

Scott Wilson
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11/19/95

Dear Scott,

Thanks for the thick package in yesterday's mail, which was heavy, and came when I'm reading ^{and} correcting more than 20,000 words and I want to do that while it is fresh in mind. Thanks also for the way you made the ^a package. I was able to slit one end open and found ^{your} ~~four~~ letter. I'll keep the papers in the file folder you use ^d and when I can start reading them will slip them out one at a time. As you may recall, I've no space for spreading things out. I am interested in the Rabin/assassination but for different reasons and I'll not be able to keep a file on it. ~~No~~ space. But I believe the professor who specializes in the middle east at Good College will be glad to have them after I read them.

And my do I wish you were closer so you could help! We are both having more trouble moving around. A hip problem from an accident a year and a half ago has returned and limits me further. I'm in physical therapy for it. Sometimes takes 2-3 tries before I can get up from sitting.

I'll be interested in the Tuesday McNamara article and I'll save that. Without reading it, to answer ^{up} your question about those alleged attacks that led to the Gulf of Tonkin business that LBJ used to enlarge the war:

At that time I planned and to a degree had researched a book Tiger to Ride. It was to focus on Cuba but include all relevant international matters. For it, when there were no answers in ~~decent~~ ^{abundant} public statements I resorted to analysis, which I'd done in intelligence. With regard to Tonkin, on the basis of what was said officially I said there had been a no such attack. We contrived them. I have no reason to change my mind. On McNamara, I think your analysis is correct of him now and as of then I think that coming from his background and experience he believed for too long that as ^{may} you have happened in industry, those under him did not lie to him. As they did. ^{in Defense}

Jones and Silver were firm in their identification of four pictures of Thornley. However, from Thornley's own testimony I had the feeling Oswald would not trust him or have anything to do with him, especially for political reasons. That is why I ^{never} ~~never~~ used it and I'm still more or less of the same opinion. Thornley went to Mexico as I recall about July. He was not there when Oswald was. I doubt they had much relationship and when they knew each other it was for a short time, at Santa Ana. I do not think they looked alike enough for Thornley to pretend to be Oswald.

Thompson is a complete waste of time. Did you see on my wall that FBI page of his I have there? It was all theory with him and all the st ~~st~~ttiest.

Wrono does not have copies of his biblio. to sell. It was ^{printed} ~~printed~~ by

Greenwood Pres, now owned by Praeger, and while fine is quite dated now.

I do not think Specter expects to win the nomination. In part I think he is trying to recapture his lost reputation, mostly over his wretched behavior on the Thomas nomination and that in part he is trying to leave a remnant of the "epublican party that is like it was years ago, not captive of the radical right.

We enjoyed your vasis, too. When you are in touch with the others remember us to them.

Thanks and best wishes,



Wills Erik Larsen had been Newsday, went to the News.

11/12/95

Dear Harold,

Enclosed please find numerous clippings on the Rabin Assassination, plus others on McNamara's recent visit to Viet Nam. I've also sent a book review of a book by G. Lardner Jr. that chronicles his daughter's life and murder. I'm sending these things as I thought you'd be interested in them.

I really enjoyed our last visit this past 10/28. To me the JFK case is a very disturbing and painful event and being able to share your wisdom and insights on it helps to relieve some of my sadness about it. I want you to know that if I lived closer to you I would paint and maintain your home at no cost to you. That is what I think of you and your wife.

Can you comment on the Newsday article on McNamara dated 11/10/95? This article details McNamara asking Gen. Giap about the supposed second attack on 8/4/64 in the Gulf of Tonkin. Gen. Giap tells McNamara that there was no attack on 8/4/64 which to me confirms that there was no attack on 8/4/64. Do you agree with this? I find it hard to believe that McNamara claims not to know what really happened on 8/4/64. I believe that in the twilight of his life McNamara is living with an intense guilt over his actions and what they caused in regard to the senseless loss of life that our country endured. This makes me think that McNamara wrote his book as a personal catharsis of this guilt and now is trying to make amends by his actions and visit to Viet Nam. I would like to know what you think about this and would like your insights on this article.

There is also a short article I've outlined in yellow about the financial trouble that Spector's presidential campaign is experiencing. I thought you'd like this.

During our last visit you stated that when you interviewed people at the Jones Printing Co., you found out that the person who picked Oswald's FPCC leaflets wasn't Oswald but was possibly someone who resembled Kerry Thornley. I've since done some reading on this about Thornley and I've some questions on it.

- 1-Do you think it was Thornley who picked up the leaflets?
- 2-Do you think Thornley was involved with Oswald in his domestic political activities in New Orleans or was Thornley's presence in New Orleans purely coincidence?
- 3-Is it possible that Thornley was impersonating Oswald in New Orleans?
- 4-I've also read that Thornley was in Mexico City. When was this and is there any significance to it?
- 5-Were Oswald and Thornley mere acquaintances in the Marines or is there more to their relationship?

Can you tell me anything about a book by George Thompson written in 1964 titled The Quest for Truth? This book says that JFK's assassin wore a black hat and cape and that he is seen on the Z film on the south side of Elm by the reflecting pool near the corner of Houston very close to Phil Willis. I'm asking you if you know anything about this book because it is not even listed in Andy's Last Hurrah Bookshop Catalog.

Does Dave Wrone sell copies of his JFK bibliography?

Again, many thanks for your hospitality on our last visit and I hope you are both doing and feeling well. You are always in my thoughts and prayers. I may be back down to Baltimore in the spring as I just bought a new car.

Warmest regards,

John Wilson