

9/9/70

Gary, Dick, Howard,

Letter from Mayhew today is not quite as explicit as this sentence I quote and still lacks offer:

"I can't think of anything I would like better than to include your files and work in my collection". He also says, "Hopefully, I will establish the first national JFK Museum in Dallas." Which is not entirely consistent with the initial press. I think we should remain silent on this. I've replied and will keep you posted. However, if this is to be a real place of research, I can't think of a better repository and hope others would ultimately make their files available for this purpose.

Indications from Bud's direction are more and more of an ego trip. No time for explanations now, but I am apprehensive and there is, as with Garrison, a real and present danger I'll try and cope with in my own way. This is but to alert you to the potential.

No response from Paul or anyone else on that, but it is probably too soon.

Before too long I'll be having a few good blowups of Z frames around head shot, if any of you will want to borrow.

Dick, Bob Brown is now sending me his literature. I seem to be on his mailing list. He's doing a book on the CIA and Cuba, post Bay, figs and claims to have identified several dozen Florida fronts.

Gary only,

HW

What is involved is more than Bud's effort to breathe artificial life into the cadaver he calls a committee, which he never intended as more than a front for himself, but that also is involved. If you are still a member, I think it would be good, based on your own knowledge from Sprague, to ask him some questions. You also know that Flammonde's books is a melange of uncritical thievery in which he stole even some of my few "mistakes", like Castorr, Garrison's sicker and less credible imaginings and sincere error of his own. How, might you ask, can he have such a man on the Ray case as his investigator? And does this not conflict with his agreement with me, of which I long ago told you? (Bud told me F was "one of" his investigators, presumably the rest of the committee also have this "status"). With Flammonde writing a book, does this not give two more conflicts, one because it duplicates the use situation and the other because I have given them my material? Did the Committee sponsor or pay for ~~Bud's~~ his trip to England with Bud? What basis does he have for trusting Flammonde, or even believing he can do any investigating, with the record of his book, which has nothing credible of his own? And JG's most incredible? Does he not, as a lawyer, have the most serious conflicts now, when he has a committee to investigate assassinations and his desire and ambition to make something of it and his representation of Ray? And when to your knowledge Flammonde has stolen so much from my work, does he not have a conflict when he represents me in these matters, requiring that I give him information, and Flammonde has free access to his files and to him? I think you get the idea. I will follow this more strongly, but I suspect he'll again stall until after the upcoming Ray hearing, about which he first lied to me about the date, which means there was no chance of its being after the book is manufactured. Of course, I have to sublimate my personal interest to that of justice anyway, but the lie is an indication. I'm going to do something drastic. One Garrison is too many.

Dear Gary,

9/9/70

Please regard this as confidential. Enough divides us. Lil will be a few moments before she is ready for me to take her into town, so instead of making a note of what follows, I also tell you -and only you.

Before Mary left, she gave me a check that I regard as excessive, so she would be paying her own way. The actual cost was little. When I protested she decided instead to call it a gift and apologized for not being able to make it more. She had already spent more on taking us out to dinner than the slight cost of the little she required. On the way to the airport she started protesting how much trouble it had been for me to get her, which is nonsense. Then she wanted to pay me for tuxes, etc. All the nice little things you would expect of her.

During this, when she was saying she was sorry she could not do more to help me, that everyone should, etc., she said how happy she was that Bud, who is so loaded is helping me. I asked her who had told her. She did not give direct answer or said she didn't remember. She then explained that when Bud was last there, having heard it, she had thanked him for it and had said pretty much what she had just said. His response, with a big smile, as she described it, was that Bud told her (the quote is approximate, "Don't worry about Happy Harold. He is getting everything he deserves".

I leave the interpretations to you. The fact is Bud has never given me a cent for me, has treated me to about two dinners, backed out on a trip to N.O. he had asked me to make, leaving me stuck with the expenses, refused to repay the costs of the phone calls by means of which I got Ray to ask him to be Ray's lawyers, and did not pay the cost of filing the last suit (those two he filed he has not billed me for, but need I tell you the profit and the p.r. benefit has been his and by his extension, that of his committee?).

He has, as you know, lied to me in telling me he had no money, as for these phone calls, and when I needed it for a short period of time, knowing checks were on the way to me. He has not kept the arrangement under which I got him the Ray case-in not even a single particular- and is trying to switch the "investigation" work to his committee, viz current National Inquirer.

