

7/29/78

Dear Quin,

I had intended to hold this package until my wife finishes typing the notes I've prepared on ~~xx~~ some of the Dallas assassination-file records to make most use of this last frank. (I'd appreciate a few more, preferably pre-addressed as preferred to expedite, because I will undoubtedly have more samples from the Dallas ~~Os~~/~~W~~ Oswald files.)

However, there is something I forgot to tell you the other night when we spoke that I believe someone in the Department should be aware of. I did not include it in the enclosed letter to McCreight because they are all paranoid and will undoubtedly read some sinister ulterior purpose into any information I try to provide.

There have been stories that the FBI eased Ray out of jail because it wanted to use him as a patsy. I do not credit this with regard to the FBI. It is not impossible that some criminal organization did this. I have a clear recollection of one such report that reached me in November 1973, when I was in Washington. I then met a young woman who was living with the editor of an underground newspaper. She told me that her brother, then a reporter not in the major media, had been on the MoPen staff and had heard while at MoPen that Ray was aided in his escape based on the psychological profile.

I ~~know~~/~~W~~ know Ray and understand him this well: John Crowson asked me for my psychological reading toward the end of 1975. Just before the end of the year he phoned me in the early morning from California. He had just interviewed a psychiatrist, Dr. Mark Freeman, to whom Ray had gone, under his own name, when he was on the lam. Freeman's professional opinion was exactly mine to Crowson. Whatever the facts may be about Ray's escape, believe me he is the ideal patsy. Now please consider this in terms of the FBI's withholding of the Byers record and the Byers account, that some who wanted King killed were looking for a "pig."

By the way, the FBI continues to withhold all except a single FD302 on Freeman. The LA field office must have more, including notes of agents that can be significant. I did ask Hartingh for all the rest of the Freeman information.

While I believe that the Byers story has cooled I also believe it can get hot again at any time. The Times people are still on it. If they come to believe that they were used it will get hot again. The potential, especially when the OPR report is considered, ought not be ignored. OPR used a similar story after it was proven false by the FBI. I believe that the Post-Dispatch is still working on the story in St. Louis. Others also have spoken to me. And who can predict the assassins committee's irresponsibilities, especially because it is singularly without accomplishments?

Add to these and other possibilities the AG's initial unhappiness with the OPR report and then his doing nothing about it and perhaps you can see, as I do, a time when all of this can cause problems for the Department if it is not fully forthright now.

Best,