

Hal Verb  
P.O. Box 421815  
San Francisco, CA 94142-1815

11/4/91

Dear Hal,

I've noted your new box number. Please note my changed zip, to 21702.

With a hard freeze predicted I have a few minutes while a cleaning agent is in the pool cleaner after which I have to flush the filter and drain the tank and pump. Then a nap. I can't help getting up early and today, as always, the trip to Johns Hopkins for checkups (OK) was tiring. So I'll begin to answer your 10/30, postmarked 10/31, not here until today.

I hope you enjoy yourself at the gathering of the nuts and on hearing the newest untenable theories the proliferation of which over the years have undermined the credibility of all criticism. I won't be surprised if Stone helped finance it in the belief he'd find some value in it. Please if not too much trouble send the clippings on him and his movie in part for the historical record and in part because what may appear to be inconsequential to you may have some meaning for me. I look forward to a rational account of what went on there, thanks.

I've not bought Gentry's book in part because of my experiences with him on the Powers ghosting he did, where he was deliberately dishonest to include what would help sell the book. ...A call from LIFE, which is doing a Stone story, took care of that time and I've fixed the pool for the winter. ...I'll be getting a copy of North's book not Lane's. He can't get any farther to the right and he lies so unless I'm asked to annotate it I won't spend any time on it. There is nothing plausible about Lane.

I do not remember the caller-in talking about his movie but it could have been DCA. If I ever got a list of them all I published it. John Martin did have as I recall two reels. One is overexposed but is of the front stairs. The best source on them, if not the Assassination Archives and Research Center would be Dick Sprague.

I have no recollection of that bulky file but the photographs, and I was given only largely useless xeroxes of them, are not likely of 11/2/63. The FBI availed them. The photos themselves should now be in the FBI's reading room as a result of my suit.

Speaking of the terrible Oakland fire, a friend of my youth, Isadore Salkind, moved from Berkeley, where he taught, after retirement, to Oakland. He never sent me his new address. I'd appreciate it and knowing if he and his wife, a fine woman, were at all damaged.

On your photographers list, I think a few are questionable. It can't, for example, be both Mrs. Beck and Beverly Oliver, can it? And is Oliver also McGann?...I've always had questions about the Gordon Arnold story and some of it does not stack. One who disagrees on this and who might be helpful to you is Gary Lack. Also perhaps Jack White....I think Rickerby was LIFE. Good luck, thanks and best wishes,

(1)

Rec. #14

OCT-30, 1991

P.O. BOX #21815  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94142-1815

Dear Hal =

I meant to write to you sooner than this but I just couldn't get up until now. Please note the new post office box number I have. The reason for the change is due to the post office having had to close down my old post office box location due to the 1989 earthquake. So when you write, please note the new address.

People here are still recovering from two "shocks." First, there was the Judge Thomas/ Anita Hill hearings & then there was the big fire in Berkeley/Oakland. I haven't called Paul Hoch in some time but he wasn't living in the area where the fire occurred as far as I know. Regarding the Thomas/Hill fiasco, columnist Herb Caen in today's S.F. Chronicle reports this little tid-bit which is taken verbatim from the Congressional Record on the Oct. 15 hearing; Senator Joe Biden is quoted as saying = "I will have much to say before the discussion of this nomination passes from public debate". (The "public" is in the text). Actually, Senator Byrd had the best to say if a little too late. Kennedy & the other Democrats were all walked over by the Republicans & Bush knew it.

As you'll notice I'm enclosing a listing of 96 individuals who photographed the assassination scene on Nov-22, 1963. I had intended to send you yepoxes of my comments & observations but I'm still in the process of completing my information. The 96 I've listed are on index cards and what I want to do is put as much

(2)

information as I can before sending these to you. I intend to take this down to Dallas for the Symposium they're holding from Nov-14 to 16 (I've got all my reservations, hotel, etc. set). I'm sure you know about the Symposium by now.

They've lined up a number of writers which includes Groden, Dave Lipton, Mark Lane & others & I'm looking forward to hearing what they (and others) have to report. I will, of course, keep you posted and if you have any specific thing (or person to interview) while I'm there let me know. There's only one thing about telling me know & that is if you write I'd have to receive it no later than Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday as I'm leaving on vacation early Wed. morning Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. If need be & you think it important enough you can call me (phone # 415-649-9309). I have an answering service so anytime you call me is OK & just leave a message. If you call me when I'm home please call me collect (I'll accept the charges as I know it's expensive).

I'm in the process of reading 3 books which relate to the JFK case, with 2 more than the other one. The one that does not relate directly is Curt Gentry's book on J. Edgar Hoover. (I'll be seeing him at a book fair this coming Sunday. We've met before when I discussed Oswald & the U-2 overflight with him). The other 2 books do relate directly & these

(3)

are - (1) "ACT OF TREASON" by Mark North (Subtitle is "The Role of J. Edgar Hoover in the Assassination of President Kennedy") & (2) "PLAUSIBLE DENIAL" by MARK LONE with the subtitle "Was the CIA Involved in the Assassination of JFK?" (By the way I note that on the inside of the book it says there is a screenplay that Lone has written for the book so apparently there is going to be a movie on it but I have no information about this. Do you?)

And speaking about screenplays I want to thank you for sending me that article by Lardner which was on Oliver Stone's new movie ("JFK"). The local press here has from time to time featured articles on Stone & his movie but none as Rush as Lardner's column on him. The last article had to do with his filming in New Orleans but it didn't cover what aspect of the New Orleans involvement Stone was doing. I would hope they have Oswald doing his bit as a "Fair Play" man & then appearing on radio which would make the audience see him as a potential (and real) agent of the U.S. trying to ingratiate himself as a leftist for reasons his "handlers" would know best but I'd guess that Stone's political limitations would not see it that way.

