

CC Liffm file

11/24/68

Dear Gary,

There were, as you understand, a number of emergency situations, and an awful accumulation after my absence of a month, so I'm just getting around to the mail. Those of your letters to which I hadn't earlier responded are of 10/21, sent c/o Paul, and 11/12, c/o Matt.

My memory has so diminished that I've had to change my filing methods, making card, which will improve retrieval, but raises hell with time. Everything I got on this trip is now so filed save a few minor items, like the T-P morgue on Bringuier, a few clippings. I haven't even looked at what Lil clipped in my absence.

It is urgent that you never make any mention of those with whom I consulted on the major problem, for there would be vengeance against them. All I will ever acknowledge is what I had doped out for myself, beginning with being brushed off by Box and turned off by Jim's "chalk talk". However, this is not the end. It is only a beginning. It may be unpleasant to regard the possibility that some of us are in various ways not trustworthy, but I now have enough to convince me beyond doubt that Turner is not, at least on judgement and glibness with what he represents as fact when it isn't. Therefore, I ask you to keep a sharper eye on him, for we must protect ourselves and Jim from him. I have the memo that apparently got Jim off on his Masferrer kick. It is sickening. The consequences of these diversions is beyond measure, they have wasted that much time and money for Jim. As I can now understand it (and this may be incomplete), it is the Turner-Boxley combination that leads him off into these strange directions. Joel Palmer seems to have been a recent addition, on the Nancy Ferrin stuff. It seems that when he died or was murdered, Ferrin was but 41. Working back from there, he was about 17 at the time he was a pilot-gun-runner for Franco, a rather precocious age, it seems to me. Therefore, I do not trust without additional confirmation. From Box I got a brushoff when I asked about this for, as you know, it has interested me since before the office got onto it. When I started checking around and learned Barbara had the same questions, I also learned she was fobbed off with the answer Nancy is a liar. I do not believe we can go for selective liars, selective truth.

It goes without saying I am no more popular in some quarters in W.O. In others, without doubt, the situation is different. One of the consequences, especially with my success with the footage, is a staff determination I think I begin to detect, to push for the local stuff. This is too long overdue.

What happened with your eye exams? You said only that you had them.

It is wonderful that the Fishers are so helpful. But why didn't you accept my second slide projector when I offered it to you and Hal? Of course, you are now better off with the automatic one, but you could have had that.

When Patsy finishes with the Howard photos, do not forget a set of enlargements for me. Ask him to do special studies of the Steve Wilson face and have it in mind (like the ears) for when I get one of Rose. What did the girls tell you? Rose has acknowledged to me that he held out admitting he was Magell's McNabb, but Turner insisted he had so identified himself from the first. Although I am the one who got those things from Howard, I have had to chisel to get what I have of it. My only concern is that I have enough to work with. Let me know what you need for him of these, though it would seem that after having access to the originals, which Steve got when I turned them over to him, he would have the best... Palmer has not yet returned the Alys. I'll try and sic Moo on him.

He failed to answer several letters I wrote him in Calif on this. When he moved to N.O. he didn't let me know. When I was there and asked him for it he apologized and said he'd phone for it right away, having left it in LA. In short, he has managed to avoid returning it. This is one of the things that makes me ask questions about him, in my own mind, at least.

Matt knows Flip Schulke of Black Star and says he is a fine guy. However, he will not have any of the pictures he made for BS. It will be as with Matt, he will ship off to them the undeveloped negatives. Therefore, it would seem that Sprague either has seen these pictures or can get them through the agency.

If you and/or Hal recall the pages from CD 131 let me know. I do not have an extra Morgans that is good. I do have the original print and the enlarged negatives I had made from it (WWII).

Can you spare that paragraph from the Sat Rev. 8/12/67, or do you think I should read the whole piece. He did not follow the surgeon into the emergency room that day. Incidentally, when you get the memo on my Perry interview, read it carefully. If I haven't yet sent them, I've made copies for you and Paul. I'll tell Vince about it.

