

6/10/70

Gary (no copies),

With your letter of the 7th, there were these enclosures: the missing Masterman page, 6/3 to Dave, 6/6 to Dick, the letter to your draft board (congratulations on missing that one!), 6/2 to Fred and Marlyn, and 6/7 to Mary. I am returning the draft board letter so you can have an extra if you need it, the one to Mary (which is excellent, but I think should not be forgotten in my files, which will wind up somewhere), and the second copy of the one to Fred. Because some of all of this Lifton business doesn't make sense, I presume you send me your file copy of the Fred letter and forgot another, possibly Lifton's.

Aside from the reflection of Lifton and his attitude, which could not be better reflected than he involuntarily does it, I'd like to know all about this, to see what is on paper. My letter to Sylvia, enclosed, may suggest certain things to you, for I told her when it was apparent that Paul had returned without telling her (from a letter she wrote while he was still here). I had once asked her never to tell Lifton anything I tell her, no matter what it is. You may recall this from some of the N.O. test business. I think it possible she is the one who told him of the victory. However, the filing of the suit was aired in L.A. the day it was filed, so that he should have known. While I'd prefer to know nothing about him, I think it best I be in a position to know, to the degree we can and it can make sense, what he is up to.

Re Uncle Chester and George, long silence. Marshall: I think it best to leave him alone. If Calabrazzi (or is it Calabrese or something like that?) wants to do anything, there are more important functions he can undertake at Yale, like talking to Brewster. I've been deliberating about writing him for some time but haven't made up my mind. You see, the man who asked for my files for an unofficial Kennedy archive wants it for Yale. I've since agreeing told him I may have to use the residual rights as a means of keeping going and he hasn't taken the hint. I may want to ask this of Brewster. But as of now, I suppose I have to await further word from Mayhaw, who did say the proposition interested him.

On the "upcoming publicity", I was again doublecrossed. However, I have sold an article to the Enquirer, which began embarrassed because they knew the Skolnick ploy in advance from me, which knew of Chapman's work from me and refused the only responsible treatment over two years ago. While I will get little from it, I will get something, and the publicity should, properly, await its appearance. If they want to do some promo, I'll hear from them prepub, and I've asked them to let me know. Your radio people can interview me by phone after pub, though, and while newspapers generally are reluctant to credit others, even to use what others have except in major stories (and the Enquirer doesn't enjoy the best reputation), there is no reason Cunningham, can't interview me the same way or assign a reporter to it or ask their Wash man.

On the F-D scrap, my advice is to stay out of it entirely, for they'll both recriminate against you. They have always had a love-hate relationship. Remember the early letter from Fred saying he threw Dave out, couldn't stand him, etc.? And the history since then? I ought not be in the position of trying to tell you your business, but I think it impossible to have a relationship of trust and accord with either. I think both are incapable of it on this subject, except with those they regard as satellites....Borden: I think he is no longer worth the effort you hope for, even if for real, and there is increasing doubt about this in my mind. How he was handled is one thing, but what he has said is separate, and that is but to repeat names JG used in public, not another one....Your 6/2 to Dave refers to one of 6/2. Is that the one you intended sending instead of the second copy of that of 6/2 to Fred?

I think you err seriously in telling Lifton anything, no matter how innocent, like the reference to Ned Crosby. You should have learned....I wonder if he will not ask Justice for what I forced out?...Frankly, except for defensive purposes, I think any contact with them is a total waste, him and Fred. But they are both so irresponsible, how can one not want to know what they may be up to? Either is capable of anything, each attributing whatever he does to his own superior intentions. And as of this minute, I do not know a single meaningful thing either has done since WW appeared.

By now I think it is clear that if Fred has done anything dependable, it is what was otherwise done anyway. He has followed up my work in several areas on the pictures, but what emerges, if any of any value, is not worth the time he has taken for correspondence alone. His own work destroys his own credibility, so what do we have if he has done something worthwhile?