Before I forget - one last note on the (96) listing. #84 refers to a call by someone to you in early 1967 when you were on a radio program in S.F. (I must've been there too but can't recall which station). The caller

(4)

claimed he took pictures of the Depository Building just before the assassination (he was, he said, at the South end of it). He also took photos of the entrance to the jail just before Ruby shot Oswald. I listed this because in referring to all the other 95 listings I could not identify him with any of these unless it is someone who was part of the "Dallas Cinema Associates". For some reason the name John Martin comes to mind but this could be a wild guess on my part - what do you think?

On the other listings as "UNKNOWN" such as DCA (1) + DCA (2) - these refer to the "Dallas Cinema Associates" whose names were crossed out by the FBI. The "UNKNOWN-DFO-FBI" refers to something you discovered which was a file containing "bulky documents" in the FBI field office since 1963. They contain "numerous photos" so my assumption is that some must be taken on 11-22-63. Am I right? Has anyone seen these?

Well, I must close now - it's getting very late at night & tomorrow is a work day. I do hope you are fine & please give my regards to your wife. I hope I can get out there again to visit you.

Yours,  
Hal Verb

LISTING OF PHOTOGRAPHERS  
AT THE SITE OF THE JOHN F.  
KENNEDY ASSASSINATION OF NOV. 22, 1963

(NOTE THIS LISTING IS BY ALPHABETICAL SEQUENCE BASED ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S LAST NAME. THE LISTING INCLUDES THOSE FILMING JUST PRIOR TO, DURING, IMMEDIATELY AND/OR SOON AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. A DESCRIPTION OF EACH INDIVIDUAL LISTED WILL BE PROVIDED LATER WITH SOURCES & COMMENTS).

- ① RICHARD ALLEN
- ② WILLIAM ALLEN
- ③ JAMES W. ALTGENS
- ④ THOMAS P. ALYEA
- ⑤ GORDON ARNOLD
- ⑥ THOMAS ATKINS
- ⑦ (MRS) \_\_\_\_\_ BECK
- ⑧ JACK BEERS
- ⑨ MARK F. BELL
- ⑩ HUGH WILLIAM BETZNER, JR.
- ⑪ WILMA BOND
- ⑫ BRYANT BOEEN
- ⑬ RICHARD BOTHUN
- ⑭ RUBY BRENK
- ⑮ CHARLES M. BRONSON
- ⑯ JOE BROWN
- ⑰ ALBERT BUNNELL
- ⑱ HENRY BURROWS
- ⑲ HARRY CABLUCK
- ⑳ JERROLD CABLUCK
- ㉑ FRANK CANCELLARE

- ㉒ DONALD COOK
- ㉓ MALCOLM COUCH
- ㉔ \_\_\_\_\_ CRAVEN
- ㉕ ROBERT EARL CROFT
- ㉖ JACK DANIEL
- ㉗ JAMES DARNELL
- ㉘ JAMES R. DAVIDSON
- ㉙ WILLIAM DAVIS
- ㉚ THOMAS C. DILLARD
- ㉛ (MRS.) JOHNT. (ELSE) DOAMAN
- ㉜ (MR.) C. FIELD
- ㉝ IRVING GEWETZ
- ㉞ C.W. GRAY
- ㉟ WILLIAM ALLEN HARPER
- ㊱ (MRS.) FRANCES HAYS
- ㊲ SHELL HERSTORN
- ㊳ T. HOWARD
- ㊴ ROBERT J. HUGHES
- ㊵ ROBERT JACKSON
- ㊶ J. JAMILSON
- ㊷ GEORGE KINCAID
- ㊸ KRLD-TV
- ㊹ J. LAIRD
- ㊺ MOE LEVY

PHOTOGRAPHERS (CONTINUED) - PAGE 2

- (46) A.J. L'HOSTE
- (47) TIM MACCAMMON
- (48) JOHN H. MARTIN
- (49) JOSEPH McALLAY
- (50) BEVERLY MCGANN
- (51) ERNEST MENTESANA
- (52) EARL MESTER
- (53) D. MILLER
- (54) D. MOORMAN
- (55) MARY MOORMAN
- (56) MARY MUCHMORE
- (57) JAMES MURRAY
- (58) JUSTIN NEWMAN
- (59) ORVILLE NIX
- (60) BEVERLY OLIVER
- (61) DAN OWENS
- (62) WYMAN PARR
- (63) P. PASCHALL
- (64) GEORGE PHENIX
- (65) JAMES W. POWELL
- (66) "PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S LAST HOUR"
- (67) LEONARD PULLIN
- (68) HAZEL (GOOCH) RANDALL
- (69) S.L. REED
- (70) RONALD REILAND
- (71) ALLEN RHODES
- (72) ——— RICKERBY

- (73) ——— SANDERSON
- (74) (DR.) HOWARD SEIGLER
- (75) GEORGE SHAWVER
- (76) NORMAN MITCHEL SIMIGAS
- (77) GEORGE SMITH
- (78) ——— SPEIGLE
- (79) ——— STOUGHTON
- (80) LARRY THOMAS
- (81) JIM TOWNER
- (82) ROB TURNER
- (83) JAMES UNDERWOOD
- (84) UNIDENTIFIED \*
- (85) UNKNOWN (AP)
- (86) UNKNOWN (DCA①)
- (87) UNKNOWN (DCA②)
- (88) UNKNOWN (DFO-FBI)
- (89) UNKNOWN (UPI)
- (90) ——— VOLKLAND
- (91) JACK A. WEAVER
- (92) DAVID WEIGMAN
- (93) (MRS.) E.H. WESTFALL
- (94) PHILIP L. WILLIS
- (95) BILL WINFREY
- (96) ABRAHAM ZAPRUDE