

2/3/70

Dear Moo,

As soon as we finished talking this evening, I had to leave to pick Lil up. When I returned, there was no answer at Kohlmann's phone. I'll call him again and let you know.

The names to which I referred follow. These are all in the list I sent you a week or so ago. What I have done is take the names off, in more or less alphabetical order. I have also examined the Ferris file in the Archives, and it has been purged, so completely that the one marked as from this file only doesn't even have those pages not still withheld. Naturally, it bears no reference to anything that is withheld-which is more by twice than is officially acknowledged to exist.

In all but a couple of cases (which you can check from what I sent you earlier-and you should, because I may not have been sufficiently suspicious), all these names appear on pages with Ferris's. Other pages may be relevant but may not have Ferris's name. And remember, this is but a single file.

You said to remind you, so I do. You are going to check the less obvious names (like Maria) and send me duplicate copies of anything you may now have, and will send duplicate copies of anything that develops. One of the simple chores, an investigator can do it, is to make a list of the addresses of these people and, where the directory shows it, their employment. These may lead elsewhere.

Most glaring is the total absence of Banister's name. Fascinating is the frequency of Gill's, the one most common. They didn't have to have that many reports to learn he used Ferris as an investigator. Making the absence of Banister's even more interesting is the fact that Jack Martin's is about the second most frequent. The appearance of Mertens and Beauboeuf is also more than a simple inquiry into their living with or being with Ferris would seem to require.

I again point out the magnitude of the Ferris investigation. This was really quite a large one, even if the feebees wrote a report every time they spoke to someone. If you stop and consider the interviews they conducted without any written record, the possible magnitude of this one is even larger.

To give you an idea of the Ferris withholding in this file alone, by number it is approximately 1/3 of the 117 withheld pages. To compare it otherwise, there are 38 pages, from the index, not from actual check, of which only 4 (one of which is not in the index) are available. Or, more than 90% withheld.

If you come up, there are possibilities I regard as probabilities I believe are quite important to you, but not within 10 days.

Here are the names. I'll put an asterisk after those where I would like to know more:

Alvin, Evelyn, Herman* and Ronald*Beauboeuf; Andrew Balcknoff*; George Poesch*, "Buster"(that's all listed;*if you have any ideas), Roy Clements*, Melvin Coffey, Tommy Compton, W. Hardy Davis* (four times), Wilson A. Luplantis*, James W. Ehrlicker*, Harry A. Jr., and Robert Esteve (also without the final "e")*, Lawrence Fox*, Regine Frankovitch*, Alec Gifford (!), Rway Gill (13pp)*, Charles

Graham*, Mrs. Alice Guidroz, Gloria Gonzales*, Leon Guidry*, Wm. D. Harden, Jr.*, (FNU) Hinton*, Chuck Holland*, James Howard (deceased)*, John Irian, Marion James Johnson*, Herman Kohlman (5 pages), Anne Langlois*, James R. Lewallen (*for special reasons-and I've never seen the file), Joe Lisman*, Carlos Marcello, Christopher Maria*, Layorn Martens (5pp*, Jack Martin (10pp) Roy McCoy*, Tommy McKibben*(there are other FBI interviews with him that we have), Don Mitchell*, Alvin Meister*, Bob Morrell*, Jerry C. Paradis, * Robel (no first name given, but take three guesses!), Bobby Radelat*, Bill Reed (also spelled Reid), who may be WWL TV news, but if you know another, I'm interested, Mr. Rice (perhaps SS?), Richard E. Roby*, Melvin Seeling*, Bonnie Smith*, Carl J. Stanley*, Jerry P. Stein*, Joseph Thompson*, Harold Toole*, Maj. Presley Trosclair(which can be taken to indicate there was also a check with the State on this-Jim should shake them up on the entire file now), Edward Veobel* (5pp in this file with Ferris alone and others not with Ferris, here and elsewhere, indicating more than average interest in him, quite possibly to get him to retreat from his first statement), Carl J. Wilkerson* and Captain (FNU) Young*, which sounds familiar.

Again I encourage you to examine the list I sent you with care, esp. the pages adjacent to names in which we have interest. You should recognize some that mean nothing to me and less to the fine young men who went to much trouble to prepare this. If you see things, let me know. If any of these should be checked further, let me know very promptly, if by mail in duplicate at least. I have neither the time nor the funds to make trips to the Archives, so if I go there, I want to use the time efficiently. I hardly go there any more in my own interest, and I am letting my own work slide when I am behind in it now.

When you are here you will better understand my interest in the name(s) I asked of Alcock. It has enormous possibilities for you, but we cannot know until we have it. My own writing on it is past, if it is what I think. For my own purposes, I need no more.