Excellent leaflet on your Walk In. And same for your letter to Mary. From my experience, not technical training, I say what you said is perfectly aimed and proper, the only possible approach, I think I can understand from your letter, without having seen hers. I wonder if Buck feels a bit guilty, feels that this happened only because he failed in some way? Apropos of other things you say, D (who is the world's biggest liar) writes that I do her more good with my letters than her shrink does. I am not sure she'll feel this way after reading the one now in the mails, because I start telling her to do specific things, not just to talk about them. This includes some reading and some writing....The problem with Buck is that you do not know and have no way of knowing whether or not his feelings are complicated by factors of which you have no way of knowing.

Hope your week with your sister is a good one. If anyone can do her any good, I think you will. If she is willing.

The anturalist in you, of which you write, may be interested in knowing what is in me: a big case of chiggers-all over. ..The pool is not yet clean enough to use. But little by little, I a getting it there.

Best,

June 7, 1970

Dear Harold,

I am now an Army reject having failed the physical, despite all the trouble I have had from my own board. It is more fully described in the enclosed copy of my last letter to Dick. A copy of my letter to the draft board summing up the trouble is enclosed. It feels good to be free.

Also described in my letter to Dick is the craziness which has recently arisen in Dave Lifton of late. He and Fred seem to have had a falling out of sorts. Further info which you should know about concerns the fact that when Dave phoned me he knew all about the Ray suit and its outcome. In his letter of May 30 he states explicitly: "I was aware that Harold had filed suit for some papers connected with the James Early Ray (sic) case, documents which ought to have been public anyway. And that this action never got to court because the Justice Department simply didn't contest it." He went on to question whether this justified my enthusiasm over it. Other segments of the letter are in my letter to Dick, but I thought that Dave's complete knowledge of the details of the court action would be of interest, given that you told me to keep them confidential. Even after he ~~showed me the details of the court action~~ showed full knowledge of the details I simply agreed with what he said.

Enclosed are copies of my letters to the Newcombs and to Dave. By the way, what ever happened to Uncle Chester's tape and good old George Rennar in general? He owed me a letter since before Christmas so I wrote him months ago and still have not heard. I am a bit worried in a way because he was always such a hard worker and a pretty good correspondent.

Got your mailing of 5/28-29. I notice that Burke Marshall writes on Yale Law School stationery. Would there be any use in trying to use my new contact with Guido Calebrazi to attempt another approach. If Guido would help, and that is a separate question, he could be very persuasive.

On the Ferrie documents, it is hard to believe that the entire Garrison investigation went by after 2 years with no attempt to get them since they were the most directly relevant withheld materials which could be easily pinpointed as such.

On the upcoming publicity you mention in your letter to Paul of 5/28 please arrange for me to get advance copies or specific advance notice of any columns to be syndicated. I want to push the Star and see what happens now that I have their City Desk Editor, Cunningham, on the line in front of friends. Then there is WLOL, WCCO, etc.

Agreed that the Lykken thing has been happening to others for years-- they themselves made a big point of this. What amazes me is that someone would try it on people like them--either they felt the time was ripe and that there could be no backlash or are so crazy as not to realize that they wouldn't get away with it.

The one pain you mention could be due to a nerve. They do travel that far and there is a cranial nerve which leaves the spinal cord at that point which innervates the other spot you noted.

As I mention to Dick I just moved my "office" downstairs into our dining room which is now a study. I now have more room and can borrow my roommate's electric typewriter so work will be easier and so will correspondence once I get all the files in order.

I will have a researcher in Omaha this summer and one going to Bolivia. Anything to do in either place. I have the two FBI documents from Omaha already but can't remember what it was that I had on Bolivia. The guy going to Bolivia will have someone fluent in Spanish and some Peace Corps contacts but could use some more. He just worked for 6 months in the library of congress and has made some good contacts.

My sister will visit out here for about a week starting Saturday a week. I haven't seen her in almost 2 years.

Enclosed is one of the pages from Mike Masterman which I forgot to send before.

Our weather is now nice and the old naturalist in me is coming out. I have also managed some tennis and am beginning to get in shape and thus feel better and work more effectively. Well, take it easy and give my regards to Lil.

cc: Dick, Mary, Paul

*Lay*

June 2, 1970

Dear Fred and Marylynn:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to Dave I type today when I read his most recent letter to me. I don't intend to discuss the subject any further but thought that I should send you a copy of my letter since I assume you have seen his but don't know for sure. Whether he is quoting you correctly in the letter I don't know, but if he is then what I wrote to him applies to you also. Ironically he spent the time to call me and I told him the same thing on the phone and he didn't seem upset in this fashion and seemed to understand the series of events without the sinister connotations which have not gotten out of hand in the letter.

I have trouble understanding such theories given that after that long and distasteful correspondence with you two and Dave during which charges were made about Harold and myself continually, and which got pretty ugly at times, I sent you that film clip with the Muchmore and other footage on it, and then went on to send you the Nix. When I originally got both I ordered an extra for you guys. In the case of the Movieland film, I took a chance on taking a loss by ordering 2 the first time out, since I didn't know what that footage looked like. Now that Dave has forced me to look back over the past months and year it would seem that I have been helpful and generous to you people given the nature of our arguments and that for the past year for you, and for the past # of years for Dave, your work has been kept pretty well secret. I sent you the film clip with the Muchmore and other news footage a long long while ago and know that you have done extensive work on it, and yet I have been offered neither knowledge or film work as a result. If I was out for myself it would have been dumb to send the Nix at all. The point is that I have been unselfish with both you people and Dave even to the point of never selling anything above cost enough to pay for what it cost me in postage, and never selling at a profit (as, for instance, you have done with films, and Dave did with my archives order) and yet now I am accused of having base motives. It is unfortunate if you and Dave are having disagreements and that now you see the need to get second copies of the things I sent, but I do not intend to be the target for misplaced frustration

Thanks for the package you sent on the Cronkite thing. The letters were good and they made a good record. CBS, as I learned personally and through others who tried to help them with their "documentary" on the WR, is just plain dishonest and doing little more than whitewashing. None of us, I am sure, were surprised about how the Johnson interviews turned out. But that does not undermine the importance of sending them what you did if for no other reason than to be able to show that they had it. So, thanks again for those items. They were a help when I appeared on radio to "reply" to LBJ.

As Dave may have told you, I have been excessively busy. Our free clinic and our developing network of free emergency services is growing rapidly and helping a hell of a lot of people. I have been very fortunate to make some new contacts with money, power, and position who are helping me reach important people on the subject of the assassination. One called Spector, Bickel, etc. long distance to put them on the spot, and then offered to pay expenses for those who wanted to come out and debate or see the material. He got me some good people including Guido Calabresi, full professor of law at Yale and personal friend of many Commission attorneys, who flew out here. I am now doing some stuff with Ed Andersson who designed some of the missile guidance systems for the ICBM and has top credentials in the military-industrial complex but who has recently quit and is now speaking against the ABM. His presentation blows at least as many minds as mine. The draft board has violated an incredible # of regulations ~~##~~ to get me in line for a physical, and now my medical records don't exist, so my physical this Friday should be interesting--it is a railroad job which I could prove in court easily, but it has already cost much time and money. Well, enough rambling. I'd better go. Time is short. In the future I will fill you in on a Nazi-style SS radd which struck one of my professors

which will blow your mind. Best wishes.

June 3, 1970

Dear Dave,

I am mailing this airmail hoping that it overtakes the letter I sent yesterday just so we can get straight on letters without them crossing in the mail.

I answered the question about the films in my last letter. I have nothing on Powell but negatives and nothing I can prove. I am planning to do a memo on Jim Murray but have been waiting for some time to hear from someone in Alaska ~~###~~ concerning McGregor Joint Venture with which he was connected. It is nigh on impossible to prove someone an agent. What I have on him is his own VITA which lists him as Army Intelligence during the ~~###~~ 50's plus his admission to me that we were correct in assuming that he was not what he pretended to be. An inventory of his activities would tend to lend credence to the likelihood that his sole function in our unit in Mayo was as an informant. I still have nothing more on his death than the two accounts.

