

12/14/71

Dear Hal,

I had hoped to write you before this and saying more than I now can, but it hasn't been possible. I was away for more than three weeks, and I have only now, after a week, almost cleaned up what accumulated in that time. There was an enormous overload before I left. Aside from almost-completed writing and a number of investigations and legal matters in which I have had to be my own lawyer, there is a very large job I must do in our suit against the government for the ruin of our farm, etc. (I've not been able to interest any of the ecologists, although this is a basic suit and the precedent, which I established, is likewise basic.)

After a doze of insomnia in Dallas, I decided on returning that I simply must try and sleep a bit longer. I've gotten up real early only once in the past week. If I can't say I feel any better for it, I can say it has reduced my working time. The difference between 4-4 1/2 hours and 6 hours sleep is a lot of typed words!

Hal is working today, and I'm almost at lunch time, so I write merely to wish you well, to hope that you have had and will have good years, and to apologize for not being able to take the time to give you a full account of the successes of this trip. When I wrote the general account on my return, before getting down to work, I did it in such haste that I was careless with the carbons and didn't make enough copies. When I got to the envelope I had addressed for you, which just by accident happened to be the last in the pile, for I've not heard from or written to you as much recently and I thought of you last (no offense intended), I was missing the second page. I've been in touch with the Whites more, and they can tell you the rest.

I can encapsulate it this way: it was devoted almost entirely to what has come to be called (and in some cases really isn't) the other side. In no case did I fail to see anyone I sought to see and in case case was the interview without value. In most cases they were of considerable value. For the most part, I consider this my most successful trip. I have opened up two hitherto close depositories in Dallas, with someone to pursue this work for me. I have gotten real good dope from three of the Parkland doctors, have more on the likelihood of Oswald as an informant, and have new contacts we have never had before. In terms of what I have learned, it is more that I have confirmation from first-person sources than that I learned anything new. Except on Ruby, where it seems clear that he was a sick man to begin with and did premeditate the Oswald killing.

A card from Gary told me he had a pleasant meeting with you. He had not then seen PH.

So, have a good year.

Best

P.S. Any chance of getting those copies of O in NO from the basement of the Pacific Ave. place Jonn Christian used to live? I have the written commitment of Parallax to pay the shipping costs if I can get them ready for the trucker, which means only addressing, if they still exist? and what is new about the dubious Jonn?