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Sunday 24th Nov.

Dear Sylvia -

Behind this most significant story (significant, not because it comes at any surprise but merely because it made its way, finally, into the "respectable" press) lies the motive, in my opinion — or certainly the most important motive, if there were peripheral ones. This, tied in with President Kennedy's speech in June of '63 at American University and Leslie Auerst's article in "Studies on the Left" — plus the pressing need both Schlesinger & Brennen seemed beset by to publish quickly — tells much of the terrible tale! And again, I am awestruck over the sense of loss to mankind and over the needless, senseless, ghastly deaths that occur every moment because of it!

The latest bomb you dropped on the Killam (here goes one of those ironic words again!) — Carter business (comes) is no less staggering than any of the others, really — but somehow, it unnerved all of us a bit more! God! Can these all be mere coincidences and tricks of fate?? Please get Harris to tell you the name of the Texel editor; — it wouldn't be Rennie Dugger, would it? I went back to my Supra (THE REPORT) before referring to CE 2882 + CE 2883 (the latter ones, of course, I had long since taken note of) and I

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discovered that in the index — in both the cases of Wanda Joyce Killam & John Carter — the reference pages are given as "363 - 364", yet the only information given about either of them (exclusive of the 2 CE, 2882 & 2883) is to be found ^{exclusively} on page 363! Small point, admittedly, but had this "error" appeared only with reference to one of their names, one could easily (?) dismiss it as typographical or such — but since it exists for both names, one wonders if there wasn't additional information originally, which was later deleted! The following may very well be totally insignificant but I did find in CE 1322 (Vol. XXII, pp. 513 - 514) 2 instances where "Wanda Joyce Harris" name reappears — as well as her phone number and those have to do with notebook and/or memo pad found in Ruby's possession (or was it in his car) right after his arrest.

As for Kilgallen, and Harris' comment to you that "she's been sick for a long time," — I still hear Arlene Francis ^{can} tell the morning after K.'s death, telling the man next to her, on the TODAY show, of their (what's her name panel's) surprise in much as K. had been in excellent health & was especially happy that Bennett Cerf was to publish her book!

I'm sending you the whole story as it appeared in the L.A. Times on the Bill Hunter murder. I had it all Xeroxed at the paper's copying dept. Since there are the only copies I have (still haven't really looked for my own original one) — would you be good enough to have copies made of whichever of these you may want & then return the batch to me? Merciements! (I don't know why I place emphasis

on the fact that, after the initial breaking of the story — i.e. the 1st reports of it — nowhere again is the link between [under] + the assassination + Ruby mentioned again!

I'm still burning at Buchanan! Imagine that since my departure from Paris I haven't had one line — one word from him & that was 22 days ago! Not only has he not bothered to let me know that the material is indeed going to hit the world on 23rd. Nor, but what disturbs me far more is that he had enough time, I'm sure, in which to submit a rough draft — tear sheet — facsimile format — or whatever — for my inspection & approval — for then, I could, at least, have enjoyed the peace of mind that comes with the knowledge that there are no "gaffes" — no unnecessary errors, damaging or otherwise. He, not having the volumes or, he tells me, any access to them, even — would have no way of verifying the accuracy of quotes, volume & page references etc. — nor would the people at Paris-Match. Additionally, you had sent me your exceedingly valuable & laborious critique, pin-pointing many of the technical errors that exist because of my haste in getting the job completed for the N.Y. meeting & consequently, my precluding any opportunity for me to have edited & deleted, etc. prior to going to the photo-staffers — and — had I known for a fact that the deal with P.-H. was to be a fait-accompli, having had your critique in Paris with me, I could easily have set about making the necessary amendments then & suggestions with him, so that he could have checked the points out. Here is the incredible and stupendous break — for all of us — and here, too, is the fruit of a monumental bone-tiring job on my part — and, yet, because of Buchanan —

in's negligent silence, the awful possibility exists that the whole thing can turn into disaster instead of triumph — and it's all so hopelessly needless! There is, certainly, — if nothing else — a gross lack of integrity on his part in not even acquainting or consulting me with the definite decision to publish on Hatch's part. I have no idea what he's including — how much — which things are my contribution, which are Dave's, etc. & here he is flying up world rights, etc! In the final analysis, I'm perhaps over-dramatizing the fear of error and of accuracy of material used — because I have carefully checked every word of my original pamphlet from which the photostats were made & all of the correctible items to which you have referred are there, of course, but I must say that none of them is really catastrophic and capable of causing irreparable damage to the case. — in the main, my worst mistakes seem to lie in the area of calling a patrolman a motorcycle officer, for example, or of using the word "testimony" where it should have been "deposition" statement or "affidavit." I was, in fact, relieved to find that nothing worse than that sort of thing is detectable — and those people who wish to ignore the importance of what those pieces of evidence represent because of a mere faulty technically will not be impeded, in any case. The errors God knows, weigh far more heavily on the Government's position. It is simply a matter of having this golden chance — and, then, not being able to present absolutely flawless material when it would have been so simple to do so.

Naturally, I'm not even staking up the matter of Buchanan's failing to ask me (or Dave) if we would want our names cited, if we expect remuneration — or rights — or anything like that! In the first place, & I speak only for myself, I would insist on complete anonymity because I have no wish to be known —

for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the fear that a vendetta could conceivably be instigated in the form of drafting young Joe by some pretext). — Secondly, I wouldn't touch a penny of any remuneration that might have been due me for the labors and the expense I have accumulated & the material + ideas I have provided, because to me it represents blood money & I would instantly turn it over to the Kennedy Library, were it sent to me in the form of a cheque. None of this is the point, however, as far as Buchanan is concerned. We — all of us (Dave, Ray, you, I — have done the homework for him & the least he could have done was to have acknowledged that fact by writing a line! I'm not overlooking the highly significant fact that had it not been for him, his perseverance, + his excellent contact with the powers that be, the article would never have seen the light of day, in all probability — and he should certainly enjoy full credit for having made publication possible — but his own sense of responsibility to anyone else seems to end right there. Perhaps I'm being unduly severe about him — and he may still come through in some unexpected way, but his conduct thus far doesn't leave one with much of a margin for optimism!

Please do acquaint Palandria and Savage with all the information connected with the Buchanan-Field-Paris-Hatch affair as I would want to include them in the dissemination of such developments but I simply can't write in such detail to each of them! I'm still in the course of translating Savage's book — & have accelerated my dining on it — at I feel a considerable sense of urgency in getting it published in the U.S. as quickly as possible. I only wish I could have had the time to devote to it these past months + weeks. (You know that I am going to France again on Dec. 14th for 3 weeks — all 4 of us go, this time)

Much love, Maggie.