

Feb. 1, 1969

Dear Harold,

Enclosed are all the Archives had on Hunt and Rothermel. Their files aren't worth shit, since independently I located another page dealing with him which I sent you. These have already been sent to Rothermel so you don't need to waste paper and money and time.

Here also are two copies of letters from the Archives which should be of some interest. They go with the other one I sent you last week, and help better explain what they claim is in there.

They claim to have nothing on Kara-patnitski, other than CD 1330, which I still can't find in my files, although I know I had it, since I'm sure I sent you a copy.

Do you know of the color photos of the crowd outside the Texas Theater when Oswald was arrested? I have them from the Archives in 8 X 10 size. There could be some interesting faces in them. They are pictures # 2 & 3 from CD 577 and were taken by Stuart L. Reed. I am contacting him for prints from the original negatives. These should all be blown up. There had to be someone in that crowd.

Does Bernabei have anything on Malcolm X other than the Lomax book which is worthless compared to the Norden article in the Realist. I had a long telephone conversation with Wm. Worthy who can get \$1 million (\$250 thousand for 4 years) to investigate it. He is running some checks on Bud before approaching him, I told him that Bud was of dubious allegiance and that the committee would probably not get off the ground. I recommended that he contact you, and told him that you might even send him a copy of the Miami tape. Worthy has written for Esquire, Realist, Minority of One, etc., but I don't know what to think of him. You will have to judge for yourself.

Take care.

Gary

2/5/69

Dear Paul and Gary,

Your respective letters of 2/3 and 2/1 received. Both helpful. Paul reminds he is willing to copy ~~xxxx~~ Gary's last Archives batch and, cannot get almost done by weekend I might send what I haven't for him. I think, when Gary can (and this time circumstances mitigated against it) should check with both of us before ordering for indications are he has wasted much, meaning wasted money that could have gotten things we do not do recall some of what I have that I haven't yet carded and I have not it carded. For example, I was able to tell Barry Ernest not to get ~~xxxx~~ page on people we was going to look up because we have them. With a few it does not pay, but with a large order, unless there is a real crush, Gary should send us both lists first, so we can mark what we have and a

Paul sent copy of NYT story on return pictures and X-rays, I have mislaid my file on this. What is itemized as being return does not any numbers in any of the records, including the recent ones. I also have Washington Star story on this. If either of you has any accounting other than that of the "Times," 14 X-rays, 25 black and white negatives and 26 four-five inch color transparencies, I'd appreciate as soon as possible, if it is typing away like mad in the few minutes she has with a more than full job. If you will note what Graham says in this story, Paul, you will find and the contemporaneous interpretation of what was sent to the Arch by the reasons are exactly my interpretations and not that of the Arch and

Gary, I have CD 1330 and will copy when I have cleaned up the in. In your correspondence with Reed, seek to get his explanations of what to his original film. As I recall, Hoover says lost and he copied copies those outside-theater scenes are complete. I think it is not necessary to assume "there had to be someone in that crowd". I agree it is worth checking however. My own belief is that if anyone was there for such an involvement was to leave an exit door open so it could be entered from the outside, done that, discretion should have removed him promptly.

Correspondence with the Archives is important. I try to remember to send you both copies of all of mine. They do establish an important I spotted in the pegel report, which Paul now has and of which I'll try to dig out a copy for Gary to go with this, on page 5, between the itemized (excuse the expression) of pictures and X-rays, this: "All of the above listed in a memorandum of transfer, located in the National Archives, April 26, 1965." I regard this as so important I phoned Johnson from N. and asked for a copy. I have twice since and gotten no answer, no explanation of delay, no indication (though I've asked) how this could possibly be. We have short hair here and should pull. I haven't because while there is slightest chance there may be a hearing before Judge Halleck Bud, who I spotted separately, would rather pull this as a surprise. However, I think it would be good if Gary wrote Eckhoff asking, quoting words and nothing. If he gets an answer, he might then refer to Eckhoff's 1/29, "We do not have records of any other agencies concerning the investigation of the assassination except those that are among the records of the Commission". This has not have been. Nor could the family-GSA contract. So there are exceptions

I would much like to talk to Worthy (to whom another friend just, strangely, spoken). I also have some King material you have not that might interest him. If you are again in touch, extend my invitation which includes a pad and access to everything. I do not know what else has. Consider Lomax may have an importance through his connections, though I am not sure what these can be. I think he was fed Galt stuff and I know he is Liebelar, if not a friend of his.

Gary, it might be worth trying to learn what "Billie Williams" looks like, to see if he could have been one of those in May attendance on me out there.

Bud mimeographed copies of all the medical statements Clark used 1/17 and, not knowing I had Xeroxed copies of the complete file for both of you, gave me copies for you, but they are in a very big stack I brought back from N.O., and haven't had time to dig into. I just spotted one and included it in the envelope for Gary. He omitted the Marshall memo in what he gave the court(1). I think it would be a good idea if Paul wrote the DW again and asked for the complete file, including press releases and briefs, etc. I went in writing that there was no press release, an exceptional thing (true also when Clerk retreated on Shaw). In these cases they have a typed statement they read, or at least sometimes do, and if he gets a negative answer he might ask for that. Let them say "no" or that they do not have. This is by far the most serious blunder they have made and we must not overlook any possibilities.

In reading what I have written, I am approaching the end. I so hate to have to write this kind of significant material under time pressure to make it available and the emotional sweat of not knowing whether I can ever get it published. It makes for not the best writing. I do not even have time to outline, doing that in my mind as I write. But I think the most important single thing is not my vanity but getting the stuff on paper and out. Both are major problems. Matt Herron had an idea some months ago that I should ask Vince, who he said could well afford it, to get me an "editor in residence", a recent but prepared college graduate being a possibility. Vince never did respond. I would have provided quarters and what goes with it, etc. Lil is typing this from my rough draft, read once. She has completed about 18,000 words, which makes me feel my estimate of 30,000 is about 100% short of what I have actually written. Seems impossible, when I was working in N.O. when I did so much of it! I wish I know how I could xerox copies for both of you when it is done. It will then be a major task to make changes, but there may be some essential.

No word from Bud or anyone else as of after 10 a.m. (got mail at P.O. 7:45 this a.m., which I can do when I take Lil to work and can get it done before returning to other work). No comments on letter to Vince. Except you two, Bud, Jim (through Ivon) and Sylvia, I sent no other copies.

Paul points out my interpretation of bullet wound top head more consistent with TSED shot. Save for what happened after bullet hit. This requires an even more controlled explosion than the existing fiction. It narrows the area into which that force was applied too much. I also makes sense out of the BURNING of that single front skull X-ray. Which might have shown front damage. I am now ready to believe anything about any kind of medico-legal dirty-work.

If you both remember my elliptical handling of Vellee in COUP, I now have confirmation of my suspicion, that he was actually of SS interest before scheduled JFK 11/2/63 Chicago visit. Suggest you think of this terms Bolden. Confirmed by Chi police during his trial. I have duplicating clips from two different papers....My call to Chason not until 1/22/69. Memo enclosed. I have copies Nichols suit for both. Haven't had chance read yet, or to answer his letter....Took time to get Nichols suit papers. Enclosed. Also Rose-Wilson pix for Gary, Kaffke memo to Paul (for Hal). If I find, I'll include other things I have for you before mailing.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg