persons involved in the commission's investigation.

For writers and investigators doing research on the assassination or the Warren Commission's probe of it, the index is the only accurate guide available, although those using it have no knowledge of the CIA's role in its preparation.

The Warren Commission's own index, which was done hurriedly, contains numerous errors and is far from being complete. It contains only names of witnesses and persons mentioned during the commission's hearings or in exhibits submitted during these proceedings.

In addition to the descriptive summaries of all persons involved in the commission's inquiry, the CIA-financed index lists many FBI and CIA reports and "working documents" of the commission, now on file in the National Archives. None of these documents is listed in the commission's index or its 26 published volumes.

Excerpt from the article Controversy: The Assassins, by John Kaplan, in The American Scholar, Spring 1967, pp. 294-296.

The second reason for the great furor caused by the third-stage writings is the fact that, although the Warren Commission investigation seems on the whole a competent one, the actual Report of the Commission shows two grave defects. First, it was obviously rushed out...their failure to have taken the necessary time shows up again and again in the quality of the Report. Thus, the index to the twenty-six volumes and the citation of exhibits in the Report are extremely inaccurate and incomplete (making all the more valuable the comprehensive index compiled by Sylvia Meagher--and published by the Scarecrow Press--which has become the standard work for all investigations into the Commission documents)...