As for how much time I have spent at the archives, it is considerably greater than 34 hours, and that doesn't include the thousands of pages I have read which are in Harold's files, or the stuff I order or microfilm I ordered. As for detail "one craves," you are probably right. But I don't understand your point.

There is more to the Justice Dept. suit and things going on in government agencies than you know in regard to the future of lawsuits. Furthermore, of course the info Harold asked for should have been publicly available--so should everything we want! For the Justice Department not to contest such a suit is a bit of a surprise given that they had resisted all attempts to get it without a suit, and that stuff was not available through the London or Tennessee courts.

I'm not sure why you get so tense over enthusiasm but allow me to confess that I ~~#####~~ feel happy, enthusiastic, and hopeful about the case. I have also waited a long while to see what can be done with influential people on a one to one basis, and in fact, have been involved in a project with Ned Crosby (a political scientist) to see if this could be of some usefulness in the present situation. Given the deterioration of the political situation over the last decade time grows short. There is a lot which is happening which is exciting and encouraging which I know of. My own work, save for public work, is not the cause for excitement obviously. But you asked me on the phone if I was doing anything on the case and from your tone were trying to indicate that I am inactive. When I am I will inform you, as I have Harold when I didn't have time to keep up, so that there will be no need to count on me. I trust that your own work, which I can hardly reflect on, is keeping you enthusiastic.

Well, I've got to go now. I hope that you and Fred iron out this thing about the Nix film in case that Movieland does not come through. I am encouraged in not having heard yet (although it may mean that they pocketed the check and left town). Take it easy.

Gay

Dear Dick:

June 6, 1970

Enclosed are carbons of recent letters to Dave Lifton and the Newcombs. Apparently there has been some disagreement, distrust, or falling out among them since Dave spent money on a long distance call (2 of them actually, although I want't here to receive one of them) to me to try to get extras of items I sent to Fred for both of them. I then got to rapid fire letters from Dave. He is currently alleging, on behalf of both himself and Fred, that I was trying to keep the source of a film secret so as to seem the sole source. The irony is that despite Dave's past diatribes against me, that he only calls or writes to pump me for info, that I have never gotten a return on anything sent to he or Fred in the last year, that they secret most of their info and any of it which is important, that they carry out something akin to intelligence with the apparent intent to find out what Harold has, I have done quite the reverse and secured for them copies of the Muchmore, Nix, and Couch films! Now, ironically also, I can buy back copies. The current trouble stems from the fact that they waited months to try to get another original of the footage with the Nix, probably because until this current period of distrust of each other developed they didn't see the need for one. Now Dave wants his own. As time goes by I see less and less chance of Dave's book ever coming out. He speaks of it as practically on the presses now in an identical manner (although, strangely, a less enthusiastic one as far as I can judge) as he did almost 2 years ago. When I say "Take it easy" to Dave I really mean it because he is getting very paranoid again judging from the letters and phone conversation. If he gets any worse we may never see the gems of info he has kept from the rest of the critics for the past 5 years.

##### By the way, since Dave doesn't want me sending carbons of his letters, here are some excerpts from his letters: May 28:  
"All it did, besides providing much delay, was have the effect of making you appear to be the prime source of something, when a simple postcard or letter telling me of this mail order opportunity in our own back yard could have put me in contact with that firm weeks, if not months, ago--when prints were still available."

"I'll go one step further and frankly state that both Fred and I have openly discussed and tend to believe that if the lab had not been left on the inside of the film can, we would not have learned the source of this item. After Fred informed me that he wrote and asked you for the source--but got no reply--I finally personally wrote you myself, including in my letter the existence of the label on the inside of the film can. That, finally, provoked a response with some hard information in it."

