

3/10/69

Dear Hal,

When Dick Bernabei was here he bought the Overstreet book on the FBI, then he left it so I could read it. I was picking it up in the few odd moments until, several days ago, I slipped my back out of joint again. Since then I have been just sitting more and I have finished the book.

It is a very bad one, of conceptual and permeating dishonesty. It is persuasive because of its seeming scholarship, but I doubt even the quotes after completing it. These people are prisoners of a phobia

In eight, they have a chapter and several passages on Turner. I think you should read them. If, when you do, you find any of it erroneous. I'd like to know. I begin with prejudice, for my first contact with him, other than yours, was as a crook, which he is. Then I discovered that he never did anything but the greatest harm in N.O. By now you are in a better position to have an idea of that harm and its consequences. As soon as Vince saw it he jumped to the conclusion Turner is an agent. When last I spoke to Jim he had about convinced Jim of it. I suggested this need not follow, that although the odds were against it, Turner could just have been wrong. My purposes were to be fair to Turner and to keep from destroying what might have remained of Jim's self-confidence.

I hear nothing from N.O. and I expect to hear nothing. However, because we are not yet at the end of this and because there may be continuing problems, I'd like to know and understand as much as I can for whatever constructive purpose it might serve. You cannot begin to imagine how fortunate we are to have come out of this as well as we have. Had I not blundered into what was up in early November, it would all have been disastrously over that month. I am not persuaded that Shaw perjured himself in saying he did not know the real Oswald, I am willing to believe he perjured himself in saying he didn't know Ferris, and I am persuaded that in two respects in which he was not charged he did persuade himself. I am satisfied Andrews did perjure himself. I am satisfied Cobb also did. There is no doubt in my mind about Finck. I think it is possible with Frazier. So, this will be going on a while yet.

That I have heard nothing tells me the word is out, for I know what each of the men there thinks of me, and I know the one place that word could have originated. That does not relieve me of my responsibilities, it just gives me more time for other things. So, about the other things of which I have written you, I'd also like to hear from you as soon as you can find time. I understand from the Whites that you were robbed, including of your typewriter.

They and Dekker could not have been more perfect in their timing, spiritually and in reality. Both were very helpful. I now have been able to copyright limited editions of POST MORTEM, which is exactly as you read it (I have never had time to), of COUP D'ETAT, to which I have made a few additions and is much easier to read, and of POST MORTEM III: SECRETS OF THE KENNEDY AUTOPSY, which is all new and includes what I learned from the Clark cool-blowing, some of it used in Washington and New Orleans. This entailed thousands of pages of Xeroxing. However, it still gives me very few copies, for I needed some for N.O. for them to have to use and for other purposes. Monroe has asked to buy copies. I told Jim I could not sell them but I'd gladly let him have them in return for copies I could then have for others to read. I asked Paul if he'd like to read them and if so when so I could send them, because

I want him to know the content and because he makes excellent suggestions. I presume he is busier than usual with school, for he had not responded. However, when you people out there want them, let me know. I do not want them to be in the mails, which are so undependable and so rough, unnecessarily. Paul has PM.

When Dekker wrote, he sort of turned off. I gather he is a man of some wealth and had considered financing some of the publication. He finally sent me \$100 and a nice letter that amounts to his saying he doesn't want to get involved. He also mentioned you. I know nothing about him. However, if he is a Jew, perhaps it would not be a bad idea if he were to read COUP, especially now that I have all the excerpts in place with photocopies of the original. The tones are not clear so these are not as effective as they will be in printing, but I think, if there is any chance he will turn on, it might be a good idea. I am working on the appendix, which I'd like to be able to do as in PW. I have all the documents I now have pested up. It requires footnoting, as does the text. I cannot now Xerox that separately because of time and cost, but I think a reading of the book will tell him or anyone else what that will be, and I think among Jews and blacks it will be very effective. I also expect possible contributions from a friend in Dallas. There will be a few reports in the appendix not in the text. They merely help shade the picture. What I have added since you read it includes some provocative material on Gaudet (who has always been in the ITM!) and the NSRP (not the threat to me, which I and the specialized police we have in this state and the ADL think could be of that inspiration). For example, Fields' claim that the first man picked up was his Dallas chairman, Jimmy George Robinson. Perhaps a few other things I do not now recall.

When Jim Eason phoned me, his producer indicated he'd be doing much of the show with me. Therefore, some of my answers were designed to be more provocative, to act sort of as teasers, and some more brief than they otherwise would have been because I expected to be coming back to expand on them. When you speak to him, please explain this. In Flammonde, aside from being a work of the most abject sycophancy, it is also one of the most wholesale plagiarism, as you may have recognized. I am tired of being fair game for every whore. I have been in touch with the publisher, who has not denied it at all and, for several weeks, has been awaiting word from Flammonde. All these guys know so little they indiscriminately pick up the tall-tale minor things that clinch it. I may have gotten a lawyer to handle my suit against Dell. I'll be in NY about the 27th. If he is willing I think I'll start doing something about the plagiarisms. They may yield enough to get some of the limited editions printed. And if I do something with one, I may stop others.

Saturday night and yesterday morning I did a 2 1/2 hour show in Washington, on which Bud joined me after he made a speech. As I had anticipated, we still have the audience. The people have a gut understanding. In all that time there were but two anti-Garrison calls, one from a lawyer, who I put down with no difficulty, and one from another. I find that by going into what was positive in the N.O. trial and by taking the initiative on the new material, it goes over very well. The phones stayed lit up. The producer, after the show, commented with some surprise that there was never for a moment a free line. I have had similar experiences, on a small scale, in broadcasts by phone. However, among those more mature, more aware, I had had no reaction. I am disappointed that Robin King and Owen Spann have not called. I could do them very good shows by answering questions on Garrison and airing what is new and in the limited editions. If they'd like, that it. Or have they just written it off now? And I talk freely and with specification of the Garrison office, giving names, etc. If either wants to do it, I will be glad to. Bud had an excellent reaction from his audience, one of doctors in the Mayflower. I think we should not be too discouraged and not underestimate the basic good sense of the people. Gotta run now to get Lil to work. My apologies for leaving you with the typos, for going into town in the a.m. I can pick up my mail at the P.O., leave off the outgoing, and have a more efficient work day. Best regards to everyone.