

Dear Dave,

2/21/78

Your 2/18/78 is exciting. Great news! And all you propose sounds fine to me. You do not say you have carboned Howard and Jim so I'm sending them copies.

If your man is willing to read I strongly suggest that he begin with Howard's book and then, because he will be working with my work, go to WW. rather than Sylvia.

The problem with lists and shortness is that the best-known work ought not be read by serious people if all they want to learn is fact about the subject.

I'll show your letter to Jerry McKnight and ask for his suggestions. His line is busy. When I get through to him I'm going out and chip more ice to clear as much as possible before the next snow, predicted for later today.

On "D", I have other records but we can't stop to copy them now. But right idea and quite important. Try to remember the Rocca report to Rock.Com. on this.

Aside from litigation files I have separate ones on rifle, ammo, etc. I think I've just sent you some new Remington material on "missed" shot/

A scholarly analysis of the list of basic source materials? Quite a task, little as it says. The secrecy with it would be useful in CA 75-1448 right now, so the kind of project is always a good one.

George's tape came today. It is a dioxide one and I'll have to get a dub made, I think. I'll ask before I listen.

If you and Elaine go at the pace you give for your kinds you must stay pooped!

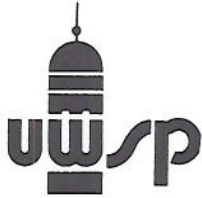
Lester. Jerry stopped off on his way home from Hood. I gave him a copy of your letter and he'll see if he has any suggestions. I then went out and worked on the ice and this was out of mind. Sorry. But I'll read it again before I put it away and add anything that occurs. I think you've done fine and Deloyd excites me!

While I'm resting from what for me is now exertion - another day without snow and I'll have the most dangerous part of the ice all removed - let me update you on the files. Jerry and his step-daughter, who was with him, remind me.

Jerry has two stepdaughters, both now in Hood. This and paying for their new and very nice home just a little higher up on the mountain and on the same "main" road up it are keeping Jerry pretty strapped. They appear to be good young women. I engaged one, Terry, to establish files with the FBI releases of 1/18/78 and she did it well and promptly. I also got her to refile what the Enquirer people had used. Her sister Debbie came to help her and they cleaned that up in an evening, establishing a list of what had been examined at the same time. So I asked Terry if she'd be interested in working for me part-time, at her convenience, trying to work a little order into the chaos, and she would. Debbie said she'd help.

Then we had the blizzard, with Hood not cancelling classes, and Terry had two wreck on the way to college. She got off the mountain okay but was blinded by the strongly-blown snow and hit one of my neighbors in the rear. This did little damage but then a character came along and really plowed into her, wrecking the car and bugging both girls up enough to require treatment at the hospital. They are okay.

I knew the money problem so when I got my first Social Security check I decided that youth also needs social security and offered it as an advance payment to Terry for the work she will do. With the kinds of deals kids can work out, through friends she had gotten a totaled VW from which she can get all the parts needed. The frame was not bent. So before long she'll be back working on the overflow files, moved from my office. Then we'll go to other things. And pretty soon I'll be meeting the student who wants to do an internship. Jerry seems to think that for a prelaw an FOIA project is best. The internship was her idea. She is in Jerry's class and asked him. I like the enterprise. We'll see and I'll let you know. Best to all,



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Feb. 18, 1978

Harold Weisberg
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Dear Harold:

Your letters are intriguing to say the least and raise points for discussion that could last way into the night, for many nights. Did you say in one that our President-to-be Gerald Ford arranged for the FBI to get a copy of the 1/22/64 executive session transcript of the Warren Commission, the one not transcribed?

A request was sent to CBS and NBC for the transcript of their JFK and MLK viewings respectively.

By the sheerest of luck I learned of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 and its recent expansion (CETA) (as an economic stimulus program under Carter) from a former student working in the local Commission for Aging Program. I delivered a speech to the local historical society on the underlying fallacies of a recent history of the state by a Richard Current, a bigwig professor, and chopped the thing to pieces. At the session was a young man (40) who asked hellish questions of me on the function of legal principles in timber acquisition and so forth, which put my back to the wall and opened up my mind. Afterwards I stopped him as he left the room and learned he was a taxi-driver. I then inquired and found from other persons in the room he had academic training. This led me to contact others and from them learned of CETA. I called the man and he responded. He had a PhD in Medieval History, knows well five or six languages, has published a book with Cambridge (ENG.) University Press, several articles, six years of research and training in the archives of the British Public Record Office, etc. Out of a job he languished in town with his wife and two young children and little hope for a job in his profession. Working with our University job officer I wrote up specifications for a job in Archives: doing bibliograpy, writing up finding aids, putting the Nazis stuff in shape, establishing bibliographical control and documentary control of cassettes etc. Then on Wednesday evening I gave a presentation to our local County Board, (this was after the local county job service had "CETA certified" him) and after the local university official had figured out the tricks and nuancs of precision. They said yes. Then the next day it went to the regional --state level--and they bucked a bit but said yes at 10:30 in the morning this Friday the 17,th; and, ^{they} asked that he start work at noon!!! But he begins Monday morning. Through out University there is a provision for a twenty-odd dollar health insurance which will protect his family and himself. He ^{now} earns \$833 per month, \$10,600 per year and has the job for one six-month period, subject to renewal which seems easily done. HE might however get a job --it is so crazy in academe--and leave in September.. For six months though he will work with me. Since the library and the University does not have