When you can give Bud your misgivings yourself. I will convey them with my own, which are deep. Others are refusing to associate for similar reasons.

Keep after Lillian. Perhaps Ray can do this for you. Steve is now too weak a reed.

Please send me the cover or the contents page on the Bringuier-Bergis piece. Incidentally, Bunt is not friendly to either Bergis or Walker, has been approached for help by Benabaz (so you understand now, do you?) and Bringuier, where I'll send a memo as soon as I can. Bunt was not in Mexico when he left Dallas, left on the recommendation of his own security man, not that of the FBI, was in Washington, where he remained for a month, and was not with Walker.

No new word from Russell, and I'm not pushing there because he is ill and I'm too busy. If it cools it may ripen slowly.

In your 11/12, the end, "odd and ends" I know nothing about most, find most interesting and would like to know more. No recollection Horst, Mandery, Camarate (Hal might here, think he does), Powers (could be important), Schwinghamer (ditto, very-leave opening to return to him after we discuss your first interview, if you arrange it), or Faust. On Gaston, check with Hal. He once told me of a Cuban abandoned by the CIA on a mission. He is said to have attended school, possibly the N.O. cademy, in N.O. I know that his name is familiar to Mrs. Cerniglia, but I have never had time to check back with her on him. He is supposedly dead. Consult Hal on this. You did not send me Fowler reports. Would like them. Hope you sent to Dallas. If not, I will when you send me. I'll have to write there soon. Nothing on rest

Any response your 11/11 Richardson, Phila?

Lifton's 8/8/68: Doubt you can, but see if you can learn who KP's friend who "keep bugging me to get it all finished" are? Epstein's book is late. What can he add on KP (whether he is adding does not interest me). He has modified his "high level plot" since then. He insists he has documentary proof it was LBJ and Dulles now, not Rusk. I spoke to him on the urging of Paul and others (who were right). P. 4: ask him evidence that ? Barbara Reid is JG's "key witness against Kerry" and that she is "a practitioner of witchcraft". You can tell him you have questioned me about this and I say I do not know

who Garrison's main witness will be but I suspect it will be Kerry and that I have spent much time in Barbara's home and believe she has no connection with witchcraft at all, that Kerry manufactured this and DL has taken it on his word. She has made a study of Voodoo and has an unpublished book on it. I have tried to introduce it to several publishers (all of this is true, not just bait).

For your information, not his, She is not the only one who told me of seeing KT and LHO together, whether they are right or wrong. Barbara, incidentally, is anything but a bitch. She is very generous, tolerant, etc. Ask him the reasons for his characterization "a witness like Barbara Reid". What does he mean? How does he know she will be the only witness against KT? He talks about no other. Has he ever met her or discussed this with her? In short, without being blunt, ask him to establish the validity of his beliefs, their basis, etc. He told me it is all KT and KT is "an honest man". He promised to consider certain things I told him on this point of "honesty", promised to send me certain things he has not. I know he is circulating an errata, which should tell him how dependable KT is. P. 5. Try and learn identity of RFK's journalist friend who says he could not "bear to talk about it". As you know, I agree and think this could be important. I'd like to talk to that guy.

The bottom of page five says "over" but it is the 1st page you sent. What was in his p.s.? I have put aside for copying what you asked returned and when I do the copying will return it.

Just spoke to Vince. He will arrange my fare to N.C. with him 12/4 if I do not go earlier with Bud and we will Dutch-Uncle it when we all meet there.

Lil just gave me Epstein's cover review of Bishop's book in today's Book World with the opinion I must read it, so I close, apologizing for not reading for typos. I hope it does not take too long to puzzle them out.

Best regards from both,

MEDICAL SCHOOL  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

November 12, 1968

Dear Harold,

The thing you are sending hasn't come yet, but I'll send a letter of acknowledgement as soon as it does. I decided that the things in this letter might be useful right away, although I assume that Steve will have forwarded my other letter and it will probably arrive before this one does. It was good to talk with you the other night although we were both obviously exhausted. I hope that this letter finds you in good health again.

