

Hal Verb
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3/7/95

Dear Hal,

I'd no sooner finished going over the NEVER AGAIN! proofs when I got from the young woman who was ^{ret}typing it the retyped copy of Waketh the Watchman. Now I'm deep in the checking of that. With someone due any time beginning in 45 minutes, at least half of tomorrow taken up with a hearing on a home repair on which we were gyped and ~~we~~ all the morning of the next day taken up by medical appointments for both of us. So again I answer, your 3/4, in a rush. I'll read the enclosures I'm glad to have in odds and ends of time, thanks.

That was no ad for my book. They never do that, not with me, anyway. ^{ur} promote. It was a page from the catalogue. Which does not list Newman's book for June. Lists it as a back order. "ope he makes June. I look forward to what he's gotten and what he makes of it.

What is Back Channels?

I think Gary was in touch and was a bit vague. I think he's been a bit vague and distant because he is coauthoring a book, as he's not told me. ^{Not} Did I guess that. I was told by someone. In his own interest, in the interest of his reputation, he'll be well advised to try to answer the question why would anyone run the risk of taking any autopsy film to create what destroyed the official story? As all the film does. So why fake it?

Newman spoke in Frederick about three weeks ago. We spoke only briefly but he did not tell me or indicate that he had anything like Oswald being part of an intelligence operation. But then he's told me nothing and he has told others much. So, maybe he has his reasons?

I understand the Mailer book is to find Oswald guilty. And I'd heard that he and Schiller are friends. Little as ^Wialer knows about the subject I hope that does not lead him into what can compound what he is capable of.

Hope I'm still here for your visit of October! More leg troubles, more weakness. That and what is stacking up keep me from digging out what you ask for but I'll tell you about it because I'm seated. I got nothing from the Navy under FOIA on Oswald. So after a little time, making no reference to Oswald, I asked for and got the court martial question into Martin Schrand's death. It makes no reference to Oswald or to security clearances but it is explicit in stating that Schrand was guiding the "crypto van" when he shot himself. It had been removed from a carrier's deck, It required that clearance to enter it, and only five in the outfit had ^{the clearance required} it from the testimony of the others in it. Of whom from the time he got there Oswald as one. Schrand Schrand was another. As I recall they had their schooling together.

~~wh~~ Whatever else was going on at Atsugi, the U-2 people were segregated and that area was fenced and guarded.

Then there is, as you say, the question how does Oswald connect with it.

Some time ago, after he had made several references to an association with Lifton, I warned Gary that his entire theory was impossible at the time he made it up and that he had to know it. I also told him of other reasons not to trust Lifton, including that he is not only a ~~cheat~~ ^{liar} but has boasted of it in writing. Gary's ^{re} explanation was they had no other source of information on the medical evidence. But it seems to be more than that and I hope he is not hurt by it. I've forgotten the co-author. Could have been ^{antik} antik?

There has been much dishonest, wrong and worse writing and I doubt that Gary or antik is in a position to evaluate much of it. So they can hurt themselves. But from what he has heard from Lifton he probably believes I have ulterior motives.

Thanks and best,

Harold

Dear Hal,

5/9/95

I forgot to tell you, your envelope was wide open, torn, on two edges but the contents were intact.

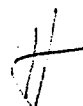
Some was pretty crazy stuff, some interesting. If you know Di Eugenio, I'd like to see those FBI Schiller documents. I have a vague recollection of some I got years ago. I have no access to them now. It is my recollection that Schiller went to the FBI hoping for favors in return. I do not recall that he got anything from it.

Scott on Posner is disgraceful in several ways. First it is shallow and superficial compared with what he could have said. As usual with Scott he gets his alleged facts twisted and as usual, he does not know what he is talking about in terms of what he could have said about Carolyn Arnold. Consistent with his failure to mention the one and only book that really does a job on Posner, he also fails to mention the book that years ago gave the truthful Carolyn Arnold story. Of which Scott is not aware.

Your review is good. Thanks for it. But do we not have to wonder about publications that when they do use reviews delay them until the normal shelf life of the book has been used up or is close to that?

