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July 24, 1966

Mrs. Sylvia Meagher
302 W. 12 St
NYC 10014

Dear Mrs. Meagher,

Thank you for your kind letter of the 19th. I am enclosing a copy of part of CD 1553. I believe that the entire CD was about 20 pages, and that this report is the summary. I am not too familiar with the Odio matter, but the FBI report raises some obviously important questions: who are Seymour, Hall, et al., why were they ever in Dallas, who were they working for, and how did the FBI connect them with Odio?

Yes, I do not have copies of CD 87 or 107, except as indicated. I passed on a few requests to Vince, who is going to the Archives again soon. I am sure he will let you know if he comes up with anything.

Unfortunately, I do not have as much time as I like to work on the assassination. I wouldn't like the Army, especially now, so I am hanging on to my II-S tenaciously. Therefore I have to be a full-time student, and now that I am in the Alvarez physics group I am expected to work during the summer also. I am sort of a "consultant" for Ramparts. As you know, they have had a great deal of difficulty deciding what to do. At present they plan a full issue on the assassination (shots & wounds, conspiracies, etc.) around Nov. 22. If this had been done a year ago, it would have been good; however now I am not too optimistic. If Lane's book makes the same kind of impact as Epstein's, most of the basic material will be well-known to the public before Ramparts comes out. However, they do plan a field trip to Dallas soon, and something good might come of this.

My own ideas on the assassination are very much in a state of flux. I really don't know who did it. Vince and I had a long discussion on whether critics should develop alternate hypotheses. I feel that we will never be able to come up with a theory even as good as the Commission's unless we get our hands on all of the material in the Archives. Even if it did not go far enough (which we all agree, I think), Inquest has largely destroyed the general faith in the Commission. The next step, I believe, is to point out that crucial contradictory evidence is missing. (Jacob Cohen's article is very good in this respect.) I think a "book review" of the List of CD's, pointing out some of the more interesting titles of withheld CD's, (such as 222, 1545, 1551) could shock many people. Of course, it is still worth while looking for alternate hypotheses. For example, if we could find out who the "Oswald" in CE 237 is, then we could really name names. But Allen Dulles' challenge to the critics could be a bad trap.

I might have a lead on the letter from L.H. to the Militant. I will let you know if I come up with anything.

Sincerely yours,

Paul
Paul Hoch

(Would you like copies of any of the other items I got? I have sent them all to Vince, so you could obtain them from either of us.)