

9/11/68

Dear Hal,,

I'll answer your letter of 9/7, which arrived today, hurriedly because I've just returned from Washington and must get something else in the mail tonight. I'll send Paul a copy so he'll know what relates to him.

Although he was to have written me two weeks ago to tell me if, as he thought, the microfilm would have been ready last Wednesday (and he did not write) and although I told him not to mail it, he did mail it, yesterday. I hope it gets here. I'll forward it as soon as I do. Paul, please remember the money for it you promised. I went to D.C. today with less than a dollar in cash! I've already paid for that.

On your memoranda. The Russo things with Thornley was an accident. I have the whole story from several sources, including Russo. He did not handle them, from what he says, and in this case I believe it. They'd not have known each other had not the Caplinger woman been shepherding Kerry around. Russo used to date her and said "hello". She is a violent "Thornley partisan."

On Lifton: I credit nothing he says until it is proved. This does not mean that he is always wrong, but he too-often is. He imagines wildly.

On Steve Wilson: I want all I can get. He connects with the NSRP through Brown, if no other way. He is not a free-lance writer but one of the mercenaries. He is in the Watley report, which you should have. I agree with your estimate of what Steve meant.

Hold off on sending anything to Gary. I have not heard from him since the end of last month, right before he was to return to Minn. He then indicated he might require more surgery. I'll phone Vince tonight. If you have two copies, one is mine. Bud has deep N misgivings now. He just doesn't believe the story either, and he has been in touch with one of N's good friends, as you may recall our discussing. I was to have gone with him but couldn't.

I will check out the Owen Os as soon as I can. You can Tell Conn. If they tell me these are missing, I will again demand they consult the original source and get duplicates. Liebler and Slawson are among those who had copies. I suspect Liebler still has his. It was originally classified. It is not now. Came from FBI.

With the Patrick radio-program report, Paul has only the first page of it. I haven't had time to dig the rest out, as I told him I would. Schmitt must have it because you quote it. It is one of the things I have been intending to go further with in correspondence. If one of you does, I will not. Not on the John Martino, remember there are several, one a Dallasite who also dealt in guns, has a washateria, etc. Jon Martin is one of the more common names in all this. The guy who was a Castro prisoner is one of the least dependable sources. He presents his imaginings and wishes as facts. Patrick is a liar commensurate with his height. I doubt I could get anything of value from him but you might take it up with Steve. I am more interested in this Oswald who could not have been the genuine article, for there are Florida and Georgia occurrences.

My information that Rolleston is a phoney comes from Louis Ivon. The Enquirer would not touch his story. He tried there.

I have heard the same thing about the "upcinet girl, also from the same source, but I want confirmation.

The part I

We'll have to wait and see whether Hepburn helps or hurts.

read is impressive scholarship, fine writing, and unimpressive on fact. It has the briefest account of the actual crime in any source, which is quite contrary to what it alleges it had access to. I am frankly skeptical, though I'd like to be wrong on this. What the agent who brought it back says of it is inconsistent with what Jim said. When I got the third part, my source, perhaps by accident, perhaps anticipating my opinion, delayed delivery for more than a week, long enough to preclude my reading and providing the requested opinion. I got it the very day I left. I have not gotten the other three parts and can offer no comment on them.

There were several hedgehopping Haiti-Cuba plots. I have a little on one in C in N.C. that for a while excited Jim. Please try and ask Jonn to send me what he has if for no other reason ~~to~~ to possibly save him time. This Davis was Raul's pilot, has other mysterious things about him, may have been a company man.

I gotta knock off now, too. Best to all, and send copies of those things I asked for when you can. Keep me up to date on KT and Dave, too. Esp Atlantic.

Sincerely,

Sept. 7, 1968

Dear Hal,

I returned here to the Bay area last week and am just now getting down to look into my correspondence, clippings, and re-newing contacts with Paul, Jim and others. It'll take a while to get caught up on all this but by mid-week I will at least have gone through all the New Orleans papers to be posted on developments there. So far there ~~is~~ does not seem anything significant in the press warranting any concern - even in the inderground press.

As I promised ~~is~~ I'm typing up ~~meos~~ notes on the notes you found in my notebooks of importance and enclosing them with this letter. If I have anything to add to these notes they will be included.

