

Dear Gary,

10/23/77

It is good hearing from you and hearing in particular how you are, how you are putting your life and your future together so sensibly.

I do hope you can do for the doctorate. If you do, a thesis that could be a good book on the assassination is more than possible. While all teaching on the subject is not responsible, there is an increasing number of colleges that do teach an assassination course, including on the masters level in history and political science.

Before I forget, CBC us going to air a special on 11/22. Hope you can tape it for me. They may send me one, in which even I'll still have ^{use} need for a second copy because I'm depositing all my records at Wisconsin through the Stevens Joint branch, where there is a responsible prof.

A woman student at Boston College is to do a doctoral thesis on the executive sessions.

For different reasons each of the tapes you list can be of interest, some in particular because of my various FOIA actions, in and not yet in court. If dubbing all is too great a problem tell me how many you can dub and I'll select those of greatest potential interest. Each should be on a separate cassette. They need not be the expensive ones. If the cost of sending them is not greater than the cost of getting them there I'll send them. I get adequate ones on sale 3 for \$1.00.

From what you say about the radio show, skip that. Not worth the work if it was so bitter an experience for you. Ditto for Schweiker, who was a disappointment to me from the start, from the week after we conferred.

I'm glad you didn't turn the stuff over ^{to} Fensterwald. I have no doubt about his intentions but he is generally off in wrong directions and with bad associates. This generally means misuse and sometimes the destruction of the value of material.

In response to your question who to trust, very few in this field, Too few. Bernabei may be good to consult with. I'm prejudiced from my own experiences with almost all.

I ~~am~~ urge that when you theorize you do it in the light of the limitations imposed by what is established fact. In this connection recommend the last two chapters of Whitewash and most of Post Mortem. These deal with the body of the crime, with solid, uncontraverted evidence. What is inconsistent with this evidence can and I think should be discarded.

Excuse the haste and the typos. I've literally thousands of FOIA pages I must go over in a hurry and other thousands stacked up awaiting time for examination, with more due this coming week.

Best of luck,

Oct. 17th, 1977,
252 Stone Rd. West,
Unit # 105,
Guelph, Ontario, Canada.
NLG 1W6.

Dear Harold,

It was so nice to talk to you today after such a long absence on my part. All I can say in my own defense is that there comes a time in one's life when one has to sit down and decide what and where one is going. Personal problems and anxieties have only served to compound bad situations over the last four or five years, but hopefully that is slowly disappearing in the sands of the past. I'm really looking forward to the rest of my life and feel secure in my future (not that the job market is all that great at the present time). But enough wallowing in self-pity. How about some of the brighter aspects of my long sabbatical.

I decided in the fall of 1973, after much soul searching, to return to school and complete my education. Things went smoothly for approximately eight months, though I must admit the adjustment was at times greater than I thought I could handle. My mother took ill with cancer and died in October (16th) of 1974 and I was forced to leave school for six months to assist my father (retired). Things slowly worked themselves out and I was able to return to my studies, this time with another new perspective on life and its all too transitory value. I bore down on my studies, applying devices of organization and writing which I must confess to having borrowed to a certain extent from you. In fact it was probably my overt interest in the Kennedy case which was the deciding factor in my decision to return to school. Not so much that it would in any way help me to "solve" the case, but more so to find out what the world, and particularly America, was all about. I never majored in history at the secondary-school level so it was both new and exciting to me. I believe I have developed and refined organizational and writing skills which will be of use to me for the rest of my life, and I fully intend to apply all that I can in the hope of writing a constructive piece of material on the Kennedy assassination. That is in the future. I once had the naive (in retrospect) view that somebody would come along and solve the Kennedy slaying before I got the chance to put my two cents worth in. But time and maturity have taught me that it is just not to be. It took the state of Massachusetts fifty years to apologize for the execution of Sacco and Venzetti (not that anyone is looking for an "official" apology in the case of the murder of JFK. The deeper implications of this case transcend the boundaries of simple apology. Rather, they strike directly at the heart of the survival of democracy and all its trappings as we have become accustomed to it. There truly is a fine line between a "liberal democracy" and a totalitarian regime, as Richard Nixon and friends were so willing to demonstrate).

I graduated with an honors B.A. (American History) in the spring of 1976 and am currently completing my graduate work (M.A.) at the University of Guelph. My area of specialization has been the American sectional conflict and the Civil War (roughly 1848 - 1865). My thesis is on troop

morale under General Joseph Johnston in the Western Theater of operations; more specifically as it applied to the Army of Tennessee as they faced Sherman between May 12, 1864 and Johnston's dismissal on July 17, 1864. All in all it will (like all other academic exercises in futility) turn out to be relatively boring to everyone except me and the three gentlemen on my board of review. I hope to have it completed by next August at the latest.

