

6/29/69

Dear Gary,

I'm trying to clean up the accumulation (what a beautiful day for the pool!) and it's kinda piecemeal.

Your 6/23. I believe you do not require the return of The Councillor, enclosed. Let me know if you do. On this, at some expense, Bud copied much of the earlier issues. I took them to NO for them to copy what they wanted and just cannot get them back. But Bud has them also and places high store in them, as I do not, as a source of information and leads.

You had earlier made clear neither Olsen nor Turner could be quoted, so I'll merely say what Fisher said. I think that is important. I've had a response to the other inquiries I made of my Senator, but nothing on the federal grants to the Univ of Md and the medical grants to the institutions Fisher is associated with.

Dallas. I would suggest you write Paul and ask him for recommendations on inexpensive places to stay for the three of you and see if he has any suggestions. I have not met any of the radical-right group, spoke but once to the man, whose name escapes me, when he phoned. Bud volunteered me as a guide. I cannot counsel you on seeing them but my hunch is you'd not find it the best way to spend precious time. Before you go we'll be communicating about this, too. I do not have their addresses. Never been in touch. One thing you can do is phone to see if Father Walter Machann (Jr.) is home and if he is, if he has learned Sylvia Odio's new name and address. His parents are skittish. If you speak to him, also ask him if he has thought of anything he'd like to add to what he told me. Dallas reminds me of Penn, who owes me much over \$100. Lil wrote his wife to seek to get one or two sets of the 26, which he has. No response after some weeks.

Let me light up a good Habane cigar, a real rarity, because they cannot be sold in the US (a couple were given me) and think about this a minute... Yes, Parkland and Rose and McClelland. Tell Rose how I have written of him and his dedication to his responsibilities, how I've been pilloried for it (Bickel) and my insistence the rights of Texas should have been honored, ask ask him all the general questions about all three murders. Be delicate on Tippit's and the delay in the autopsy. On Oswald, one thing that interests me is did he have wrist scars consistent with the story of his attempted suicide. On the forcible removal of the President's body, I'd like to have his full account and the citation of law(s), etc., esp. to counter Manchester's fictions. Leave Perry alone. See what you can get from McClelland and if he is on our side or not against us, merely suggest that he might want to discuss with me what I have recently learned of the head damage, etc. Do not give him details, not even in generalities, save to indicate it is other than the official story. One of the other aspects that interests me is the washing of the car. When you go there, have something to read because it sometimes takes a long while before they answer the page. If Tomlinson will talk to you he might be able to indicate who he may have seen near the stretcher at any time, whether he understands how Specter used (and abused) him, what he really recalls. I am interested in knowing if there then was a technician named Wiley Yates working there, possibly on oxygen. Be careful on him and this. We now know how undependable Tink is, so I think his Price story, which is basically true, is worth checking out. I'd like that in full, for use in PM II. I might be able to use much of this there. I never had time for the sheriff's office. You might try there, for the records, list of pictures, etc. (Please carry a tape recorder and use as much as possible, as when you leave a place and are driving, before you can write out notes, and in interviews where it is possible). I am interested in the names of those picked up, whether or not arrested. Paul can out you in a position to thoroughly check out those in the tramp pictures. They were picked up behind the postoffice in the 200 block of South Houston. He knows people who saw it and they do have recollections. He did

some of this for me, as you know. Please stay away from Wade, entirely. That had better cool for a while. I have avoided writing him for special reasons. I want more worked out when I am again in touch with him. I have continuing interest in the NSRP there, and the threats, and the picking up of Jimmy Robinson (who then worked for the Long Oil Co.), said by Fields to have been the first picked up. You might try Mrs. Joanna Rogers, tell you you are seeking her for me because she was leaving for six months when I was there and didn't have time to see me. I am a friend of Bob and Trudy Castorr. I am interested in all she can tell me (and use the tape recorder, telling her you are making the tape for me so you cannot make any mistakes, as in names or dates or incidents). Focus on Sylvia Odio's stay with her, the story of the pillow, if she remembers it, and the letters from Connell that, at Trudy's recommendation, she took to Lt. Butler. Try and learn what there was in these letters from Connell, who was in Boston, to Sylvia, that so disturbed her. She may pretend not to remember so ease into it and earn her confidence first. Once she knows, as Trudy may have told her, that she can trust me, that I am not going to hurt her or her husband (Texas Industries), she may be willing. There may be something here. It is all very strange and hushed up. If you can get her to talking, she might fill in many blanks all of which I cannot tell you of now. Ask her about the loud woman Trudy didn't trust who had a story about being offered much money for what she knew about the assassination (Ramos, perhaps). If she is willing, ask her to phone Trudy, who will recall those things I am interested in about this. Also, the Farmers' Branch study group meeting of 10/1 Or 10/2/63, where a Cuban spoke. It was taped and I'd like that tape. Trudy could not get it. I believe an Irving chiropractor made the tape. They used to sell them. If you have any problem here, see if Paul will help you. They may be political friends. The Rogeres are of the right. Luis Ferre asked them to house Sylvia for her convalescence (does she know her new name, whereabouts?). If you can see Eddie Brawner and have no more important things to do (and he may be unwilling, Penn and Boxley having seen him) try and learn why he was asked to join Bay of Pigs, ask for copy of telegram (which Boxley did not give to office, is not in their files) or, failing, ask him to send copy to Louis, saying it is at my request. Note it was sent not from Miami but from Dallas, which should lead to more interesting questions.... If you can get any leads on Babushka, do not forget her. If you can go to where picture of LHO with rifle was allegedly taken, see if people living behind there recall, if woman in background is still there, and if so, what, if anything, she recalls. Pictures, take from both knolls toward targets. South reached from overpass via north... If the kid who was at the gas station with the sabin where the men with rifles stayed is still around, I'd like you to talk to him, if you recall that story (I've forgotten OE number). If you can find Chaney, fine. Maybe Studebaker, if you find him and he'll talk, can tell you what Chaney learned, ~~what~~ why he wasn't called as witness. Maybe I'll be adding other notes from time to time. Let me know departure date. I may want you to stop in St. Louis (here tape is must).

