

11 March 1968

Dear Bruce:

Thank you very much for letting us see that material you sent for Hal, and this is to let you know that we assumed you chose this route so that we could make copies of some of it, which we did. We were particularly impressed with the items from the Illinois and Wisconsin papers. Hal was here last Thursday, March 7, and we handed the whole thing over to him with your instructions about returning it. He promised to do his best.

We think he came partly to smooth over what happened at the meeting with Penn Jones, where everyone present appears to have been pretty shook up by the host. Hal was too, and the whole thing now seems to have calmed down.

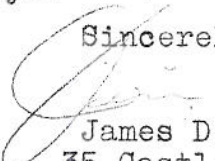
I want to thank you also for some earlier contributions which you sent, notably the Rarick entry in the Congressional Record about Isaacs. Allowing for a certain amount of embroidery inevitable with the source, the details of his career are very much as I have understood them, both from personal knowledge and through second hand reports. Many details, of course, I can't vouch for and some I doubt, but in general the pattern of actual events seems fairly accurate.

We took a week off which is just ending and have managed to get our New Orleans indices up to date. It won't last long, of course, but it's an unfamiliar and welcome feeling.

In view of Thornley's indictment for perjury, which hinges on his statement that he never saw Oswald again after he got out of the Marines in 1959 (Garrison claims he has six witnesses who saw him with Oswald in New Orleans in the summer of 1963) I went back and audited two tapes we have of interviews with Thornley in 1966. One was with Dolan in July and the other was a KPFK interview with Thornley in November. In neither is there the slightest hint or inference possible he ever saw Oswald again after 1959. I'm genuinely puzzled about this, being unable to imagine Garrison being so far off base, and wishfully guess he may be intending to show Thornley was around one of the false Oswalds without realizing it. Thornley sounds like a very decent, straightforward guy, and if he's lying he's certainly doing a masterful job. And he had his story fixed up as early as July, 1966.

Thanks again, Bruce, for your very remarkable help. It is much appreciated. We hope you can make your way over here one of these days.

Sincerely,

  
James D. White  
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