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September 13, 2001

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Dear Harold,

I greatly appreciate your thoughtful letter about Jones Harris and the Bobby Kennedy remark. I included it in my book, as you had it, calling Jones Harris a "Kennedy friend." That needs changing. I wonder if he really did know Bobby Kennedy. Maybe he was just being melodramatic, the son of that notorious character Jed Harris. "Bobby wants to live," well, anyone might say that. The guns remark is not known to Bobby in the story, and could be interpreted as Harris's own theatrical statement.

I knew that Mark Lane had stolen the story from you, and embarrassed Jim Garrison, because as Lane told the story, Bobby Kennedy told it to Garrison himself: "there are guns between me and the White House." Garrison gently denied that this had happened. Well, he might have said that, was Garrison's reply to someone who tried to corroborate the story. He didn't want to call Lane a liar. But he certainly would not say that RFK had telephoned him.

Ironically I tried for years to find Jones Harris because his father had an affair with Lillian Hellman and I wanted to discuss his father with him for my book "Hellman and Hammett." Now here he is again. Do you happen to have a phone number for him, even an old one?

By the end, as I listen to Garrison's interviews with L. J. Delsa and the HSCA kids, if they were, they sound so green, I hear him calling Kerry Thornley the second Oswald. I know your work with Jones Printing which confirms Garrison's theory. Did you come out of the New Orleans investigation with similar suspicions of Thornley?

I'm also inclined to believe Perry Russo that Shaw and Ferrie were there in the apartment. Not Oswald, but Shaw and Ferrie. "Leon" Oswald was something else. To put Shaw and Ferrie together, that alone gives nourishment to the perjury case. I'm taking the long view which is that it doesn't matter what happened in a tinhorn state court. I don't think they had a real case against the perjurer. Framing a guilty man department. Meagher was silly.

I'm teaching full time now, I have to stay alive, and doing the book, which is turning me into an impatient, tired and disagreeable person. I can't help myself. Listening to the tapes alone can drive you crazy. .

I greatly appreciate your wisdom.

Warmest regards -  
Joan

Dear Joan,

9/17/01

Thanks, esp. for the SASE, my typing and vision being what they are. And regrets, I have no address or phone for Harris. He married a younger Rockefeller woman who had a large apartment on fifth at about 56 or 58, DW corner.

Harris' father must have been a real stinker for Gordon not to marry him after she was pregnant.

At HSCA it was not only the kids who were green. I've just finished a book on Blakey and to call him green would be to praise him. Aside from being ignorant and stupid he was also dishonest. And green.

I do not believe that Shaw would knowingly be anywhere Ferrie was. There was a perjury case I could have given Garrison after he lost but his behavior had been so bad I really could not blame Shaw for resorting to perjury when Garrison tried to bootstrap that new and extra charge.

I never could make up my mind whether Thornley picked that print job up for Oswald. Silver and Jones both picked out each picture of Thornley I showed them, four or five different ones, even one with a bushy <sup>beard and</sup> mustache. But his political views were such that I doubt Oswald would have had anything to do with him. I did spend some time checking it. Even flew to Omaha to visit and question a poet who had known Thornley in N.O. and from whom I got Thornley's letters to him. Since stolen, I believe for Lifton, who was close to Thornley. And as Thornley himself told the Commission, after he red baited Oswald, Oswald had nothing to do with him. Before Russia.

If you can find the time, would you please xerox for me the copy of my hasty report to Sciambra that preneted Garrison charging Perrin and Bradley with being the actual Grassy Knoll assassins. And if you have anything on Farewell America I'll appreciate copies, for which I'll pay you. My files are and for some time have been at Good, which does not yet have and is not yet able to pay an archivist. I no longer drive and I might have trouble finding those file cabinets, which are where the moving van men deposited them. No organization. As I think you know, I'm writing this series as a record for history and one on Farewell America has been suggested. My tentative title is "Farewell America" ~~And other farewells~~. I'll use that Boxley business, too. But the only record I had was that report on what I did, on a broken East German portable and a dining room table.

Thanks, best and good luck,