Enclosed is a copy of the Bringuier article, a copy of a letter I sent to inquire about the autopsy regulations, and a copy of an old letter of Lifton's which I forgot about at the end of the summer when I had the eye troubles (it had be forwarded several times). Barry Ernest got me the address of CDR R.C. Richardson but for some reason didn't write the letter himself. Like Vince, I am beginning to wonder about some of his conduct and the conflicting stories he has told both of us. His last letter indicated that he is enjoying the Navy a great deal.

I sent a letter to Penn asking about Craig's son. It was Barry who informed me about it! (From a friend in Dallas.)

If you get a chance, could you check over the list of people and things mentioned in my last two letters and see if you know about them. i.e. I don't want to spend a lot of time checking out Jimmy Breslin unless no one else has.

If you get any response from Russell, ask to see the Hoaxes file which is still classified. All the commissioners got copies.

Some odds & ends: 1. Shirley Horst is alleged to have spoken about Ruby and Oswald before the fact by Jerome Mandery. Any leads appreciated. ~~#####~~  
Mandery and wife last seen in Kansas City. The FBI did all they could to cover this one over including countless interviews to discredit Mandery.

2. Donald Peter Camarata of 601 Burlingame Ave., Capitola Calif--  
trained at Atsugi when LHO was there. So did Daniel F. Powers who I hope to reach in Wisconsin.

3. I hope to get to Ronald A Schwinghammer who knows Thornley--  
n does the name ring any bells.

4. Oscar Faust bet money that JFK would be killed in Dallas due  
to Communist activity around a night club

5. Anybody by the name of Gaston, esp. in Birmingham

6. Alleged photo of Jacquelline with 4 cubans & LHO in background

7. Have I sent you the reports on Fowler re: Penabez?

8. What about Earl Ruby. My early trips to Chicago turned up  
nothing, but the Commission was very interested in him and had the FBI carefully check up on his phone calls (i.e. many pages on a call to the Triangle Manufacturing Co. out in this area). One call prior to the assassination was to the Welsh Candy Co. of Mass.

Also: 1. Telegram sent to Turner Ballard in Dallas on the 22nd: "Thank God, did you do it?" as a joke! (CD14-p3)

Other items for examples of hatred are the "Kennedy coffee" thing I wrote you about plus: 1. Cliff Taylor remarking that his only regret was that LBJ wasn't killed also (CD14-pp11-12), 2. CD 14, pp7-8 James Hilton Parrot of Houston, a Young Republican had been talking of killing the Pres. when he came to Houston 3. Jerry Dale Rogers who raced his motorcycle engine so that it backfired at the time of the shots in Dealy Plaza (CD 1347, p165) 4. One of the many examples of the villification of communis-m--the identification of Nazi literature as communistic by a school teacher (CD1347, p180 pp187-90 withheld) these were handed out by a member of the Nazi party 5. Allegation by Henry Oxnard (CD17, pp2-3) that Harry Nier, FPCC of U. of Colorado, was going to contact "Oswald" in Mexico 6. Do you know anything about the Cobo Cleaners or George Marcus

New Lead which will probably put me into a nut file is the claim of info indicating that Ruby isn't dead and was taken out of the hospital the day after his alleged death. It sounds wild but no one did see the body, so I'll check it out.

I got a letter from Art Kevin re the nut files concerning Humber James Putt and the King assassination. None of the nut files have him. I don't know the Nashville and Atlanta reports in their entirety so I can't say for sure about them, but he should have been in at least one nut file.

Have just finished everything that I have on microfilm and will begin on the ONI file on LHO which Hal just sent me. I'm send him all mine tomorrow.

The Archives still hasn't answered anything so I'm going to send them some more. The stuff which is coming back is in some cases very interesting on the surface.

Well, I'd better close now. Take it easy and stay in better health.

