

JL, DW - attached memo to Jerry McKnight

HW 10/23/78

When Jerry and Barbara McKnight were over for a short while a few days ago I asked Jerry to check and see if Hood has a library science course. I'd heard they teach a single subject. I thought perhaps I might get a student from that class for some work. Barbara's daughter first got a decent part-time job that may hold a future and then blew a rod in her VW, so she did not have much time and now has no wheels for a while.

Jerry told me he thought their college librarian was with CIA. This did not particularly worry me and I told him so.

Jerry spoke to him today and then phoned me. The guy had several ideas.

One involves an approach to the library science course at Catholic Univ. in D.C. The people there are Drs. Eliz. Stone and Francis or Frances Whitty. They seem to like practical projects for students, like or an internship.

The other involved developing a Hood interest, which is where I was some years ago. For this Jerry asked me to prepare a brief memo for him after which, if Wagner desires, he can see what is here. This, of course, would be much broader than a student working some of the time but what he has in mind is unclear to me.

He would like some kind of deposit is what it amounts to.

We'll see what comes of this and I'll let you know.

Perhaps it can conform to something Dave is trying to arrange.

I've given the letter to Jerry, who will give it to him and if he desires will bring him here. I'll let you know.

Most of the so-called work in the fields of my interest are not work, not dependable and for the most part not original. Of what is solid just about all that is not in accord with the official account of both assassinations I brought to light.

I oppose conspiracy theorizers, as you know. I've never belonged to any of the groups, like CTIA or AIB. I tried to talk Fensterwald out of starting his CTIA. I don't believe that either the CIA or the FBI killed JFK or King and become unpopular by saying this repeatedly. For my efforts at trying to keep Jim Garrison from being more irresponsible, people like Penn Jones called me a CIA agent.

Because I regard political assassinations as the most subversive of crimes my major interest is in the integrity of our institutions when confronted by these crises and afterward.

The official physicians appear to have no interest in healing themselves. If that time comes, as I think it may, these files and what I have done with them should have great added value.

The scholarly potential is hard to imagine because the content is virtually impossible to describe in such vastness of paper and such numerous spinoffs. A Boston woman, for example, is doing a thesis involving the Warren Commission executive sessions. I can't be more specific about this because I was with her as you know I am with Cathy. These people must be independent of my beliefs and reach their own conclusions. If they ask questions I respond. If they do not they get and use what they want. I can tell you that Nancy made 4,000 copies when she was here but I can't tell you what she copied. I know what files Cathy has been reading but I don't know which she read or what she thinks.

No such uses have yet been made of the King materials, which do lend themselves to studies not oriented around the assassination, too.

There could be one hell of a book on Mark Lane in my files. It could be scholarly, socially useful and at the same time commercial. Wrono may want to do this, in time.

When nothing materialized after the initial interest at Wood and after I was taken ill I made use of the request of several years earlier from the Wisconsin Historical Society. Only I picked Stevens Point because Wrono is a thoroughly responsible man and, of course, the only real bibliographer in the field. My arrangement with them is flexible. It is also understood that I will have to work with anyone who can provide meaningful help, which I need in my lifetime so I can work more efficiently and effectively.

I hope this holds the basic information for Dr. Wagner. If he can stand the shock of the clutter he is welcome any time I'm home, which is most of the time. My belief is that ~~Wrono~~ Wisconsin would welcome Wood. I know it would have under the chancellor who is now running for governor. We spoke of it.

Hastily,

Harold

10/23/78

Jerry,

This is in immediate response to your phone call reporting your conversation with Dr. Wagner. Please try to make it comprehensible to him that I stay immersed in responses to government in-court efforts ^{to} continue to withhold the records I seek under FOIA and, having just completed a lengthy affidavit and delivered it yesterday, have three new sets of court papers in two ~~sets~~ other cases in today's mail. So, if I don't do something immediately, and off the top of the head, it may not get done as emergency succeeds crisis in these many cases.

As a result of unique and successful legal (meaning in court) and administrative initiatives I am to receive every record the FBI discloses relating to the King/and Kennedy assassinations.

In the past two years this has totaled about 200,000 pages of which about 50,000 are on King. This does not include the King political (they call it "security" files) of which to date I've received about two volumes only or many thousands of pages, perhaps a file cabinet full, of a so-called internal investigation of the FBI's King investigation.

From the CIA, which hasn't begun to really disclose, I have quite a few thousand pages. I also have about 20,000 on their mind-bending and drug experimentation.

I can't estimate the number of pages I've obtained from the Archives and other places over the past dozen years but it is well into the multi-thousands.

Of course I also have extensive files on the FOIA lawsuits that opened this all up. The FBI's corruption in one of my 1970 cases led to the 1974 amending of the investigatory file exemption, as you may remember from the debates and the Gesell decision this past January.

As of now I have one of the FBI's indexes, another is being processed and I do expect still others as I pinpoint their location and obtain their release. JFK and King both.

My own original work is fairly extensive. Because I don't theorize conspiracies, people who do not like the Mark ~~Manes~~ ^{Manes} talk to me. Some become friends. While I've not been able to afford the kind of investigating I'd have liked to do what I've done has been productive. As I get formerly withheld official records I also get confirmation of my own work.

There should be considerable sociological interest in my files. Over the years perhaps 15,000 strangers have written me. For the most part I've taken time to respond. These are concerned people as well as nuts, who are in the minority.