We were supposed to get together this week, but he is stalling it. Jim Lesar is coming up tomorrow. (By the way, all the fact in the current proceeding is from FRAMEUP and what I told Bud, even the precedent case I told him had to exist, and did). This week he said it would have to be Friday or Saturday, and I think he'll avoid that, for next week he has to go to Tennessee again. He didn't even tell me the truth when I asked him when the papers had to be filed, indicating no rush, which I communicated to the publisher. First, indirectly from Sprague and then for Lesar I learned it is the 15th, which can ruin parts of FRAMEUP and cost me the collateral rights! Meanwhile, he denied knowing Flammonde is writing a book, although he took him to Europe or was accompanied by him. And you are not the only one Sprague told Flammonde is writing a book.

All of this confronts me with the most serious problems that I will undertake to handle with care. You are to do nothing but be silent. However, you will, without my reminding you, recall what I wrote about becoming a hermit.

HW

9/7/70

Dear Gary,

We enjoyed Mary's visit very much. I took her to Dulles for a plane that should have her home by now. I was able to get to know her better as we all relaxed, and she is as sharp as you said. Also as nice. She is, alas, also very loaded with troubles, and they are not easy ones to bear or solve. She has more reason than most people to be embittered, but I think she will not be. We just chatted most of the time, she got a little sun (I think cured a cold), a little burn, a little rest. I hope (and think) the visit was good for her. It was for us, too, and came at the best possible time, with nothing breathing down my neck, when I could do nothing about the problems to which I shall now have to address myself. I hope she and Buck can come up soon, before the weather gets rougher than they are used to. I suggested and recommended Indian Summer.

I think she got to know us a bit better, although I suspect she was rather prejudiced in our favor in advance.

She is a very generous person, but does not easily accept small favors from others. She'll have to lose them hangup. If the arrangements for Jimmy go through, they'll all be better off. They would seem to be best for him, too.

She worries more than she shows. I think I see little reflections of it, like washing the bathing suit Lil loaned her out by hand before she left. Lil could have thrown it in the automatic washer on their next load.

Lil, who does not take to people easily, likes her very much. She didn't have to tell me (though she did), for Lil cannot mask her feelings, and she also makes no effort to.

We did discuss "work" a little. I gave her a brief idea of what I'm into, what I plan, what I hope to achieve by these things, and showed her a few of the things of which she had no knowledge.

She told me that she and Sylvia finally figured Dave out and that Sylvia is going to "fix" him. I fear this will also ruin him and expressed strong opposition to it. Mary felt the same way and is going to tackle Sylvia, as I also will. There is little to be gained by ruining Dave, and I think whatever she does will drive him too far past the point that I fear is so close already. In Sylvia's case, although I shall not undertake to explain it to her, her own bull-headedness and whatever the things she has on younger men is are in part responsible. She had every reason to trust Dave and would not find out if there were reasons of which she had no knowledge.

I am not unappreciably surprised at the coming to pass of what is indicated in "The El Biri Emissary" and "El Biri Again", which you may remember from COUP. Demanding Sirhan's release after that \$20,000,000 destruction and jeopardizing all those lives will not persuade that there was no conspiracy. I used Peter Sirhan as my source for predicting retaliation, and it is out of FRAMEUP. However, having the feel for what may come makes me feel better about my work when I write books as newspapers are written, with none of the protection of the transitory character of the daily press and all of the liability of books.

Think I'll try and write Sylvia before approaching bedtime.

Hope you are well,

9/3/70

Dear Gary,

Although I'd fallen asleep as soon as I got in bed last night, on returning to it after your call I had difficulty getting to sleep again, my mind wanting to work. In this time I reached a few tentative conclusions on what I must and will do and will seek to avoid doing. They are here not germane, for I write this brief note for a different purpose and would like to get it and other mail to my box before the postman arrives, thus, possibly, saving a trip into town on what looks like an inclement day.

In talking with you early this morning, I had several things in mind: not influencing your own thinking and reactions and yet informing you. There is an aspect in which I may have left you under what I think would be a wrong impression. That Paul's memo is terrible and fraught with the most serious danger is beyond question. However, that it is all bad, only bad, evil if you'd like, I believe is not the case.

You have often heard me talk of what I call intellectual judo.

Think in these terms.

I am not happy to know that you believe you need therapy. I hope it is good for you. Your representation in the letter and reflection on the phone are not really, consistent. When you spoke of it you gave me an entirely different impression. However, whatever is the cause, I am confident you will be able to handle it.

Hurriedly.