*Gay*

*P.S. Say hello to Matt & Jeanine*

MEDICAL SCHOOL  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

October 21, 1968

Dear Harold,

Sorry I don't have the copies of the documents you requested yet, but my filing is a bit screwed up and as usual I am very busy. I have had a number of eye exams in the past week which consume a great deal of time because they leave your eyes dilated for quite some time after wards. I am making at least 2 public appearances per week and also teaching a course in the assassination as part of the Free University. Meanwhile, back at the ranch, there are the things from the Archives plus the stuff I am doing for Sprague, the girls, Martin, etc., all of whom are hard to reach. I will be getting a car soon which will make an enormous difference in what I am able to do, so I'll be a bit more reliable in the near future. I still have my fingers crossed about the people who expressed interest in Coup.

The Fishers, the couple who told me about Shoenbrun's conversation with JFK on Nov. 1, 1963, and who bought me a plane ticket home while I was in the hospital have just done another amazing thing for me. They have given me a very good slide projector with a circular tray which holds 100 slides and an ordinary tray also. Since I show many slides when I speak in public this is a decided advantage. Previously, I always had to make arrangements for one. They are the ones who are exposing me to the type of people who have the money to sponsor Coup. Furthermore, I have recently made contact with some of the leaders of the negro community out here which may be interested.

Patsy is at work on the Howard photos and will do the enlarging. They should be done by the end of the week so tell Steve Burton that I will mail his back then. He sent me several individual photos plus a photo of a bulletin board with smaller photos of unusual shape stapled onto it, but I recall that you had a group photo or two. I could get Patsy to make blowups of those faces if you can spare them for a week. He is anxious to get a crack at anything you have--Alyea, et. al.

I have written to Sprague to see if he knows of Flip Schulke of Blackstar. Please ask Matt about him. He is currently in Florida. He has a great many photos of Dealy Plaza. Patsy dug him up through a mutual friend so if nobody has the photos and Matt can't get them, we could try from this end.

I have not yet been able to get up to see Fowler. When I go I will carry with me a personal letter from Hargis which should help in loosening his tongue. I got onto Penabaz through discovering the Fowler interviews and allegations. I have written Hal about the 2 pgs. from CD 131. The only reason that I wouldn't have the page numbers is because I don't think that there were any. We have got to get this stuff. As I remember it, those pages were among the most important things we located, but I can't for the life of me remember why.

It would be good if everyone who does interviewing had the blowups from Altgens and the other pictures in the Plaza. If you have copies perhaps I could have Patsy make a set including a number of extras for you.

Don't worry about the Martin affidavit. When I get him to make it out you will get a copy. I always send things only to you. By the way, if you have copies of my memo regarding McNabb and the one regarding Kroman's reaction to it, could you send a copy to Louie. I have written Hal for them so that I can get my copies back. I trust that you got the copy of the Bolden letter I sent.

Glad to hear that you got some stuff from Matt. I had been pushing Chris Kefalos to ask Matt for the index cards they make up in addition to the tapes, and Chris had promised to get them and make me a set.

Do you know anything about Sergio Carbo, Director of the Executive Council of the Inter-American Press Association who was quoted by Castro (in a speech) as having said: "I believe that a coming serious event will oblige Washington to change its policy of peaceful coexistence." It allegedly came from AP Cable, Nov.19, 1963, # Miami 254 but can't be located.

Also, Col. Chesley Clark, retired mentioned by Revilo Oliver (XV pp725, 729, 736) as the source of info (from "crypto-communist sources") that the American people were in for a great shock at Thanksgiving. You might try him out on Col. Castorr.