In answer to your query, no I have not lost interest in the JFK case. I don't believe it is possible for one who was as involved as I to throw it all aside, though in honesty I must admit that I have tried. I am convinced that this case can destroy a person, physically and psychologically, if one is willing to let it. Only the strong of will, rational, dedicated and, most importantly, honest, ..can survive. Whether your country can, remains for the future to answer. The death of JFK represents more than the scattering of brain matter in the streets of Dallas. Rather, it represented the scattering and shattering of democracy in the streets of America: The turmoil of the 1960's and the early 1970's, culminating, as they did, in the absolutely mindless tragedy of Vietnam and the dark passages of Watergate. But it could just be the tip of an iceberg, .. an iceberg set adrift when those most responsible in the positions of power sought to let the slaying of John Kennedy go unanswered. My God, how one can become so disillusioned.... But the truth will out. Perhaps not for decades or generations to come, but it will out. In the meantime I will live on with my own personal satisfaction of knowing that what I have been told in the shamelessly grotesque "official" version will not survive the test of time. It only exists today because of the incredible power of the media, with its ability to instantaneously reach the hearts and minds of an ignorant and uneducated mass of millions. Regardless of the diligence of those most interested in the pursuit of truth, those millions of minds must be won back slowly, literally one at a time. All the while you are hampered by those who pull the strings and one must go back and begin anew. The recent fiasco of The Trial of Lee Harvey Oswald is a classic example of the power of the media to manipulate. Just think of how many millions who saw that presentation, only to have cruel and unjust stereotypes perpetrated and extended before their eyes.

As I mentioned to you on the phone, I have in my possession a series of tapes which you may or may not find of some use. If you would like me to send you copies I will do so. Just indicate which of the following you would like to hear:

<u>Interview</u>	<u>Date</u>
William Greer	12/6/70 6/26/71
Jean Hill	12/5/70
Ralph Yarborough	3/31/71
Bobby Hargis	3/31/71
Roy Kellerman	9/9/73

Hurshel Jacks	9/9/73
Joe Henry Rich	9/19/73
Jesse Curry	4/20/71
Captain Will Fritz	4/20/71
Billy Martin	4/19/71
D.L. Jackson	undated
James Chaney	"
Cyril Wecht	28/4/75
Harry D. Holmes	undated
Stavis Ellis	"
Tom C. Dillard	"
E.V. Brown	"
Wm. Eugene Newman	"
Roy Truly	"
Marion L. Baker	"
Earl Rose	"
Jack Dougherty	"

In addition I have bits and pieces of other things (Schweiker interviews at the time of his committee) which you may find of interest. Also there is a four hour production done by a local news affiliate (CFTR of Toronto) entitled "Thou Shalt Not Kill" for which I was one of the consultants. It turned out to be one of those extremely bitter experiences that can turn one completely off this case. Some day I'll tell you all about it.

I am not at liberty (at this time) to reveal the source of some of my tapes. As for those which are "undated", I know that they were all done between 1970 and 1975. Exact dates, for the moment, are unnecessary. The people interviewed ^{to me} seem a rather strange assortment, but there is reason involved in the selection. Again, as I feel more comfortable with easing back into the field of the JFK shooting, I will reveal my reasons for the pattern (through independent writing which I shall pass along to you). I almost turned some of this stuff over to Bud Fensterwald in 1975, but backed out at the last moment. The problem, at least for me, remains one of, who do I trust? I've spent years developing a line of research independent from anyone else, particularly vis-a-vis the mechanics of the slaying of JFK. I'm convinced that for the most part the answer lies in the 26 volumes, substantiated of course by independent archival findings and research. I'm just not sure of what to do with it.

My only hope is that you will let me try various things out on you from time to time, ideas and thoughts on the case that may at first glance appear to contain the seeds of my commitment to a mental institution! There are grave discrepancies in this case, within the 26 Volumes, which researchers have ignored for 12 years. But allow me to save that for the future.

I'm sorry to hear of your health problems. God wish that it were only transitory. If there is ever anything I can do to assist you, in any way, with the JFK case or other matters, please feel free to call upon me. All the best to your wife. I remain, respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gary".

P.S. Find enclosed a money order for \$18.00, U.S. funds. Please send me a copy of Post Mortem and Whitewash IV: JFK Assassination Transcript.