

11/9/69

Dear Moo,

As you know from my recent letters, I expected Jim to win on the first round. That he did makes it no less pleasant, most of all because it is such a resounding popular answer to the finks, but also because it saves all of you the wear of further campaigning. I had working company all day yesterday, so it was until 10:30 our time I could try and find out what happened. I tuned in WFL, which has a powerful night-time signal here, and listened to their boring music hoping to get returns until 12:30 my time. Each time they came to the statistics, they faded out, which is what one would have expected them to do if they had their control over their emission. But when I heard their report at midnight our time that Scaccia had gone to Jim's HQ to congratulate him, I knew, of course, that it was as overwhelming as we'd hoped. However, I wanted further statistics, so I put a small transistor set under my pillow, listened to all of "Lifeline", which you should recognize as a genuine demonstration of sincere interest-all to no avail, for the damned little battery picked that minute to go dead. So, as of now, the last I heard in number is that Charlie had about 5,000 votes, which is about as smart a taste of the back of the hand as he earned. This morning's early CBS new (radio) had a fairly lengthy report from New Orleans (fair) and another from their New York office, not biased, but apparently the statistics were such they could not quite get them out. Anyway, congratulations to all of you, especially Jim, who now seems to be exactly what I told you I was confident he was a month or so ago, the most popular man in the State. I wish I could believe the strength of popular opinion against the national government is as strong elsewhere, for that would be good for the country.

You will all need a rest for a while, but I do hope you will keep your word and get to me the things you promised. I have found things in Finck's testimony I have no doubt none of you are in a position to understand, and although there is much less there, to a degree the same is true of Brazier's. Thus, in indicating priorities, I placed Regis and Shaneyfelt high. This devil needs their scripture. I'd also like to go over Shaw and Cobb and the secretary very carefully, for since last I was in New Orleans I have moved far forward in some areas in which you had no knowledge and less interest, although you had the leads long, long ago, some of them from me. Before the trial you had evidence from the secretary of a Cuban group having offices in the ITW. Last time I was there, I went over one aspect with Jim. I'd like to have all you have on this, especially the exact name and times, and I do hope you can do this soon, before I am in a position to return to my writing again, when it will be more difficult than in this in-between period, when I have to work on an assortment of things.

One of us has made personal and friendly contact with one of "them", on the basis of which he anticipates developments that may be against us in the Emilio Santana area. He has not yet been able to safely communicate all this to me, and what he did send I didn't see until late last night. However, I'd appreciate it if you could have one of the girls make three copies of anything and everything you have on him so we can be as well prepared as possible. I'll send one set to Cary, one to him and keep one.

Laboriously but officially, we now have official confirmation of what we've known for a long time, that the FBI had copies of the proof Oswald was using the 544 address before the assassination and withheld it from the Commission! I have difficulty believing that all the NOPD knowledge of Oswald before the assassination is reflected in the Martello report I published in OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS and the Wasp reports I sent you. Long ago I asked for what your office had on this and I was told nothing. I do hope it will be possible

for a real check to be made, for that sort of record, given the local political climate, should have elicited more official interest.

One of the significant things Tom did get at the Archives is access to one of the withheld Ferrie reports. I have a copy of it but mislaid it. I'd like a copy for reasons that may not be apparent on first glance. It is a simple memo from Tom, saying that he had seen this brief report and including its text. It says that the FBI interviewed Ahlmenn, who said Jack Martin had phoned him with a tip on Ferrie, which triggered his own recollections of Ferrie because he had written a story about him as a reporter. I think it is possible to accomplish worthwhile things with this little memo.

During the campaign you indicated that you'd like to come up here to rest and work after it ended. I think this is as good an idea now as it was then. If you could overcome your fear of airplanes, you could make the trip in two easy hours rather than two long driving days. The best daytime flight up is a noontime Delta 880 flight, with a fine lunch on it. The best back is an 9:30 Eastern 727, with no breakfast, only a snack. There is an earlier Delta flight with a good breakfast. You'd not really need your car and I'd meet you at the Baltimore airport, where there is never any stacking. It is but an hour from here. You could be here three hours after leaving N.C.

I am preparing a suit against the government for which I do have some hopes of success. I think in some areas it will be enormous vindication of you people. This will not duplicate John Nichols' effort, and - have helped him I think considerably and will do whatever else I can to help him. I have zeroed in on other areas and have the most sensational documentation in my possession to introduce in court. I'll show it to you when you are here.

Again, congratulations.

Sincerely,