

Dear Mr. Underwood:

Thank you very much for your recent undated letter that arrived here on August 25, 1997.

I appreciate your effort to clarify certain issues that were the subject of our recent interview with you. Please allow me to clear up some issues as well. Your information about Mr. Gunn's reported remarks concerning your honesty most certainly came from Gus Russo with whom I spoke shortly after your interview. I think you will agree that is unfair to Mr. Gunn to draw conclusions about what he may or may not have said based on what amounts to double hearsay. The truth is that Mr. Gunn, in his remarks to me, did not accuse you of lying, nor did he in any other way disparage your honesty or character. He was, in fact, impressed by you and appreciative of your cooperation.

When I spoke with Gus, I related to him our frustration with the explanation we had received for the notes of your discussion with Win Scott -- an explanation that was clearly at odds with the one he had provided us. We had a long discussion during which I may have suggested to him that lack of candor on your part could have accounted for some of the confusion. In the context of our discussion, these remarks should have been interpreted for what they were: an off-the-record attempt to understand an important issue for which there was conflicting and ambiguous evidence. They were by no means an indictment of you, nor did they reflect any conclusions about your candor or integrity.

Your recent letter goes a long way toward clarifying some of these issues, and I look forward to the opportunity of learning more. Thank you very much for your cooperation, and I apologize for any discomfort that I may have caused you.

Sincerely,

DGM