May 30: Then he describes his 2050 pages of documents which I did not want to buy in on because I had been through most of it before: "That's about 34 hrs. of just reading and analyzing, if one only spent 1 minute with each page. Seeing as how you were able to go "through all that stuff...and...some time ago" I can only marvel at how much faster a reader you are than I, and how much time you have been able to spare at the archives, perusing these materials. I also tend to think that we have different ideas of just what is "pertinent" in the case, when it comes to documentation such as this; but then again, this may be very understandable since the type of detail one craves when putting together a manuscript is probably different than if I weren't reading with that requirement in mind." (Ironically, when Dave selected the pages of my big archives order which he removed from the set he sold Mary Ferrell, he chose almost exclusively ones which Mary and I thought to be among the most important I found!) I just hope he doesn't break with Fred, because that may be the only thing keeping him together enough to finish that book. As far as I'm concerned the best thing that could happen would be that someone would help him get that thing finished and out and that, as he says he expects, he could become wealthy and well-known and travel around the country on a lecture tour.

Harold's success against the Justice Dept. was very encouraging. From my knowledge of the JD it was a surprise.

I was just rejected by the Army because of the damage to my left eye. This climaxed a series of hassles by the Selective Service. Despite the fact that I was a full time graduated student, they gave me a 1-A. A month after I appealed they sent me another 1-A classification as happens after an appeal (i.e. the state board rules on whether you stay 1-A or go to 2-S). Fortunately for me an alert draft counselor spotted that it had not been properly stamped and thus either had never gone to the state board or was a phoney. When I pinned them down on it they sent the appeal to the state board--they had not done so before and I can only assume that such a flagrant violation of rules and procedure in something they do routinely every day was purposeful. The draft people here had no explanation. So, after 5 months, my appeal was finally sent. Enough time had elapsed, however, for me to be called for my physical. It was transferred to Mpls and the Mpls board sent for my medical records in my file in Lansdowne. Independently my parents checked with the Lansdowne board and were told that the records were sent. What appeared here was an empty file. So on Friday I walked into my physical with no records and no proof that there should be records or that my board had ever had them, since they did not answer my letter or respond to that question. When the medical man wrote down that I would have to get records and then take a 2nd physical I suggested that he examine my eye with a flashlight in a dark room since I thought the damage was great enough to be seen. I was right and he crossed out his original notation and sent me through.

We had a Nazi-style SS raid on a professor here and I will send you slippings and data on it once we get it assembled.

Your letter of April 28: It took me as long to answer it as you to write. I have been busy also, with professional stuff and our emergency services and free clinic. I have also had to move out of one office and into another, and recently (and happily) moved my assassination stuff downstairs in our house.

Agreed on Nichols. Much of what has happened is due to his strange ways of doing things but some of it is bad news enough that it is apparent that his deviousness or selfishness are sufficient to make him untrustworthy. The misident. of the CE399 base photo, presuming it was an archives ##### (which I do) error, make one curious as to whether someone like Marion Johnson (pardon my suspicion of him) did it half on purpose, or whether it was a slip up of some sort. As for what he told Roffman I would feel the same way if I were in your position, but would also be concerned about failure to give credit in publications. Forgetting about fame which I know you do, being cited for what you have done can be a big help in becoming credible as far as the press is concerned, and sometimes as far as members of congress or the establishment are concerned. This should be remembered especially in the case of original thinking or experimental work, perhaps much more so than in the finding of a document in the archives. You did the work and thinking--why not give you the credit? I guess I see it a matter of simple courtesy.

I haven't gotten much on the Skolnick suit yet but the one thing which enrages me, other than the media attention it has gotten, is the continual perversion of the Bolden thing. I would like to get you, I, Paul Hoch and Jim Schmidt, Harold, and Sylvia together with Bolden for a whole day for one big and careful interrogation and then afterwards compare notes. What he claims has great potential significance, but there are problems and inconsistencies which will have to be explained first. Both Harold and I have tried, with no luck save what I got indirectly, to get in touch with Bolden and pin the story down. I ironically most of the Britis have ignored him, even after the prominent mention in Rush to Judgment. In the Fall of 1966 I asked Lane what had become of Abe, and he had no idea. I guess my feelings about such people are more like those of Fran Galt, the guy who was Abe's friend in prison and wrote me about him, that we should help them if we can.

I hope this letter finds you in better spirits than you were at the end of April. Best of luck with that thesis and (I assume) your final oral. I haven't even done my proposal yet although I do have a committee and will have my prelim oral early in the Fall. Take it easy and keep it touch.

cc: Harold, Paul

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