

June 24, 1969

Dear Sylvia,

I was delighted to receive the J. Edgar Hoover letters, and the correspondence you sent with it. Crehan's letter to Time is really a beau. And, by your second letter, I get the impression that you really bugged J. Edgar.

Re the Ball-Belinmemo and Givens, I agree that Ball and Belin cannot shelter in the rationale that SS 491 cleared up inconsistencies. I only stated that as my opinion of what they might say if the confrontation you earlier had mentioned ~~XXXXX~~ might actually come to pass. Whatever after-the-fact excuse they might invoke for the one sided record certainly does not excuse the creation of the one-sided record.

I am glad to know that I am not the only one having the experience of being shocked by what can be forgotten although its already in my filing cabinet. I have that experience regularly. For every hour I spend writing and researching, I wonder how many have been spent filing material, filling out index cards, labeling file folders, just trying to keep track of accumulated information.

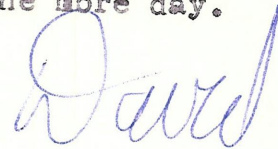
One time, I even mislocated a master file folder titled: Organization Plan for File Drawers, which is, in effect, the lock to the box that contains the keys. Now I keep that prominently labeled with Red filing folders. Along the same lines, in getting letters filed correctly, I recently reread some of my first 1965 letters to you, which have in detail some of my experiences on visiting Liebeler's office, frequently written with a few hours of that time. I'd forgotten many of those quotes that he said to me, even the incidents themselves.

Bud Fensterwald was in town, and took me out to dinner, along with a few others. I haven't eaten like that in weeks, and practically fasted the whole day before so I could really take advantage of eating like that. Now here is an interesting item. One of my prep school acquaintances, James Flug, is now Edward Kennedy's "Theodore Sorensen"----his chief legislative counsel. When Kennedy took over the committee chairmanship formerly headed by Senator Long, Flug took over Fensterwald's job. (When I asked Fensterwald if he knew James Flug, he replied: "He's the fellow who fired me.")

You will be receiving a second letter from me within a day or two. It concerns some documents I am printing out this week and will be xeroxing this weekend. (Archives documents) ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ I think you may want to get some of them. I thought I would be able to combine my thankyou with that information, but I don't have exact facts and figures here, and I don't want to delay this letter one more day.

Regards,

David



P.S. They are attached

The following documents, received from the Archives.

Department of Naval Intelligence File of Lee Harvey Oswald 325 pages.
 (Some junk, lots of memos I have never seen; of particular importance, documents which show that Hoover was writing to Ostepka, pre-assassination, re Oswald; to make any sense out of all the documents, routing slips, memos in here, would take careful study; have not done so yet. Also in here: exactly who wanted to look at DNI file on 11 23: includes, high Navy people, Dept. of Defense, Secret Service)

GAI-CIA file; the correspondence file between the CIA and the Warren Commission; lots of good stuff; will take a careful analysis. 49 ~~XXXX~~ pages

GAI-SS file: the correspondence file between the Secret Service and the Warren Commission 230 pages
 (lots of covering letters; haven't examined this yet)

Synopsis and/or Table of Contents pages of all the FBI's "Basic Oswald" investigation. (Specifically, all those reports signed by Gemberling, out of Dallas) 92 pages

Synopsis and/or Table of Contents pages of all the FBI's "Basic Ruby" investigation. (Specifically, all those reports signed by Clements, out of Dallas) 51 pages

747 pages total

(The above two items are very useful in seeing what is in any FBI volume, and in selectively ordering material from the Archivist)

(The ONI file contains some newspaper stories, which I will omit if you wish. They are mainly the Washington Star coverage by Jerry O'Leary regarding LHO, written the week after the assassination)

GAI = "other government agencies involved"

P.S. Attached, Sylvia, is the list of microfilmed documents.

All of it is interesting in one way or another. I find it impossible to give this material close study up at the library, at a microfilm reader. First of all, I'm spending my time up there writing, not doing this. Second, ~~this~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ CIA file and the ONI file are the sort of things you want to browse. Microfilm is simply a bad format for giving this stuff close study, although it is the cheapest way to get it from the archives.

Therefore, I am going to print out all of this stuff.
microfilm

Two/orders ~~are~~ Paul's, one is mine. (The two "synopsis films")

Let me know if you want the entire thing, or parts. At 5¢ a page, it comes to \$37.35.

There's no preconditions of any type here. If you find a gold mine in there somewhere, feel free to use it.

~~XXX~~ Only two mild provisions. If, for some reason, I can't get the low printout price from my man here in LA, I will send back the money. However, the firm that published Document Addendum has been giving me a very low rate on microfilm, so I think they will.

Secondly, there's always the possibility that I will suddenly not get access to the xerox. Again, I think everything will be fine. But if not, I reserve right to return your money.

All in all, I think its reasonable. The printing out should be done by the end of this week, or the beginning of next. The xeroxing will be done this weekend and/or next, as time and wee-hours-of-the-morning scheduling permits.

(By the way, I have placed one more big Archives order, its going out any day now. It includes ~~XXXX~~ entire State Department files, plus certain other items. Again, I'd like to make all that available. I'll let you know when it arrives.)

(Re the above documents, if you let me know by the middle of next week, I'll be able to xerox exactly whats needed on the first weekend in July)