A few minor corrections: please do not load Wrono up with what he cannot say. ^{do.} IN TIME the full ms. will be on deposit there. It is not yet fully retyped. And it was not my idea at all for the book to be gutted. I was not even consulted about it. If the publisher had wanted the entire book could have been published when the skeleton was.

Also, Posner did not "befriend" me!



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MARCH 4, 1995

HAROLD WEISBERG
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Dear Hal=

Thanks for sending me the ad from Carroll & Graf on your book, "Never Again". I have xeroxed copies of this and distributed many copies to my friends and asked them to call on their book stores to get copies of your book.

Speaking about books, I'm enclosing a copy of a review I did on your book, "Case Open", which finally appeared in "Back Channels" for their issue of September, 1994. I received my copy on Feb. 21st!! The review was about 7 months late in appearing (possibly even more than that). I hope you like it.

You'll also notice I've enclosed copies of other articles which I've come across which should interest you. By no means do I agree with some of them - in fact, there are points raised in these which I strongly dissent from. But I'm sending them to you so that you can get an idea of what is being published.

I recently talked to Gary Aguilar and mentioned to him your interest in knowing where Gary got the infor-

mation that Dr. Finch reportedly stated that there were pictures taken at the autopsy he did not see. Aguilar told me he believed this was in the HSCA volumes but was not sure of this. He said he'd write you about this. I don't know if he has written to you by now or not.

" Aguilar also told me that John Newman's book on Oswald & the CIA" would be delayed and it was now scheduled for June. Aguilar also told me that Newman had mentioned to him that he had recently uncovered an intelligence operation in which Oswald was involved and which was definitely run by the U.S. government. Aguilar had no further information as to what this meant. Have you heard anything about this?

I received word from the ARRB that the next ARRB hearings would be in Washington on March 7th. I also note that in the March 1st issue of "The Washington Spectator" there would be a public hearing of the ARRB in Boston "sometime in March" at the John F. Kennedy Library. I have no idea who or what will be discussed at these hearings. So far I only receive letters indicating when and where hearings will be heard.

I thought you'd also be interested in learning that Norman Mailer will be speaking in S.F. on May 8th & although the topic is not listed other than "Mailer in Conversation" the ad I have states that Mailer is the author of "Oswald's tale - An American Mystery". I've got a ticket for that program and I'm curious to know

what he'll be speaking on. If I get a chance & they allow questions from the audience I do intend to query him.

You'll note that in the xerox copies of articles I've enclosed there is an article about Mailer and his association with Larry Schiller. You and I both know of his past record and behavior and probably a good deal of what's in the article is true.

I note that "COFA" has sent me information on their next conference. I'm planning on attending and this time I've scheduled enough time so that I can visit you prior to that conference. The conference will be from Oct. 20 to Oct. 22nd.

One last thing before I close, you had mentioned in one of your previous letters that you had received confirmation ~~from~~ from the U.S. Navy that Oswald had a "crypto" clearance. Is it possible for me to receive the document that contains this information?

In case I've forgotten (and I could've mentioned this in a previous letter) did I tell you that I've received a confirmation from a researcher that there was an operation going on at Atsugi besides the U-2 operation that was known as "METO". I had Mark Zaid try to get info from FOIA on METO but he said they had nothing. The info I received was that METO was a super-super hush-hush operation. The METO apparently stood for "MILITARY ELECTRONIC TACTICAL OPERATIONS". When I was told this by the researcher I said I thought

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METO stood for MARINE ELECTRONIC TACTICAL OPERATIONS. He corrected me & said not "MARINE" but "MILITARY" is the correct word. He said it was a world-wide operation & not confined to Atsugi solely. When I mentioned METO to the general I know who was in the CIA & was once stationed at Atsugi he said he had never heard of it. But on the two sources I have on METO both indicated that they could get in trouble if they discussed it further, even suggesting in one instance a court-martial for even bringing it up. I really don't know how this in any way ties in with Oswald but the indication is that he would've known something about it. But this is conjecture on my part as well as others, so I really can't say.

Well, I'll close now and I'm looking forward to your book's appearance. As soon as it does I intend to review it for different publications.

Best,
Hal Verbo