

8/2/70

Dear Ed,

Relet 29, glad to get the clips. I wonder about the Phila Mustang, wish we could know more about it, and am unsurprised by the FBI "explanation". Kind of like with Aldredge (who later told me by phone that an asbestos-like material had been used in an effort to hide those marks). And what can be behind that business with Jerry perplexes me, at least for the moment. I have a hunch the idea was not his and that there could be more behind this than has come out. It got little printed-media attention here, but extensive radio play.

Miami tape: I've carried this work far from where I left it in O in NO, with material Barry never dreamed of. The whole thing is in COUP, complete with transcript of tape and suppressed FBI reports and more on "ilteer, etc. By the way, Barry did not dig that out, the police released it (self-protection, I'm sure, and wise), and Barry declined to help carry this forward in any way. I tried. Aside from permission to quote his published story in O in NO, I've gotten nothing from him, not even replies. You are right in the official use of such groups.

And you are also right on N.O. But about that I can, at the moment, do nothing. I've been in some of that intrigue, in a way that may someday make two different novels.

There is public but not private mystery about the Ward/ Morrison crash. A New Orleans report I know has done much work on this. I suspect it is only his new-found affluence with an advertising-pr agency that has prevented his doing the book he outlined to me 4/68.

Frank has been working on a book, as have several others, including a man I knew in the 30s and of whom I'd have expected better, George McMillan (now married to Priscilla Johnson, although his first wife surrendered a considerable inheritance to marry him outside her church). But all of these are variants on the mid-west Tobacco Road theme, with overtones and harmonics of official instrumentation. They are all in trouble. Frank has even rescued one of Ray's former attorneys and persuaded him he will figure in a movie, with Paul Newman playing the role. McMillan has a staff of shrinks doping the whole thing out for him. The most remarkable indictment of society is in the enormous advances paid for such crap and the considerable pre-writing sums contracted in foreign rights.

The boom you said you'd sent hasn't arrived. I look forward to it because the oppressiveness of the air (we have it as you do) is forcing me to stop working for short periods in which I could read it. I am about to file an additional suit and three more are in the works, which keeps me busier than usual.

Thanks and best regards,

Edward R. Williams  
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Flushing, N. Y. 11355

July 29, 1970

Mr. Harold Weisberg  
Route 8  
Frederick, Md.

Dear Harold:

I enclose clippings from "The New York Post" of 7/25 and the Daily News of 7/27.

It won't escape your notice that The National States Rights Party or some variation thereof was alluded to in "The Miami Tape" of Bill Barry.

Of course, the structure and membership of the N.S.R.P. is well known to journalists and F.B.I. agents alike.

Such "obvious" organizations often provide a deep cover or front for intelligence agencies.

After all, The Company recruits <sup>ITS</sup> ~~it's~~ domestic operators as members of both "right" and "left" wing groups.

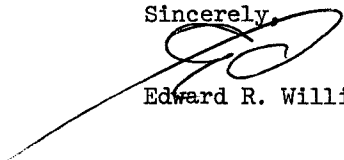
The individual, as S.O.P., does not know <sup>ITS</sup> ~~it's~~ "real" employer.

New Orleans is a labyrinthine ~~mosiac~~ <sup>mosaic</sup> of intrigue

Many of it's "prominent" citizens such as John U. Barr, banker and founder of the Southern States Industrial Council, have interesting links to The Intelligence Apparat.

As for Ward and Morrison, both the "crash" and their relationship to CIA activities in Latin America remains Apiquant Riddle.

Sincerely,

  
Edward R. Williams

P.S.

I understand that Gerald Frank is working on a book dealing with The King Assassination.