

15 January 1971

Mr Paul L Hoch
1735 Highland Place Apt 25
Berkeley 94709

Dear Paul,

Your letter of the 7th was not delivered until yesterday. No, I did not receive any notification from the Archives of the declassification of additional documents. I did not realize that, as your letter implies, I was considered one of the critics from whom the news of the declassification should have been withheld, presumably because I might misuse the documents in question. Were I not laughing so hard, I might be offended.

I am not a drummer-out-of-clubs, although I naturally exercise my clear right to decide not to fraternize with those whom I regard as apologists for the Warren Report, or with pseudo-critics whose activities give aid and comfort to the opposition. I did try, and try desperately, to persuade the critics to disavow Garrison back in the early days of his "investigation" so that his ultimate pratfall would leave us undamaged. That failure did not encourage me to repeat the experience. But as it happens, most of those who received your paper on the melon tests arrived at a harsh opinion without the benefit of my advice. If you have been drummed out of any club, you drummed yourself out.

Yours sincerely,


Sylvia Meagher
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