I do have the N file which Gary left behind. I'll be sending that off in the mail within the next few days. If you should hear from him let him know that I'll be doing this.

I very quickly scanned both Paul's correspondence and Jim Schmitt's and took a few notes meeting with each separately. We plan on having a meeting very soon so that all of us can together compare notes and make suggestions and then relay them to you.

A few days ago I met with Jonn C. and again pressed him on the importance of the Youngblood photo. He also briefed me on the Rev. Owen angle and the work that both he and Bill Turner are doing in that area. Both are convinced that Owen is lying whether out of a desire for publicity, fear or some other motive. An interesting thing that Jonn pointed out about Owen's brother (also a Reverend) is that he comes from San Bruno, California and that there is a Commission Document (#718) referring to a "Bulletin from Saint Bruno's Church" of San Bruno. According to my records this document is unavailable it being listed as "missing". Can this be obtained? If not how can the existence of the document be established through the National Archives? What I am saying here is, even if the Archives indicates that this document is "missing" how can we have them do more than notify us of this? Let them be put on record of a search for and, more importantly, the validation of the document having existed.

Jonn indicated a renewed interest in the person of Jack L. Bowen (Oswald's acquaintance at Jaggars-Chiles-Stovall). Somehow it has something to do with the Tacoma man I mentioned to you when I stayed with you. There may even be a link to the Sirhan case but I'll have to speak to Jonn about this further. Any reason to have Bowen pop up in this? Pages 467 to 469 of CD205 contain material on Bowen which I have seen but none relate to the Tacoma or L.A. scene on the surface.

Referring to some Commission Documents I was looking over

at Schmitt's place I came across ~~to~~ a report on a radio program that Jerry Patrick appeared on in Miami back in 1962 together with three other unidentified individuals. The radio interviewer, Alan Courtney of WQAM, said that Oswald called the program offering his services in training anti-Castro troops in the Florida Keys. (See p.4 of CD59).

Courtney transferred the call to a Davey (LNU) and according to this report both Oswald and Davey "may have made an appointment to meet at a later date." Apart from the fact that it is another of the many indications that Oswald was in Florida there is the obvious significance in the document that a John Martino of Miami Beach claimed that Oswald had literature printed by a Miami printer. The document does not indicate that Martino was on the same radio program (and I doubt this) but Courtney was the source for the report and it would be helpful to contact him ~~Arthur~~ on this again, I believe. If you do not have the document I'll send it to you.

In going over my notes on Patrick the name of Martino rang a bell. The name I came up with was similar but probably not the same since it was a "Marino" Patrick said he knew in my notes. Patrick said Marino sold arms for Richard Lauchli. If there is anything here I think perhaps Steve Burton should contact Patrick and question him further.

If you'll recall, I once sent you some information on a Cedric Rolleston whom you were able to track down in Newark, NJ. You will find the story of Rolleston in CD205, pages 354 to 358. The spelling in the document is CEDRIC YOUNGER VON ROLDESTON who is also known as ARTHUR DEAN SWIFT.

Apparently ROLDESTON is a phony who claims to have seen Shaw, Oswald and Ruby together at a hotel in Alexandria. Garrison said as much in an interview he did, I believe, with Art Kevin. His motivation appears to have been one of publicity.

Jim Schmitt is ordering copies of the August and September issues of "Confidential" and I'll send them to you upon receipt.

A possible reason behind IRv Kupcinet's daughter being murdered? She was present at the Beverly Hills S&M parties. An ex-CIA man there confirmed this as well as MR. "Plucky's" appearance there.

I saw a copy of the French edition of Hepburn's book. New ~~title~~ title is: "L'Amérique Brule" ("America's Burning"). There are to be 50,000 English edition copies rolling off the presses soon.

Christian has details about a plot to invade Cuba via Haiti. Friend of Howard Davis involved. Suggest you write him for full details. I don't believe he understands the full significance of Davis' role with Patrick, Hall and others.

When I get the chance to look over the documents I dug up at the Archives I'll send you a long letter with suggestions, comments and notes.

I'll close now because I want to start putting a dent into my correspondence. You were the first I have written.

Regards to your wife.

Best,
Hal Verber
Hal verb