No Haiti developments, which is what I expected. They would be embarrassed. On Jaffe, I'd rather stick to the medical but I leave this up to you.

You should not have started the Councillor sub with the same date as Bernabei.

Relet to Olsen: Did Fisher back off on his own or was he wised up?

I think your missing CD 1330 is the one you never got.

Keep that Fisher stuff entirely to yourself, especially do not let it go to Calif. If you have, please let me know (I'm rereading your 6/21 to Paul). Until we isolate and close the leak out there, please be very careful because we do not understand its motive and have reason to suspect it and connections. And put the tightest controls on the JG material, if it is not too late. They really do not need it and the only ones who could benefit from it will not because they just refuse to.

..ON the train and Fred, I side with Paul and do not buy your explanation under 5

o

Your last large paragraph is in accord with my knowledge, wit these additions: Bud's tendency to go for the spy-story stuff, li'e for real, despite his Hill experience, and his knowledge Turner is a crook. All the crap he gave you he gor from Jim and tried to sell me on. It is because I shook him on this that he made if possible for me to go there in November. He stopped off on his way home from his trip (says he saw little or nothing of Lifton) and I've not been in touch since.

Now for other cleaning up.

Best,

UNIVERSITY OF *Minnesota*

MEDICAL SCHOOL
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June 23, 1969

Dear Harold,

Got your letters of 6/19. Enclosed are copies of most recent letters to both Paul's and a letter Olson got from Fisher. You can use this, although, Turner won't allow use of his, so you will have to quote from them, give date, but not name correspondent, and then keep the letters in case anyone asks for proof.

On Fred, I just got a reply to my letter prior to the 5 page flagellation, in which he backs off some, is somewhat apologetic, recognizes his changeability of opinion and impulsiveness, but not the crucial thing: irresponsible and needless charges, and accepting Lifton's word for things. After the 5 pager there may be no more realization. It looks like I can't battle Lifton that well for Fred, although copies of those letters went to Hal and Paul, George Rennar, and I think Dick Bernabei.

Interesting on Ward. Fred's letter which I got today mentioned it too, although just as a fact, with no details. Wonder who told him.

On the radical right people, you could do me a big favor. First of all, they know Dallas--where would there be a cheap place to stay. Secondly, could I visit them there and discuss their work with them? I will almost definitely going during the last half of July, along with a photographer plus probably Don Olson.

This leads me to a second question. What can we do for you there? Photography, or interviewing, or even library research will be possible. I would like to clean up any loose ends I can for people. Olson, like myself and the photog, have a burning desire to actually see the plaza and other things. Perhaps it is a bit frivolous, but it is something I have wanted to do many times and have not done because of investigative pursuits or archives work. And, I really need a vacation from this place, and from academic type reading. With three guys the gas will be cheap and the driving easy.

If Burton is still badly torn over Garrison, then it sounds like a pretty way out reaction. More important than the closing date of the trial is that he began to dissociate from them long before the trial, and that the trial looked bad weeks before it ended. Steve may be one of those people whose psychology causes them to internalize guilt which is not rationally theirs, or perhaps, this thing has caused him more problems than we know: i.e. if he played Mark Lane in front of girls, friends, etc., and announced a big revelation, then fell on his face. Perhaps even some with federal connections have made him feel it worse than it should have been, by chiding him about it.

The depression in N.O. does not surprise me. I suspect that since the defeat was predictable, that they all had their denial defenses ready when it happened, and also that there was a certain amount of relief in it. Likewise they were prepared for the media assault, and likewise the threats which they knew would not be acted out. Then there was Bethell who could serve as a scapegoat. But such things don't last long, and depression eventually comes.

Smart move on the Haiti thing. I avidly await developments. This will provide an interesting measure of the government. It would be worth cutting Coup's text somewhere to get this in.

Enclosed are some items from Dick. I think that I will try to subscribe to the Councilor too, since it will be cheaper than xeroxing, and is a different "in" than Hargis provides. In fact, considering the xeroxing and mailing costs, it would be much cheaper to subscribe.

Best wishes.

Gary

P.S. I ordered the book by Capell mentioned in the Councilor.