

UNIVERSITY OF *Minnesota*

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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

July 17, 1968

Dear Harold,

Thanks for your letters and your concern. I was pretty badly beaten but considering the circumstances was fortunate to come out alive. I stopped a mob of negro youths from beating a white man and who appeared to be in the process of killing him, by confronting them. They then swarmed on me while the police, who were nearby, did nothing. My head was kicked 15 to 20 times and I was also hit with some sort of object, but it turns out that I have a very thick skull and many of the injuries came to the thickest parts or when I was inadvertently moving away from the force of the kick. Most of the scars will not show and the two that will should be small. There appears to be no hard evidence of brain damage although when they brought me in I had no reflexes on the left. It looks as though I will have no vision in my left eye, so I did suffer one major loss. My right one will be OK as soon as I get corrective lenses. Right now I can't see too well. I'll send you some clippings since they made a big deal out of the thing and I got a chance to speak out on Civil rights, although I was badly misquoted.

I'm afraid my already meagre work on the case may be decreased by the incident. My informants still report in and your letters were read to me by one of my girls from my Citizen's Committee.

Thanks for the clarification on ~~the~~ Martin film. I had been in doubt about whether it was the original or not. The FBI must have kept the original without his permission. I also have written proof from Archives that reports aren't there. Same is true of Ortiz. Hope to see Ann Hooten, handwriting expert who has conferred with the Commission's expert, soon. My hospitalization cancelled our appointment.

Glad to hear that Louis got the slides. May have made some discoveries on the DCA which I would like to discuss with you at some future date with the help of a film viewer. I do have a copy--that was the one which was picked off 3 times when coming from Al Bunnal who used to be associated with them. Patsy would need original DCA footage to do the most important work, although I'm going to give him minor projects with it. To lighten the film he would be taking off layers chemically--no danger, but it would change the film. That is why I asked you to spend a bit of time trying to figure out a way to convince them that this would make the film incredibly valuable, including to themselves.

Will get the two sets of prints. Had planned to anyway. You will also get two sets of the entire sequence blown up enough to see the guy who motions in O's direction and also other things going on. Since I plan to be back East within the week, perhaps I'll deliver them myself.

Tulsa trip is out due to condition. I had a very specific objective which deals with the Shreveport meeting. I would never travel that far unless I felt I could find out something. The principles from the Shreveport meeting will be at the Convention, and they'll be totally off their guard.

I'm going to have that envelope with the misspellings blown up to poster size. You must have really been out of it. Your wife's comments were amazing.

Thanks very much for the offer of your place to convalesce. I'll probably just go home to Phila. and then I'll be able to see both Vince and you. The residuals from the beating need time to heal. In any event, I look forward to perhaps seeing you and your wife in the near future.

Gary

P.S. Have news of another, better film, of its distribution (in another part of the country) will give details later

I hope this letter is intelligible

1. Jean Hack allegation I have is same as yours
2. Interested in Connecticut <sup>origin</sup> report about Oswald wanting to buy car (FDC), although I'm sure you have covered that area. My want is for use in appearances plus possible connections I might find. I am coming on from an unusual approach, unlike yourself who is in the center of things. I feel there may be other leads (i.e. Martinsburg, etc.)

7/20/68

Dear Gary,

Thanks for writing as soon as you could. We have been apprehensive.

When you are here you can see all the reports you want. I expect Hal Verb, who is now in the east. The date is not set. You can both be here at same time. We have space. I have two unpublished books you might like to read and on which, when you can read that much, I'd welcome comments and suggestions.

Why not let my approach to DCA re: Patsy wait until we meet, unless I get an inspiration?

I had written Vince at an old address hoping for word from you. I suggested to him that they drive you down and spend a weekend here (we can accommodate all of you, even if they have kids). We can then have the kinds of talks we have never had and still relax with the pool, the park-like terrain, etc. And we have air conditioning when it is necessary. If they cannot, Greyhound to Baltimore connects with Greyhound to Frederick. Plan on a long stay. You will, I think, find it restful.

As the doctors say on your eyes. You will learn that the lack of the left will soon bother you little. I have and all my life have had little use of mine and the "good" eye is only 20/70 closeup.

If I didn't tell you, before I went to N.O. this trip I drafted a sixth book, COUP D'ETAT. I am now reading it. I've also done a hasty answer to Epstein, which will be out in a week. And when we talk of the interest in the auto purchase, I also have a new perspective, from an interview two weeks ago with a man then in the organization. Remind me.

Get here soon. Best from us both.