

5/1/97

Fletcher Prouty
4201 Peachtree Place
Alexandria, VA 22301

Dear Fletch,

With my lack of mobility and all the things I'm into if I let a letter wait it will get lost. So, thanks for yours of the 26th, here yesterday.

The diagnosis here a year ago included anemia with about 9 or 10 others but that seems to have cleared up. Chest x-ray at Hopkins day before yesterday showed no fluid in the chest.

I have the same low opinion of ARRB. They are staying away from what does relate to the assassination while engaged in a disgusting but successful propaganda campaign to make it appear that they are doing what they should be and are not. Refuse to.

Scrimshaw, not the nuts and bolts of the crime.

The members of the board have preserved their ignorance with which they ^{what} began, ^{Kermit} what Hall said was his greatest asset. After a particularly outrageous article he wrote for a historian's publication I wrote him and told him his great asset is undiminished. No response from him and none from the board to which I sent a copy because it has to make all its records available but Hall could have put his in his pocket and taken it home.

* The study of petroleum should be interesting.

I'd never realized that the time came when those pipelines could not be used any more. I'd assume they could be rejuvenated.

Makes for what seems to have become an accepted form of robbery.

Take care and best,

I hear your friend Oliver Stone tried to make a deal with Bill ^{Pepper} on the King assassination but did not and has made a deal with the family. Pepper was not what responsible script writing about the assassination required and the family has nothing on it. Stone won't talk to me but I and I think I alone have what he could use for a movie script from when I was Ray's investigator and from my FOIA lawsuit that lasted a decade, But I did get much. There is quite a story there but nobody knows it.

4201 Peachtree Place, Alexandria, VA 22304

April 26, 1997

Dear Harold,

I'm a hell of a correspondent. At this stage of the game...exactly as you described in your letter of 6/1/96...so many things interfere, and others just can't be done in the time we usually would require.

The description of your health problems of that day sounds just like mine. I have been in and out of the hospital for one thing and another for some time and now they are leaning toward anemia. Oh well after you pass 80 you have to expect something.

It's hard to get detached from the assassination world. Not long ago the ARRB wrote me and asked me to come in for an interview. As we began the tape I made it clear that I did not request the meeting and that I had come simply in response to their invitation. Quite frankly I came away thinking not too highly of them. I like to look at the "hardware" and the hell with all the analysis of LHO in the Soviet Union and the like.

Now if someone wanted to do away with Clinton one way or another that would be a different matter. He's just not a Presidential type human being.

I've been doing a lot of study of the petroleum business. I have just received the beautifully done new Saudi Aramco world book, and a batch of their magazines. I flew a Geological Survey team into Dharhnan in Oct 1943 and got to see what it was like before they were doing much work.

Today the game is to suppress the transport of oil as much as possible in order to keep the price up. Pipelines that had been in operation since the thirties have been forced to close, and enormous new finds are kept off the market by the inability to get the stuff piped out...as at Khazakstan. Even ARAMOC can not use its old TAPLINE...the largest in the world (both Kuwait and Aramco used to use it until it was closed at Sidon in Lebanon).

Iraq, Iran and Libya are all kept out of the market and new fields can't enter the business. As a result all of us...around the world, pay an exorbitant price for something that ought to be cheap.

I've been to the Japanese facility that is designed to use a breeder (nuclear) reactor to take hydrogen out of salt water. Hydrogen has the highest specific impulse of any element and would produce the cheapest energy source forever, for almost nothing. Great idea; but the petroleum boys (of whom Clinton is a captive) are keeping it off the market.

Fine world. Keep the chin up and the best of luck

Fletcher