

11/25/67

Hal,

A hurried note to briefly tell you + believe Thompson has just made the cleverest play on the other side yet. He is in basic accord with the official story, considers himself not a "critic" (of such people he is critical-they conjecture! and "embarrass" themselves!), and on such fine detail as the first shot, Oswald's innocence, the weight of 399, conspiracy and many, many, more, is in the same position.

I think the play now will be to have important people (maybe beginning with Bobby or a member of the Commission) say that Thompson really proves the essential correctness of the official story, the only difference being maybe the government did overlook the other assassins who also had no relationship with Oswald (no conspiracy), who just happened to blunder into the same idea at the same spot and the same time.

Much wiser approach than Epsteins, but equally finky. More so.

I think this one is a great danger. Try and alert those you can. I sent Ray a copy of one of the letters I wrote. After he finished his radio show at 2 a.m. I couldn't sleep and I've been going since.

Also, I can find nothing that he hasn't stolen, Ray's shoulder dip and the rest from me, even such small things as the Aldredge hit. Ray and I, entirely independently and by separate means, both discovered the double head hit. I published it a year ago (WWII, 221).

He has gotten things from the Archives that I told Vihne about in confidence. Whether Vince, who is heavily involved with him, is innocent or not is now not material. When you are in touch with Ray ask him to send you the letters from Vince that I sent him copies of, showing how he prevented reviews of my first book in such publications as Liberation (he accused me of stealing it, as did Arnoni, more bluntly). Please ask Paul to be doubly certain to give Vince none of what he got from me. I now see the appearance of my autopsy stuff in Epstein's reprint and Lopkin in a different light. Vince was in on that, too, and I had told him of my work that was unpublished, also in confidence. After I learned how Viking got it, from him, I never told him anything more that I feared premature publication of. Maggie is bitter about Sylvia, who helped the only two finks among us, and no others with their books. The same also is true of Vince, for whatever reason.

Be alert and give me any signs you get. Also, please keep me posted on B and the tape.

Best regards,