

XXXX 4/7/70

Dear Paul and Gary only,

Let me get the unpleasant over with to begin with. By now you have had inklings of Skolnick. The suit is spurious and will do us as much good as N.C. As of today Skolnick had not made a single request of the Archives! I was there. I did ask. He has never asked anything of them. Period. He stole this from COUP. Whether he added anything I do not know but I do know it is nothing of consequence from the news accounts. He was in touch with Bud last week and also told Bud he was coming to see me last weekend. This is not the first such false report, his way of trading on my name with my contacts. The suit is bound to be thrown out the minute it is called up. We sure need that! Moreover, if the stuff Bolden talks about exists, it was never given to the Archives, so on this added count they cannot be sued. The Secret Service, as I believe I told you, gave them nothing on Valle on the ground it was, as they saw it, irrelevant. So much for Valle's resemblance to Oswald, too.

Again I suggest this should tell you why I am sometimes concerned about letting people who really make only noises and do nothing see anything that can, in any way, be misused.

Today I learned that Kelley did give the Archives what he agreed to in my presence. Whatever else he gave them, of the other things I took up, I do not know. But Johnson confirmed to me that they have it. When I asked why it had not been given to me he said that GSA was reviewing it to see if it should be made available. Now I want NO talk about this, but it DOES include the memo of transfer. I also spoke to Kelley and he seems somewhat less than happy about the matter.

I supervised the rephotographing of the base of CE 399 with millimeter scales at right angles. You are aware of my other interests and suspicions. This took some doing, but it was finally done. They still have not come up with either the picture they took for me, if their claim to have taken it for Nichols is serious, or the one they took for me.

I also got a good look at the shirt picture they do not allow to be copied. It is similar to but not identical with FBI 80. Arsh made it, allegedly to show researchers instead of the shirt. To now they have refused me a copy of it. They offered me FBI 80. I said fine, if it is not reproduced from the FBI book, if it has no photoengraving screen. This they say they do not have. In short, they do not have the FBI's picture whereas the AG himself ordered it there. Moreover, FBI 80 is cropped. Johnson said they'd write me when I again asked for it. I told him to crop it, giving me only the part of the shirt showing the tabs and damage. That picture has a ruler in it. As posed, the entire distance between the tabs is two inches. It also seems to show a cut on the left collar, but Johnson says he is sure that is a crease. Now, these cuts are not only not identical, they are neither the same shape nor the same length, nor are they even in the same plane. On any one of these counts the possibility of a bullet causing it is eliminated. The one on the right side is much larger and wider and has a twist or bend at the top. The cuts are not in the collar but in the shirt body.

Because I had to remain with the photog until the negatives were developed, I had very little time left. In it I could but glance at the staff memos file of the inventory of which I have sent you copies and a memo. There are ~~33~~ 30-35 pages and from the glance I decided to get all of it, for there are repeated references to LEO as an Agent, and you know my interest here. I'll let you have whatever you want when I get it. Some is from other files. I recall repetition of PC6. I also ordered without examination Liebler's last-minute changes in the ~~idic~~ part of the Report. Gotte wash the gunk from the EEG out of my hair. Hurriedly,