

January 8, 1969

Mr. Paul Rothermel
Hunt Oil Co.
1401 Elm St.,
Dallas, Texas

Dear Paul,

This will amplify my hasty letter of yesterday afternoon on the several things we discussed by phone.

The man who has the movie, as I expected, will make it available without charge in return for the minor courtesy of getting copies and slides for research purposes. He is across the country from his home in California and will, on his return, be in further touch with me about this. We had three conversations yesterday, after I located him. Although we have had disagreements and had not spoken to each other for a year, he is a serious-minded man who is deeply concerned about this matter, feels the interest of the country are involved, and will be helpful. My initial impression that he had stolen the film was incorrect. He has been threatened often and pointedly because he did get it in a way that was not stealing. Lamarre told him "We do not play games", which, perhaps, puts Lamarre in a category of other than an ordinary author.

One of the fine young scholars with whom I work has all the indexes to the Commission documents that are indexed. Those I got he has, too. I have written him asking that he send you a set, with any suggestions he may have for cardpunching so that, as more is learned or perhaps obtained, it may be added at a later date. If he has no spare copy he will let me know and I will send you mine. If you'd like to have a copy to keep in this form, feel free to Xerox it. Aside from the possible values you may find in a consolidated index that I suggested yesterday, it occurs to me that in such cases as the recent Penabaz case, where another of the students sent you what we had obtained, you may find this worthwhile. We will make what we have already obtained available to you once we know what you may want. Where we do not have it, and this may be in a majority of the cases or in few, we can either get it for you or, if you prefer to deal directly with the Archives (and you can easily do this through someone else in Dallas), I will make all the arrangements for you. The charge 20 cents a page for Xeroxing, \$1.50 for black-and-white glossy 8x10 prints, and \$10.00 for color prints. Microfilming is less costly but also much less convenient. The students use it more than I do.

Because of the pressure of time I will not go to the trouble of giving you the sources of all the names connected with "Hepburn"-Lamarre. I will enclose what I have thus far been able to develop. There is too much I still do not know and may not understand. Increasingly, although represented as French intelligence, it looks more and more to me like the Agency. I think one of its designs was to arrange a mistrial for Clay Shaw. I suspect it has a chance of success. Lamarre left the country in some haste after this copy of the film was obtained. He was then, in the phrase popular among the

younger generation, "up tight" about it. He was also less than happy at the rough reception he had gotten from Los Angeles-area "critics" who had attended a preview of his film. If and when I get more names I will supply them. This is still possible. All of those enclosed not otherwise oriented I got from those who have met him. As I find more people who did, the chances for expanding the list grows. I regret that when I was chauffeuring him around I had no pocket tape recorder and could not make notes, so I do not remember the names of the rather elaborate corporate structure he has set up in a number of countries for a number of reasons, including frustrating law suits. These are in Luxembourg, Switzerland, Belgium, France, England and Canada. In the United States they have a contract for the book with Lyle Stuart, but they expect Stuart to back out on it. He is, as Lamarre expressed it to me, stalling in the guise of editing. The copy I have, in English, printed abroad, has a number of pages cut out. I have not obtained the foreign editions because I simply cannot afford them. If you'd like, I think I can get them for you. I understand they contain what the English edition does not, and about Dallas people. The only names of which my information is specific are those of the police.

Particularly because one of my letters seems not to have reached you, I prefer not to give the details, but I believe I have established a connection between Lamarre and Boxley. Aside from Boxley, I know Lamarre had penetrated the Garrison office, two ways. Please keep this to yourself. When I can again get to Dallas I will give you the details, if you so desire. That will not be reflected in the enclosed list.

If you know or learn anything about any of these people, I'd appreciate hearing from you as expeditiously as possible, for I am convinced these operators are up to what I consider no good and I have no doubt at all they intend you people none.

I hope that in my haste I am forgetting nothing. I suppose in not much over a week I'll be leaving for New Orleans, unless there is a further delay. The hearing on the new motion for a change of venue is set for Friday.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH HERVE LAMARRE (JAMES HEBURN), "THE PLOT",
 "FAREWELL AMERICA" (French edition, "L'AMERIQUE BRULE")

Germany:

ELWING
 { Bild am Sonntag (Springer publication) Von Wehrensip (Econ Verlag, Busselderf)
 Boenisch, Peter (Hamburg) "Dieter and Rolf", thanks to.