Assuming there will be the delay you forecast and that this will enable you to come, please bring a box (meaning two boxes, one of each kind) of 3M 107 paper. I have none and haven't the funds to buy any, and we'll need it for making the copies of whatever you may want. I think you will want things I have. However, I have already sent you copies of some, so it would save both time and money if you could get one of the girls to either make a list of that particular file's contents or, better and probably faster, xerox it. I could then read it, and it might remind me of other things I either have or can get. I may have a few tapes you may want to copy. It is not necessary to bring your Roberts, but if you did, it would assure you of the right speed if you should want to get a girl to transcribe any of it. However, I do have several tape recorders, including cassette, where the speed is pretty constant between different models. I have two hours with one guy that you may want to hear. Partly pertinent, all if your anticipation is valid. Do I hope it is! We won't need any spare fans! If you fly, I'll meet the plane. There is good nonstop service to both Friendship and Dulles, more to Friendship, which is only about 10-15 minutes further from here)enout an hour to an hour and 10 minutes). Delta has a good no-time flight. With the change in time and getting your bags and driving here, during which we could talk, you'd still be here not much after 4 p.m. Eastern has the other nonstops, 727s, good planes. But if you take their supertime flight, it will be close to midnight when you get here. To anyone but you, I'd recommend the early-morning flights. Actual flight time on the nonstops, about 2 hrs. Do, please, try and get what I've asked for on O'Sullivan and listen to what I have, substantiated, on tape. You have to consider it is at least in the one plus one class, but it is of such a character that it is more dramatic than two plus two. I'm telling you, it really shook Judge Trent's wife up, and she'll confirm the whole thing to you. She is on this tape also. She arranged it for me because I asked her to, but I already had both parents on tape, and you can hear that, if you want. You should.

You should have a Mack Osborne file. If it also includes the woman and the Miner's Club business, I do not trust that woman, but I am not saying I know she's nuts. However, other things in it may be very significant, so I encourage you to bring it. I have some things you may want, and you may have what might give some of my things meaning. Many of the people in this area disappeared pronto, including a copy and a broadcaster.

These are the Thornley CDs ⁺ have:

CD6:141;CD87:SS347;CD875:275-6,331-3;CD7:419. From the unnumbered files, Jenner's 5/27 memo on exhibits; Rankin's 5/15 letter asking him to appear; and Rankin's letter to Hoover asking that he be found and Hoover's response (interesting no record of any FBI interviews on this). Gary was checking the changes in his testimony, which are quite extensive, extending also to Jenner's questioning. He thinks he sent it to me c/o your office. If it did it never reached me. If it is there, bring it and we can have it finished.

I asked you if you had typed the memo on your Charlottesville interview and you didn't recall. If you did and will send two copies, I'll see about getting those names checked. There may be a remote possibility these people were interviewed. You know, the real-estate people never sent us the promised records, to the best of my knowledge. I doubt if they are important.

Paul Koch has come across a couple of rather interesting things relating to the Alba investigation that may or may not be germane to your rather limited interests. But it won't take more than 5 minutes to read them when you are here. There are overtones suggestive of what came out at the interview we conducted jointly in Metairie and I taped.

I am hopeful of having a bit more of this one plus one stuff perhaps next week. The problem is time and dough. I really do not have even money for gas and parking. I know it is available. It is not official. I encourage you to get these names checked as soon as possible because there may be some fitting.

On that Annapolis address you gave me, please get Coule to recheck because it seems to be wrong. I would not entirely eliminate this as a possibility in your immediate interests.

I wish there were some way ⁺ could persuade you people to push as I know you can push, especially after Jim's spectacular victory, for the NOPD Intelligence Division files on Ferrie and Oswald, both of which precede the assassination, and for the State Police files, which the Governor should now be willing to get for us to examine. It is urgent that this include the investigation of the Cuban camps, made by a sergeant whose name I have forgotten (you have it in a memo of mine of about July 4, 1968) from the Baton Rouge barracks. If Jim were to let the governor know that the possibility of embarrassment is greater is he holds this stuff back, and it is, ultimately, he might be more willing to shake it loose. Besides, you have a new State Police head now anyway. JFK seems to be pretty potent politically in La these days anyway, so he should want to be on the side of the heavens, shouldn't he? Please try. It may be well worth the effort. I am assuming it is not now too late. If you get nothing from the NOPD, try and get a check made to see what they got rid of. I know some of the content of both the Ferrie and the Oswald files. And my knowledge is official, if unpublished.... One of the strange things about all of this is that my Good Friday companion told me the name of this sergeant and it was confirmed to me by a lieutenant in the Covington barracks, who also said the entire matter was taken out of their hands immediately. Question: how did my Good Friday companion know what none of us did? I also remind you of this companion's promised immunities... Somehow, with all the names of strangers in my mind, I think that may have been Martin. I'm not at all sure now.

Best regards,