

Dear Hal,

11/5/90

I was glad to hear your voice yesterday, albeit on a poor circuit, and Ray Marcus' shortly later. As you know, he is depositing his papers at local Hood College, where mine will be and I think Sylvia's. Her papers are there until Greg Stone makes his final decision. Perhaps you'd like to arrange for that as your ultimate deposit. I do recommend it.

Your letter with the enclosures came today and I've read it and them. Thanks. These days as I read + use a highlighter so when I came back to something I don't have to go over it all again or ~~depend~~ depend on an erratic memory. So some may appear to be disjointed.

You ask what happened to the Police Gazette. I have seen or heard of it in many years

I'd not heard that Snapp is working on a book related to the assassination. I do confess a prejudice. As I indicated to you and I think you say there is an enormous amount of information now available. It's far from all, so much that really responsible writing simply isn't possible without some knowledge of it. So, I have suspicions about all the sudden experts who have something to say without bothering to become acquainted with what fact is available. I am not prejudiced against his truly great book, though. He did very well and it took considerable courage. So, I'm interested in anything you noted in your notebook on this.

The FBI report you enclosed on a Hack Rubenstein as an informer was not Jack Ruby. That information has been available for yours.

I've never believed the Charles Harrelson story and have no reason to now. I think it originated with Gary Mack and/or Jack White.

You use good judgement in referring to "the so-called 'tramp' photos" because all that has been said about them, is fiction and the first to make anything up was Dick Sprague. He fixed the tramp mis-identification on ~~them~~ them. They were actually winos and it was almost two hours after the assassination that they were found in a boxcar behind the Central Annex Post Office. But as to a degree you note, if they'd had had anything to do with the assassination the scene of the crime is the last place they'd have been. I doubt you have any notion the great number of "identifications" of them that have been made. Beginning with Edgar Eugene Bradley.

I don't know why you are surprised at anything in Marrs' book. He also prefers to keep some distance between himself and fact and his book, which I've not seen, seems to be a compendium of all the nutty theories. So nothing in it should surprise you at all. I'm sure that all he needed is what Mack had in his newsletter.

There is no telling what was meant by any article in Spotlight, which for accuracy can't compare with The National Enquirer. Did you know that Mark Lane is affiliated with the fascist who owns and runs it and some political groups, the man who published Yockey's Imperium, intended to be the US Mein Kampf? That story may have had Hemming in mind but if so there is no less dependable source. Ditto for the woman who claims to have slept with Castro, Lorenz. Both would have trouble telling the truth even by accident. But aside from the part of that story that has the man befriending Oswald, it also sounds like a Skip Hall yarn because he did transport guns from Dallas (originated on the west coast) to Miami intending them for use against Castro. Hall spoke to me at great length about several of his trips on several occasions. He even asked me to appear with him when he went to New Orleans, which I persuaded him to do after your former governor, Reagan, ruled he did not have to (Hall even wanted us to have connecting rooms) and he phoned and asked me to appear with him when he was before the House assassins committee. I declined that but did get to the hearing room after the hearing was to have started. There was but a single empty seat, next to the door, and when Skip looked around and saw he he waved and then ~~sw~~ came right up to me. Which caused quite a stirring and press interest. What he actually s

said after a warm greeting, with profanity I don't try to recall, was why don't we go someplace and have a drink and talk after this crap is over. I agreed and then I asked George Lardner of the Wash. Post if he'd like to go alone, on an off-the-record basis, to which Skip agreed, and we did spend quite a few hours talking and drinking at either the Shoreham or the Wardeman-Park. Hall and his lawyer drove me home, in fact, and then borrowed some pictures + ~~had~~ of him and then he stole them by not returning them.

He is not the only one of those goldfish-of-fortune types who liked and trusted me. Hemming did, too. On the recent past he's referred people to me and last time I was out there he laid out his participation in a planned hopskotch invasion of Cuba, via Haiti. He also discussed that with others on the phone in my presence! I have that on tape and perhaps three days of Hall interviews on tape somewhere.

Larry Howard, another of that type, was Hall's associate on some of his projects as he was Hemming's. He drove me to Hemmings, as I remember. Lived in El Monte, CA. Or he led someone else who was driving me to Hemming's apartment.

You have what you say is a Roscoe White note from Tony Summers' book. It was ~~prin~~ had printed but I have trouble making some of it out in the xerox. As I ~~make~~ the name out it is Robert Hester. The ~~notes~~ says he was a commercial photog and ~~was~~ assisted the police and the FBI. I do not remember his name and have no reason to believe he had any connection with the FBI in the JFK case if he ever did. However, his name is not White. The Oswald/rifle picture was available 11/22 and the police were careless with the many copies they made. But I've not heard of any color version of it and the negative I did examine is black-and-white. I don't believe there was any color version and I do not regard Tony as a dependable source.

There is no connection between the CIA's assassin ZR/Rifle and the JFK case or any people who are in the reports about it. ZR/Rifle was not connected with the CIA's unsuccessful effort to get the mafia to off Castro. Your note says that Trafficante had him as a principal. I have no reason even to suspect this and the chief honchos were Roselli and Giancana, not Trafficante.

There is a hilarious story much of which is in FBI records I have but has gotten very little notice. It begins with Giancana's belief that ~~hyllis~~ McGuire, of the then famous McGuire sisters, was two-timing on him (which he was doing wholesale with his wife) by sleeping with Dan Martin, of Rowan and Martin. So he demanded of Robert Mahey, who the CIA had gotten to handle that deal, that the CIA find out for him. They got an incompetent name Baletti in Miami and sent him to Vegas to bug and wiretap to get the evidence. He did it so amateurishly he got caught and he then let it be known that if anything happened to him he would not suffer alone or in silence. So he was let go and handling it required that the FBI know and it gave LBJ those records and that is what convinced LBJ that there had been a conspiracy to kill Castro and that the CIA was part of it....I've rambled because I think you did not know these stories.

Glad to hear from you, thanks and best wishes,

Val