France:

Berget, Erwin (*Berg & Erwin*)
 de Véséal, Roland
 Frontiers (aka New Frontiers) publishing Co.
 Lasquier, Charles
 Pierre
 Phillippe (said to be former head French intelligence in U.S.)
 Sorequiers, ^Maitre Marcel, 34 Ave Kleber, Paris (address used also by others)
 (6'1", 160 lbs., clean, curt, suave)

Switzerland:

"Jean" (thanks to)
 Fiduciare Wanner (Andre Wanner) 18 Conas des Bastions, Geneva
 Schneuring, Jean

Italy:

"Marco" (thanks to)

Belgium

Gerard, Andre (Editions Gerard and Company, Verviers)

Liechtenstein (sic):

Frontiers Company, Vaduz (central cooperation in structure)

England:

Diane Keys
 Michael (thanks to)
 Mamarre, Rene

Canada:

Sutto, ^{slv} firm, Bresolas St., Montreal, 844-1066 (date Battle Hastings)
 Tara Editions

United States:

Credits, L'Amerique Brule - Pat, Ann, Bernard, Mary-Ann; Farewell America -
 Pat, Steve, Ann Bernard and Toni ("Steve" probably Jaffe, volunteer
 Garrison helper)

Unknown:

Lowe, Jacques, credited (FA) "photograph on the last page" (there is none)
 Ulrich Meyer, Hollenstein Creations, cover

Lamarre, Herve, 34, London School Economics, Institute Political Studies, Paris,
 PhD, economics In Texas October 1934. Ebertains. Paris. Lasserre's.

Lamarre apparently enjoys the good life and has the means to enable it. When I met him, he and Jaffe had suites, not just rooms, or double-rooms that seemed like suites, in the Pontchartrain Hotel, New Orleans, the morning of 12/9/68. The ~~book~~^{best cover} of the book professes his fascination with the United States, notes he had met President and Mrs. Kennedy before he took office, Robert before he was killed. Lived in New York for "almost a year and returned four times in 1962". He met ("made the acquaintance of") Jackie 1951. He was then 17. This suggests he was in the United States as a youth, hence not alone. I would guess Washington. The most likely possibilities here are as the son of a French government employe (he trained for the public service) or reporter. A check of the diplomatic bluebooks would seem to be called for, for that year and those before and after. He gave me a strange suggestion of effeminacy, yet had a hardness in his eye. His cheek has a flush, high up, as though rouged, and there was the suggestion of this on his lips, in their color rather than as a reality. He is about 5'11", about 155 lbs, dresses well in a modern style, speaks excellent English but with a heavy accent. He gives the impression, despite studied politeness that seems to be forced, of not liking people, of really being a little contemptuous of others. Conversations in which he was this way have been reported to me. After another man obtained a copy of his film in Los Angeles, a stranger who saw him and Jaffe together (at a gas station) got the impression Jaffe was very much afraid of him, was very nervous. Jaffe was travelling with him, had been in New Orleans, went from there to New York (12-9) thence to Montreal (probably 12-10), thence California. Hepburn talked of having unsuccessfully looked at the Red Barn in New Orleans for girls for the two. He expressed displeasure at what he there saw. He can be persistently evasive, as when I was questioning him about the Zapruder film, which he has in the movie "Farewell America", and whether or not it includes Frame 210. His reply was that it included all the frames after the President was shot. We played around with this for a while, and each time he evaded, never giving me a direct answer. We were interrupted before either had exhausted the possibilities. He presents himself and his associates as of French intelligence, but there is one report he and they are formerly French intelligence. He is a specialist in oil, yet for a while published a fashion magazine, "Mademoiselle", in Paris. It seems reasonable to hypothesize that his 1963 visit to Texas may have been in this connection. It seems strange that a man claiming to be French intelligence, who has made a deep study of oil, would publish a French fashion magazine unless that were some kind of cover.