

Dear Howard,

5/3/76

We are having a cold, windy March day in May. So instead of walking for my exercise I'll use the Exercycle I got a week ago. And write this letter with the time saved. I may be interrupted any minute by the arrival of a friend from California.

I can still keep at it fairly well. By 8:15 this morning and ~~after~~ doing it all this morning I made a 3,000-~~xxxxxx~~ word draft of a suggested affidavit for Lesar, who is due here today with another affidavit for me to execute. In less than three days the end of last week I did a book-length analysis-commentary on a recent government files and two long appended affidavits.

There is some promise in these suits so I have to lay everything else aside for this work. I have a copy of the draft for you, merely so you can have it not for you to read now. It is often repetitious as I changed my mind while writing it and because I wanted portions so that Jim could lift them out and use them without regard to the rest, to save him time and work as he decided to do this.

So we took a few hours off yesterday for dinner with Eleanor and Bob Harper.

Not long after we returned Jim called. We discussed a number of legal matters and one thing on his mind, coming from his partial reading of a long piece in yesterday's Post's editorial section, by Crile on AM LASH. This is the one thing I've read in the papers for days. I read it during yesterday's rests. I was aware in general of the story.

I told Jim this had to represent part of a CIA attack rather than a counter-attack. Independently he had reached the same belief.

He then said, "You've got to finish Agent Oswald." (He appears to have read some of the draft recently.) I laughed and asked him how and when, with what I'm into and a book draft on going to try to find time to complete besides all this legal work. He then suggested an impractical solution, that I dictate a draft on tape and send it to you. I told him that with your own needs with your own book this is impossible and in any event you have to be free to promote your book and I would not ask that.

However, as you will see or have seen, depending on what I've mailed already, several days ago I got a different idea along the same lines. It is in my letter to Dick. All I am asking now is two things: that you think about it and that you let me know not that you will do any of this but whether or not, after I can complete the draft I'm working on, you ~~may~~ may find this possible. In either or both forms, with an updating of O in NO and/or helping on Agent Oswald.

If it is possible, then I'll see if getting some help is possible. I would not want you to do this without pay.

You can't now say that you can do this. That I think is clear. So what I'm asking is really an expression of opinion as best you can now without knowing the demands on your time before the next semester and also one of your interest. I do think that Agent Oswald today has some real possibilities. Jim and I both believe it is necessary in an effort to offset what the ~~stax~~ federal finks are up to. And I think you would find it interesting

As best I can remember Agent Oswald after all the years since I wrote what is on paper, I treat it chronologically, intending to build to the official investigation after beginning with youth and Philbrick and going up to his reaching Russia. If I do not update O in NO there can be some fascinating chapters, one on Ferrie, which will show the deliberateness of what Liebelier did with Fred Sullivan, if you recall that from WW and O in NO. It will include fascinating new details, including a prima facie case of who handled LHO and, of course, the new Nosenko stuff only partly reported to now. I'm suing for some and will be suing for more. It will include some of my N.O. investigations (what a retrieval problem!) Some of the new CIA stuff can be relevant, including Rocca and how Phillips as Mexico Station Chief tried to start a new war with and over Cuba. (Why?) The real problem will be what to eliminate.

Hope your book got off to a good start. You did very well on WGY. I did not want to use this for my purposes so I've not received a letter or an order from it.

Best,