

translator

Dear Joe, Zeleniak, Davis, Ukla

3/4/75

So what's wrong with your appearing to be ~~paranoid~~ paranoid in today's world? But xeroxing is too far away and I haven't time. You'll find other indications that should persuade you of the safe arrival of your letter.

It interested me but before I get to that, with brevity for me because I'm unwell and tired and want to throw this infection with a little more rests: can you get some Russian news accounts and translate them for me? And if you can, would you please keep the parts that interest me to yourself? I'm interested in the official reporting of the Penkovsky case. I doubt there were many stories. But when -if- you have them the whole accounts are too much I'll pinpoint. As an historical matter, however, the whole story with the Russian original would be better.

I have begun and had to lay aside a book in which it will be relevant. Also, would you prefer that there not be credit for the translation? I'd rather give it but you have your own life to lead.

Your ability to read Russian can help with the interesting opinions you express if they are influenced by the material you cite. So does your knowledge of that society. So, what is there that makes you believe they were "only too glad to show that they had nothing to do with the Dealey Plaza affair?"

Any evidence on "I'm also convinced that the Russians never did buy Oswald's story that he was defecting..." On this and the other points I have my own reasons. I'm asking for yours independently.

Is Minak really "an obscure little country city..." But the Polish influence in his spoken Russian stemming from the accent there is valuable information. Would giving him the kind of job he had where he had it be consistent with your belief?

I'm familiar with the Sorge story. But what makes you believe that a relative nobody like Oswald would be a "submarine?" Why not a short-term deal?

Can you add anything material about those in the Dallas-Fort Worth Russian community Oswald knew? Not necessarily for my writing. For my files and understanding. And do you mind identifying those "one or two key figures who may or may not have played a direct or indirect part..." if you have substantial reason for suggesting involvement? I presume you mean oil types, like the Hunts. I know of no hard evidence to implicate any. One can suspect whatever one wants to suspect.

You do not mention having Frame-Up. It has some JFK materials and is the only work not in accord with the official mythology on the King case. It is \$10.50 by mail. Insured.

I've not been able to get back to writing for several months. I do have several other books started and one I believe by far the most definitive completed. I lack the money to print it.

Thanks and best regards,

Harold Weisberg

Box 232
Davis, Oklahoma 73030
February 28, 1975

Harold Weisberg
Publisher
Route 8, Frederick, Md. 21701

Dear Harold,
(Enclosed please find a check for \$6~~00~~ in payment of
WHITEWASH IX.)

You deserve all of our thanks for the magnificent work
in uncovering the anomalies, falsehoods in our nation's tragedies
the past few years.

Please pardon me for having suggested to you to send copies
of your previous book to the Soviet Union. I am sure now that this
material never reached the Russians but if it had those officials there
were probably worse than ours here. (I'm the Russian translator.)

A few years ago I acquired the 27 volumes of the Hearings
and Report and I did some reading therein. I did note the mass of material
that the Russians handed over on Oswald and I was only too glad to show that
they had nothing to do with the Dealey Plaza affair. The translations
seem to be as accurate as possible given the circumstances. I now
believe that Oswald somehow was an agent from the very beginning. He
had learned Russian very well and despite Dr. Hartog's characterization
of Oswald as having a very low IQ, it appears that Lee Harvey was very
bright indeed in view of the little formal education he had had. The
few instances of Oswald's English prose at first blush were somewhat
primitive ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ but we must remember that in his formative
early adult years, the period spent in Russia did tend to make him
forgetful of correct spelling in English which he probably never ^{had} learned
too well in the first place. By the way, I'm also convinced that the
Soviets never did buy Oswald's story ^{that} ~~he~~ he was defecting from America
in the first place. That's probably the reason he was sent to Minsk,
an obscure little country ^{almost} ~~xxxx~~ ^{city} about 100 miles from the Polish border.
This also explains Oswald's Russian speech being tinged with a Polish
accent. Oswald was to become a very special agent to surface only
in the event of critical events....this is known "in the trade" as a
submarine. ^{Victor} Sorge in Hitler's Germany, who had the confidence of the
highest Nazis, is the classic example. Sorge was caught by the Japanese
in War II. If nothing ever important, internationally speaking, ever did
occur then these submarines were to pass their lives like those in
Gray's elegy unknown, unmourned and quickly forgotten.

(more)

Harold, it is my belief that had not the events of Watergate occurred, we would now be in a classic Fascist state. The danger still is by no means over but at least the American people now have a fighting chance to escape, maybe, the onset of pure and naked Fascism. The JFK shootout was a clever almost technically perfect way on "how to do it", that is, how to make a people believe that the "government" is on their side.

~~XXXX~~ The revelations that J. Edgar Hoover kept a dossier on about six million citizens ...something I'm sure you knew for a long time (as did I)...is now ~~saking~~ ^{saking} up the stolid American business class. But sadly "the truth that makes men free" operates but only occasionally.

The present reason for these disclosures about CIA and FBI plus the tapping of phones and the opening of mail IS that there are two main groups or gangs of the upper echelons who are fighting one another for very survival. Even Watergate itself must be viewed in the light of this hypothesis.

(SAY, HAROLD, PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS LETTER, SENDING ME XEROX COPIES, SO THAT I CAN BE SURE OF YOUR RECEIVING THIS LETTER... NO, I'M NOT AT ALL PARANOID. I USED TO BE IN ARMY INTELLIGENCE MYSELF IN WAR II WHERE I LEARNED THE RUDIMENTS OF THE NASTY BUSINESS.)

In our incursion, for example into Cambodia a few years back, our own congressmen realized for the first time that they had been "deballed" so to speak. Hence Senator Weicker's assiduous forays against infamous (Voltaire's écrasez l'infame) inroads against Civil Rights. Too bad the brave Senators hadn't spoken up sooner but still it is "better late than never" to use an old cliché. And it is late! Hopefully not too late!

Hence my sincere thanks to you, Friend Harold.

Say, I had worked in Dallas, Texas for five years until late 1960 during the course of which I met and visited many of the principals of Russian extraction who subsequently met Oswald and Marina. (I worked in oilfield research and specifically on hydraulic turbines.) I met one or two key figures who later may or may not have played a direct or indirect part in the Dealey ^(Plaza) proceedings and aftermath.

I have all your Whitewash books I, II and Photographs Whitewash your Whitewash IV will complete the set.

If you are working on any new book I'd be glad to check the galleys if they refer in any way to the Soviet interlude of Oswald's.

Send a note.

Sincerely,
Joe Zeleniak
Joe Zeleniak