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Dear Bob,

Perhaps by the time you get this we shall have spoken on the phone. There are several recent developments which I would like to touch base with you on.

First, I haven't had the chance to tell you that I really enjoyed reading your book. Naturally, I appreciate the favorable references to my work. The book is a very impressive piece of work, and I'm pleased that it is doing so well.

I've heard your ads which quote Belin's warning about your book - great! I guess you have heard a bit from Sylvia and George about Belin's outrageous attempt to have her piece removed from our anthology. Now that our book is printed, we can start thinking about the appropriate way to get this part of the story out. It is a bit sensitive, since the three of us, you, George, Sylvia, and Jerry Policoff are already parties to the dispute, and the story shouldn't look like just another feud. Also, Random House does not seem to be eager to take on Belin; although I think we have convinced them that we have nothing to gain by making them, rather than Belin, the target of our wrath, we do want to be careful and responsible. As you can imagine, it is a long and complicated story; if you are interested in doing something with it (George said he had talked with you about a piece on the defenders of the Warren Report), I would be glad to discuss it further.

I understand that you and Sylvia will be getting into (or, to be precise, that Sylvia will be getting copies of) that material that has just been released at the Archives. If you think there is a chance of publishing some analysis of this material, I would be glad to do what I can to help. There are about 6 CD's which particularly interest me; I wrote Marston about them but haven't heard anything yet. I have already ordered a total of 655 pages, omitting what I expect will be 'low-grade ore.' As I told Sylvia, I would like to do as much sharing of costs as possible on this. I could copy these pages at about 3¢ out here, so if you have not actually ordered them yet, you might want to hold off. I asked for about 50 pages on 2/11, and another 600 on 2/15, and it is my understanding that at least the first part of that order has to be sent to me by tomorrow. It is my impression that the Archives is not filling the orders very quickly, so if you would like to get some of this from me it might be faster (and cheaper). I'm enclosing my organized list of the new material, which indicates what I have ordered in each area. (Also the list of the released non-CD material, much of which I already had since it was released as a result of my requests.) I have also done some notes on the pages I have not ordered, based on the indexes and other material which I do have. I could send that to you, if you wish, or I could wait until I get more information on these pages from Kevin Walsh in Washington (who has already reviewed them). In any case, I hope that we all will be able to get some mileage out of these documents.

I understand from David Lifton that you have some information and impressions about what the Church Committee is up to - generally negative. I haven't heard from Marston (or from Rep. Dodd, who was quite interested in my efforts to get the FBI's Oswald files) for about a month. Peter and I would be interested in your evaluation of the current situation.

Enclosed is the article George and I did for the Saturday Evening Post. The Church report on assassination plots had some information which might be relevant to the hypothesis of a link between anti-Castro and anti-Kennedy plots; I found the omission of the Veciana matter, both in the Church report and in the internal CIA reports on which it relied in part, rather provocative.

Sincerely,
Paul

Paul L. Hoch

✓ cc: Sylvia