- 1974 in
- anti-war movement
- anti-apartheid
- South Africa

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money for file cabinets, fancy archival boxes, etc., at this stage of the biennial budget he must work with pencil, paper, pen, file folders, typewriter, etc., *but these were the tools of Ranke and Gibbon.*

The first step in working with him is to get him acquainted with the subject, via books, the video tape, etc.; second to suggest certain bibliographical areas, annotating tasks, etc. that could be properly done.

To my mind one of the important tasks is to put forth a few flyers, brochures, and other trivia publications for faculty, public consumption, and they will have a place in larger areas in terms of packets to inquiring scholars. This will permit him (Deloyd Guth) to become acquainted with the literature base. Thus a good and useful first task might be to draw up an academically sound, perfectly described according to the rules of the best style sheets a check list of everything published by the government on the President Kennedy assassination and its investigations--every law, book, report, etc. Ditto MRL.K.jr.

Second a ~~matrix~~ short reading list for JFK, which is a crying need for me when I am asked for a "list" "Lists" seem to have a sacred quality among academe and educator-types, and this will build a good relationship to them as well as be a handout administrators can physically see as progress.

Third, establish bibliographical control of the books, magazine articles via classifying. etc.

Fourth, prepare a better brochure of the video tapes.

In the area of documents where he is really good I thought it might be a good thing to take the Batch "D" CIA releases which you gave to the library and have an archival job done on them. Subject indexing, main and secondary indexing, description of each document beyond the CIA peculiar description of them, On this Deloyd will be very good and I earnestly solicit your reflections on the "D" project *as well as any other project.*

Then a careful filing of the material relating to jackets, rifle, etc. that I assembled last semester. Trying to expand this where possible. providing document description of each document, cross indexing etc. If you recall I tried to have my class get a xerox of every ^{document} ~~thing~~ relating to the jacket, the number of shots, the shots hitting the pavement, the bullets. etc. Some of it is good and some of it is bad, but it can be given a sophisticated format. and of incredible use for scholars & curious citizens.

Also he wishes to, if I feel it is good to do, to do a scholarly analysis of the "List of basic documents in possession of the Archives. . ." and the Marion Johnson, BLUE on white on blue publication. Comparing the expurgated text with the xerox copy originally given you but withdrawn via Rhoadse and CIA as per Batch D. I think this would be an excellent thing, in terms of endowing the subject of the assassination with academic credentials. A Medieval Manuscript Analysis !! using the tools, ~~language~~ language, reserved objective, detailed, comparisons that make the field one of the tops in the world.

This could also be subject indexed, as per Schweitzer abjg. ?

of good books, IV.

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I work on the Mott letter.

George Leopold and the Pointer are the wiser, although they had a good deal of common sense on the Gregory question. George will send you a tape. The speech was not permitted to be taped, only the news conference.

Several times Gregory told the audience, after a fifteen minute lecture or warm-up or audience-softening skit on how to fart!-- that the Freep edition, page 17, is the key to the future investigation. He and a couple of others are going to turn this country around. The p. 17 is the missile ^{never} which ~~he~~ (or did he say we--the ~~xxxxxxx~~ audience accounts of the incident vary) got through FOIA.

Code Name Zorro is up for a Pulitzer Prize.

I wish you could sue the bastards.

More a little later I must go now to a wied meeting relating to a ~~x~~ community project.

The kids went swimming for two hours this morning and then went to a violin ~~xxxx~~ play-in where they will play for two hours then they will hurry home to get an hour show on Childrens Film Festival featuring European movies on children themes. Then they will play in the foot and one half of snow for an hour and than...

Say hello to Jerry McKnight for me and I will send him the 11/22/ soon.

Adios

David

David R. Wrone

*P.S.
Please tell Lil Elaine & the kids
said to say "hello"*