- Stuff from the Archives:
1. CD 853 withheld--Manuel Rodriguez, 5310 Columbia, Dallas
  2. CD 166--Atlanta--pages withheld :25,29,30,31--Dec. 12, 1963--3. CD966 only Hoover letter declassified--CIA memo of March 10, 1964 concerning Eugene J. Hobbs classified (sent from Mr. C.R. Wilson, ONI) on May 13, 1964)--4. VolXXII, p196 (CE1156) Marina asked about Paine's notation on her calendar as "Oct 23--LHO purchase of rifle" but in CE 401 (Vol.17, pg59) only an "X" for Oct.23 crowd# 6
  5. Altgens Vol.VII, p519 introduced CE203 into evidence, pg523 points to Dal Tex--but this isn't visible in the CE203 published by the commission
  6. CD 169 Arkansas: seemingly a check on who might have called or received a call from Dallas--no explanation provided in document for its purpose--this could be another case of an operator remembering a call from Dallas prior to the assassination. Pg. 9 withheld--refers to TU 3-0926, Mrs. Lois Wallis, 4323 Kinkead Ave., Ft. Smith, Ark. Persons on declassified pages include the boyfriend (unnamed) of the daughter of Mrs. Marvin J. Allen, the sister in law of Florence Hosken, and the son of Mrs. Lula C. Hill. Anybody named Hill? (in Mesquite, Texas)
  7. CD 192-Memphis--pg.5 withheld--deals with James Frederick Murphy or O.Gerald Murphy, possible acquaintance of LHO--according to CD 243 he was located by the FBI in Nashville (after a very lengthy search over much of the south) Does the name ring a bell? The time devoted to him suggests something important, but there are no good hints in the documents except concerning an allegation that LHO attempted to secure employment at The Statler Hilton Hotel in Dallas where Murphy once worked.
  8. Nadine Bestougeff was at YMCA in Houston (registered) bet. Aug. 22 and Nov. 11, 1963 according to FBI, LHO (or Hidell) were not at the YMCA during those dates. (CD372, SS Control # 1021)
  9. CD 20, page 26 withheld
  10. Have you seen: GA-1-SS File-Hoover letter of March 11, 1964--Mrs. Verdella Montgomery and her daughter Florine (Marshall, Texas) wanted to see the SS rather than FBI (Archives hasn't replied on this one yet.)
  11. Commissioners all got copies of the suppressed Hoaxes# file--this is important
  12. CE 1481: pp33-34 withheld (Frank. Knight, Herman Ripley, Robt. Hershey)  
pp### 55-58 withheld (Dr. Joseph H. Martin  
pp66-67, 74 withheld (Hohn or James Mike O'Brien, aka J.F.Hugh O'Brien,  
aka. Patrick O'Brien, aka Patrick C. O'Hara

These are both old and new leads, from the Archives plus some old notes I just found in my files and declassified.

According to the Saturday Review, Aug. 12, 1967, p66, Jimmy Breslin "followed the surgeon-in-charge into Emergency Room One in Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas and the gravedigger to Arlington." Know anything about it? Breslin is an ex-reporter for the N.Y. Herald Tribune. There is a book about him ~~publ~~ published by our old friend Viking.

I just received info that every secret service man in the US was sent to Dallas during the period following the assassination. I am not sure of the reliability of this unusaal statement but will discuss it further with the guy who works near where I live. He came up after an appearance I made last night. He has worked with HHH and knows all of the SS conected. Hope to be able to speak to several SS in the coming months. The pentagon man kept his mouth shut and was of no use. I hope that the CIA man is more useful, but I doubt it.

I got an offer to join the new corporation to investigate assassinations, but it was addressed to Gary Murr at my address. I sent a reply to Fensterwald who is the temporary chairman explaining who I am and accepting with the assumption that it was meant for me. I then explained that Gary Murr was an investigator and should be included along with Matt and Chris who did the Memphis work and Norden who did the Malcolm X stuff. But I have misgivings since the list includes Lifton which is bound to lead to trouble. If you see Bud and remember, try to get this clarified.

Well, I'd better go now. Take it easy and enjoy your trip. Best wishes for productivity, naturally. Give my regards to Paul, Hal, and Steve.

*Gary*

PS. I still haven't heard from Robt. Sherrill or from David Shoenbrun (who is horrible with correspondence anyway). But I also haven't heard from Lillian Castellano to whom you suggested I write for the surveyor's diagrams. If you see her could you find out if I could buy one from her.

*Kroman's girlfriend + private secretary, who has been w/ him from the beginning, appears to be a weak spot. I'm going to follow this one up.*