

2 6/4/70

Dear Hal,

Many thanks for the enclosures with your 6/1. Only the Enquirer story duplicates. I've been sent more copies of that one thing than of anything, ever. I'm doing a story for them now, on the suit. I had no personal interest in doing anything on Joe's show, but I did want him backgrounded, because he has been good to me, with minor deviations, and because at some point he or I might want it. Now I think it would be best when there is public attention, say when this story comes out, assuming my writing can suit them.

On Skolnick few gaps remain in my investigation. Save for that fake phone business, it is all my work stolen and deliberately stolen, for I now have the correspondence, including his handwritten receipt and thanks, the copies he made of the docs before he altered them for court use, etc. With a little freedom of mind and a few more tapes, I could make the most uproarious record, Galahad From Chicago, or something like that, saying nothing but the best of him and his noble purposes, perhaps with a few bars of "I Just Wanna Be a G-Man" from "Pins and Needles". I've filed a suit against him by mail, with a few wrinkles to be ironed out with the clerk of the court who is not unfriendly. If my pauper's oath is accepted, my only financial problem will be getting there. I'll be my own lawyer and I'll be able to examine him. Even if I am as tired then as I am today, and even with the diminished output and increased reluctance of the adrenalin factory as you have observed it, I think production would then be ample for the needs and occasion.

The full text of the AP A-wire story is important because it involves WCFL, against whom I think I can have a viable suit for plagiarism and damages. The nature of three conversations with their staff (taped) and a letter from their lawyer persuades me of the likelihood. But I have no Chicago lawyer available. However, I do have continuing interest in him and tapes, him because he may be or be used as more than just a cheap self-seeker and the tapes for fun and record. I have the transcript of one Kevin interview with him. He conned Art, so he is not without a certain competence. Please thank the wonderful Whites.

On Potter you read me clearly. Praeger has outlived his usefulness in some areas, hence I think another had to be found. Crown has effective dist.

Newman is crap. He killed Parallax publication of NW in 1965 by alleging inaccuracies that, as you know, it does not have. His own book is what he then wanted printed.

Sprague is irresponsibility personified. This is the crap for which the press has an unerring instinct.

I presume you asked if Joe aired Skolnick. When you talk to him, please tell him I felt I could not air enough to satisfy him but give him my word to be without apprehension, that I have in my possession what is overwhelming, official and suppressed. There is no error in COUP II and I now have the official proof of its accuracy and allegations. However, I believe that there should be no publicity simply so society can be made to function. The Ray appeal is my material, written by Bud. Paul probably knows the story. Bud phoned me Friday, asked if I could get it together by Sat, when he came up, and he then rushed the legal work out. Probably some crap was added by at Ray's request. I haven't yet seen the appeal. However, I feel we do have a chance of getting a trial. That's what we need.

Hurriedly.

June 1, 1970

Dear Hal,

I received your latest letter today and I want to apologize for not having written you sooner but of late I have gotten involved in different projects that have occupied a good deal of my spare time. I started to sit down to write you last week but had to finish an article I was working on and just couldn't get to finishing my reply to your previous letters. I do hope, Hal, you can forgive me.

From the enclosed you can see that the only items I have on the Skolnick affair are just the Oakland Tribune story of April 7 which I had promised I would send and the AP wire story of April 6 which Mr. White gave to me for your use. Unfortunately, according to Mr. White, the top of the story was missing when he got to the copy (someone else had gotten to it before Jim White did) and so we're unable to supply you with that part of the story. There are about three other articles on the Skolnick bit also enclosed which you might not have and may be able to use. I knew from Paul that you had heard about Al Chapman's story in the National Enquirer of May 31st and thought you would have a copy of that but you may not have been aware that that issue also contained an article on Skolnick. So to make sure that you have a copy of that article I am enclosing the entire issue of the Enquirer.

Other items enclosed were made for our use by the Whites and ~~xm~~ these relate to other suits for release of material from the Archives (a summary of), an article on James Earl Ray appealing for a new trial (which you asked

me to send if I spotted anything in the press about this which I did find buried in the last section of the Chronicle), a book review of Huie's new book on the Ray case, an article that appeared in some English newspaper quoting you and written by Ian McDonald which my girlfriend, who is in Europe, sent to me from Germany, articles on Sprague, a publicity blurb by Clarkson N. Potter Publishers on the Brener book, and finally (but not least) the Jack Anderson story on Garrison allegedly molesting a 13 year old boy which I thought you'd find amusing. I believe Mr. White told me that the Chronicle had refused to run ^{THIS ONE} no doubt, because they feared Jim would sue if they had.

You probably are also aware that the same publisher of Brener's book has also come out with another one by a Albert H. Newman, entitled, "The Assassination of John F. Kennedy: The Reason why." I have not seen this but Paul has. It is fairly expensive at \$10.00 and certainly cannot be for public consumption at that price so it would appear that the same reasons for getting this book out are probably like the reasons Brener's was put out.

Paul showed me a copy of Skolnick's "suit" and in it I saw the referen^ce to the telephone call allegedly made by Oswald to Hurt. If you will recall I had sent you an article about this which Penn Jones had written wondering about a suit that Penn said had been introduced in California. After reading the Skolnick suit I see now that Jones had erred in saying California and that this is related to Skolnick. I really thought Jones had another suit in mind but the reading of Skolnick's statement convinces me now that he was totally in error. I would

doubt that Jones did any further checking into this.

I would like to help you on the Skolnick tapes if they exist but so far not one of us here has heard him being interviewed on the air and I have spoken to everyone I know here locally. If he talked on some show no one has heard of it. I cannot say the same for Los Angeles, however, but after I finish writing you I'll be writing to some of the people down there to find out if they have any such tapes and, of course, I'll mail you any such copies as they send me.

On the Freedom of Information suit on the assassination; If you want me to I'll contact Dolan and anyone else you desire. The reason I hadn't said anything to you about this was of course I ~~hadn't~~ hadn't had the chance to write you. Naturally, I'm excited and your much deserved reward, if you will, for your persistence is one I'd like to tell the world about. Send me any details you can and I'll do whatever you wish to help you in any way I can.

Well, I guess I'll close now. This week I hope to get together with Paul and discuss his trip with you, Fensterwald and Sprague. (I happened to read the Sprague thing at the library here and to the untrained and uncritical observer he appears to know what he is saying but many of the statements he makes made me groan when I read them. For example Hicks "confessing" to Garrison that he had been the radio communications man for the conspirators. Wow!!)

Best of luck to you, in the meantime, Hal.

Best,
Hal
Hal